

It's a fundamental right that every person should be able to live a life free from harm and abuse.

Adult safeguarding is about working together to prevent abuse and neglect and to protect adults at risk.

**SEE SOMETHING
DO SOMETHING**

Definition of an adult at risk

Someone 18 years or over, with care and support needs, who is or may be unable to take care or protect themselves from exploitation or significant harm.

Definition of abuse

Abuse is one person having power over another, is a violation of an individual's civil or human rights. Abuse may not be deliberate but it can still cause significant harm to someone.

Abuse can include:

Domestic Violence Sexual Physical Modern Slavery
Discriminatory Financial
Psychological
Self-neglect Neglect
Organisational

Abuse may be not giving someone their medicine, stopping them from practicing their religion or depriving them of the company of family and friends. It can be where people are trafficked or forced into slavery. A person may be neglecting themselves to the point where they and others could be put in danger. Abuse could be happening routinely in an organisation, or behind closed doors within a family.

You don't have to put abuse into a category – if you see something that's wrong you need to report it.

**SAFEGUARDING IS
EVERYONE'S BUSINESS.**

Adult abuse is something that we must all work together to prevent. Anyone who suspects that an adult is being abused should take action to stop it continuing.

If someone is in danger, we will make sure they are safe. The wishes and choices of the person at risk will be at the heart of any investigation.

By law we must tell the police where there is a serious risk to life, or where there is information about a serious crime.

**In an emergency
call 999**

**To report suspected
abuse contact
Sandwell Council
on 0845 352 2266**

**Out of hours call the
Emergency Duty Team
on 0121 569 2355.**

