Who is at risk of being abused? Any adult aged over 18 years and who:

- has needs for care and support
- is experiencing, or at risk of abuse or neglect
- is unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation

Types of Abuse:
- Domestic violence/abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological abuse
- Financial or material abuse
- Modern slavery
- Discriminatory abuse
- Organisational abuse
- Neglect and acts of omission
- Self-neglect

Abused

Abusers

Types

Spouses/partners  Other family members  Neighbours
Acquaintances  Local residents  Friends
Paid staff or professionals  Volunteers  Strangers
Other people with care and support needs
People who deliberately exploit adults they perceive as vulnerable
Types and indicators of abuse and neglect

The **Care Act 2014 and the Care and Support Statutory Guidance** define the categories of abuse but emphasises that organisations should not limit their view on what constitutes abuse. The main forms of abuse are below. This is not an exhaustive list but an illustration as to the sort of behaviour that could give rise to a Safeguarding concern.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Abuse</th>
<th>Description of Abuse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical abuse</td>
<td>Including assault, hitting, slapping, pushing, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate physical sanctions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic violence / abuse</td>
<td>Including psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse; so called ‘honour’ based violence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse</td>
<td>Including rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teased or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting, sexual exploitation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological abuse</td>
<td>Including emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, radicalisation, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, cyber bullying, isolation or unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial or material abuse</td>
<td>Including theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern slavery</td>
<td>Encompasses slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discriminatory abuse</td>
<td>Including forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment; because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisational abuse</td>
<td>Including neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. This may range from one off incidents to ongoing ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neglect and acts of omission</td>
<td>Including ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, care and support or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-neglect</td>
<td>This covers a wide range of behaviour; neglecting to care for one’s personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What to do if you think an adult at risk may be subject to abuse or neglect

Take immediate action to keep the person safe, for example by calling an ambulance. Where there is immediate danger to life, serious injury or a crime committed dial 999 OR 111

Consult with the Designated Safeguarding Lead

Peta Gunson: peta@redbourn caregrou p.co.uk : 07836553264

Make a referral to Adult Safeguarding


Useful contact number:

Hertfordshire Health and Community Services 0300 123 4042

This policy will be subject to annual review.

Policy approved and adopted by all Trustees April 2019.