

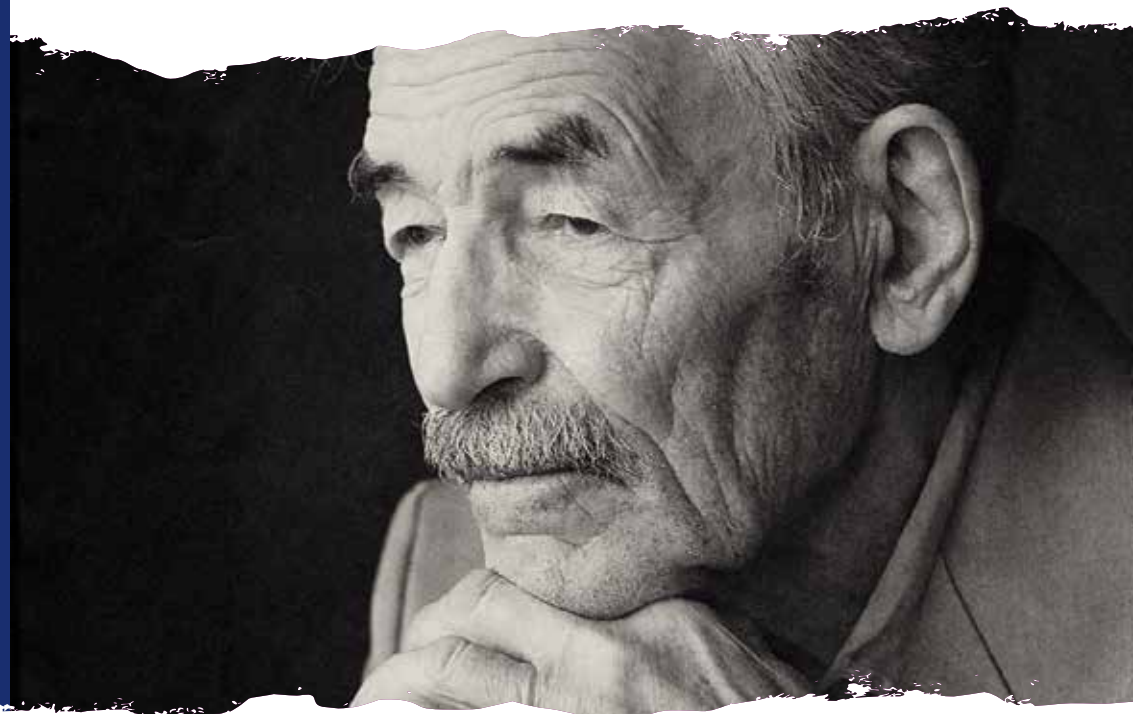
## What happens after abuse is reported?

- People will listen to you
- People will take your concerns seriously
- Make enquiries about the concerns
- Consider the wishes of the adult at risk
- Offer the adult at risk an advocate if needed
- Talk to the police if it is a criminal matter
- Support the adult at risk to achieve the changes they want wherever possible
- Develop a plan to help to keep the adult at risk safe in the future
- Consider if anyone else is at risk

Adult Social Services work in partnership with a range of organisations and services including health, police, probation, housing and the voluntary sector, to safeguard adults from abuse and neglect.

Leaflet adapted with permission from North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

# Together we can stop abuse **#ReportIt**



## Working together to keep people safe

Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB)  
One Angel Square, Angel Street, Northampton, NN1 1ED

**T: 01604 365681**

**E: [nsab.ncc@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:nsab.ncc@westnorthants.gov.uk)**

**W: [www.northamptonshiresab.org.uk](http://www.northamptonshiresab.org.uk)**

Northamptonshire  
*Safeguarding Adults Board*



## If you are concerned about suspected adult abuse, call:

North Northamptonshire Council  
on **0300 126 3000** or

West Northamptonshire Council  
**0300 126 7000**

**In an emergency call 999**

Northamptonshire  
*Safeguarding Adults Board*



## What does safeguarding adults mean?

Safeguarding adults means working together to stop abuse and prevent it happening in the future.

Everyone has a right to live a life that is free from abuse and neglect.

## Who is at risk of abuse or neglect?

Anyone can be at risk of abuse or neglect, and may become more vulnerable at different times in their life. An adult at risk of abuse or neglect is:

- A person in need of care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting those needs)
- Is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect
- As a result of those needs, is unable to protect themselves against the abuse and neglect or the risk of it

## Abuse can be:

- Something that happens once, or on several different occasions
- Something that is done deliberately
- Something that is unintentional
- A crime

## Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time.

### Abuse can happen in:

- Someone's home
- A care home
- A hospital
- Supported employment/day services
- A public place

### Signs of abuse

There are many signs of abuse and include when someone:

- Has an injury that is difficult to explain
- Seems frightened around certain people
- Seems unusually sad or withdrawn
- Finds that money has gone missing
- Hasn't been given food or fluids
- Looks dirty or is not dressed properly

### Abuse can be carried out by anyone

- A partner or relative
- A friend or neighbour
- A paid or volunteer carer
- A bogus worker
- Someone in a position of trust
- A stranger
- More than one person

## The 10 different types of abuse

**Physical abuse:** being hit, slapped or kicked, withholding food, misuse of medication, being locked in a room or restrained inappropriately.

**Domestic abuse:** when abuse occurs between partners or a family member (includes physical/psychological/sexual/financial/emotional abuse and coercive control).

**Sexual abuse:** someone being made to take part in sexual activity when they haven't given consent, or are not able to give consent.

**Psychological or emotional abuse:** enforced social isolation, removing mobility/communication aids, intimidation and harassment, use of threats and humiliation, bullying (including cyber) and verbal abuse.

**Discriminatory abuse:** unequal treatment or harassment because of someone's age, gender, disability, sexuality, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy/maternity, race or religious belief.

**Financial or material abuse:** stealing, fraud, scamming, withholding or misusing someone's money or possessions, misuse of benefits or direct payments.

**Modern slavery:** human trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation and debt bondage.

**Organisational or institutional abuse:** discouraging visits or the involvement of relatives/friends, run-down/overcrowded premises, lack of respect for dignity and privacy, not providing adequate food and drink, not offering choice or independence.

**Neglect and Acts of Omission:** not giving adequate food, shelter, clothing, stimulation, activities and medical care, preventing the person from making their own decisions.

**Self-neglect:** when someone chooses not to look after themselves properly such as not eating or drinking, refusing help and support for their health or care needs which has a significant effect on their wellbeing.

## Abuse is always wrong

No one should have to live with abuse. In Northamptonshire, we have zero tolerance to all forms of abuse.

We always respond promptly when we are made aware of suspected abuse. By reporting abuse, you can help bring it to an end.

**Opening hours are 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. Calls to the numbers above will be answered by the Emergency Duty Team outside these hours.**

## Report suspected abuse or neglect

To raise a concern about abuse or neglect, or to get some advice, please call **North Northants Council 0300 126 3000** or, **West Northants Council 0300 126 7000**.