

What can you do if you or somebody you know is being abused?

If something is worrying you about how an adult is being cared for please do not ignore it. The Adult Safeguarding Team is the first point of contact for you to discuss your concerns.

You do not have to give your name but we may need to act on the information you give and/or contact other relevant services.

What will happen next?

Trained staff will make sensitive enquiries. They will speak to the adult you have a concern for and involve them in any decisions about their future care to keep them safe from abuse.

If the adult is unable to make an informed choice or decision for themselves steps will be taken to support and protect them.

Safeguarding and protecting adults from abuse is everyone's business

CONTACTS

Adult Safeguarding Team
01254 585949

Out of hours and weekends contact the Emergency Duty Team
01254 587547

Your Support Your Choice
01254 292620

Further information can be found on:
www.yoursupportyourchoice.org.uk

Adult Safeguarding is part of the Baiter Sehat project, run by One Voice in partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, and the Local Safeguarding Adults Board.
onevoicenetwork.org.uk



Protecting Adults from Abuse



Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.



What do we mean by abuse?

Abuse can be accidental, unintentional or deliberate and can be:

- **Physical:** includes assault, hitting, slapping restraint or misuse of medication.
- **Psychological:** such as emotional abuse, humiliation, intimidation, coercion, verbal abuse, isolation or withdrawing services that are needed.
- **Sexual:** rape, sexual harassment, inappropriate touching or looking, exposure to sexually explicit materials.
- **Financial:** theft, fraud, scamming, coercion in relation to financial affairs –includes property possessions and benefits.



- **Neglect and acts of omission:** not caring properly for an adult with care and support needs.
- **Discriminatory:** can be any of the above but on grounds of race, gender, gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.
- **Organisations:** such as neglect and poor practice in a hospital or care home or if provided for care in the home.
- **Domestic:** includes psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional and honour based abuse.
- **Modern Slavery:** includes human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude.
- **Self-Neglect:** this covers a wide range of behaviours often relating to the adult neglecting to care for themselves or their surroundings e.g. hoarding.

Safeguarding Adults in Blackburn with Darwen

Blackburn with Darwen has a Safeguarding Adults Board made up of representatives from the council, various health representatives, police and the voluntary community and faith sector.

They are committed to implementing policies and procedures across their agencies to help protect adults from abuse and how they will help support adults when abuse is suspected.



Which adults are considered at risk of abuse?

New government guidance says that adult is at risk of abuse if they (simply put):

- **have care and support needs (even if the local authority isn't meeting those needs); and**
- **are at risk or experiencing abuse or neglect; and**
- **they are not able to protect themselves because of the care and support needs they have.**

Who may be at risk?

Adults with care and support needs often rely on other people to help them with their day to day living. They may be at risk from those they know such as a relative, carer, friend or neighbour. It can occur in their own home, in residential homes or hospitals.

Carers

Being a carer can be very stressful and tiring which may lead to frustration and possibly they unintentionally carry out an act of abuse. In these circumstances we want to offer support for the adult at risk of abuse and the carer.