



What do we mean by the term safeguarding adults?

Many people on the Isle of Wight live their lives safely, free from abuse and neglect and are able to protect themselves if they feel at risk and are able to seek help and advice.

Some people on the Isle of Wight may need more help, advice and support to keep themselves safe from abuse and neglect, they may find it difficult to protect themselves. This may include people with illnesses, long term conditions, a disability, can include people who are homeless and those who misuse substances and includes people who look after someone else, when the care they provide is unpaid.

There are many different types of abuse that the adult can be at risk of and / or experiencing, this includes:

- **Physical abuse** - this includes being hit, shaken, kicked, being locked in a room or inappropriate restraint
- **Sexual abuse** - this includes inappropriate sexual contact, being made to take part in a sexual activity when they have not given, or are not able to give, their consent
- **Psychological abuse** - this includes being shouted at, ridiculed or bullied, threatened with harm, blamed or controlled by intimidation or fear
- **Financial or material abuse** - this includes theft, fraud, financial exploitation and pressure in connection with financial matters or misuse of someone else's finances
- **Neglect** - this includes the failure to provide essential care and support needs that results in someone being harmed
- **Self-neglect** - this term covering a wide range of behaviours but mainly when the adult neglects to care for their own personal health, hygiene or surroundings. It can also involve a refusal to seek medical assistance. Many things cause self-neglect. Someone might make a conscious choice to neglect their personal needs. Or they might have a mental or physical illness that causes lapses in concentration, leading to self-neglect
- **Discriminatory abuse** - this includes ill treatment, harassment, threats or insults due to a person's age, gender, sexuality, disability, race or religious belief
- **Modern slavery** - this includes human trafficking and forced labour
- **Organisational abuse** - this is the inability to provide a good level of care to an individual or group of people in a care setting such as a hospital, care home, day service or in a person's own home if they receive care and support there. It may be a one-off incident, repeated incidents or on-going ill-treatment. It could be due to neglect or poor care because of the arrangements, processes and practices in an organisation
- **Domestic abuse** - this includes abuse occurring between partners or by a family member.

How to report abuse

If you are concerned that someone you know, who may have needs for care and support and you suspect they are experiencing, or at risk of abuse or neglect, or are being exploited, please report it.

In an emergency

- Dial 999 for the police.

Anybody can raise a safeguarding concern about an adult who is believed to have care and support needs and is at risk of or experiencing abuse and neglect (including self-neglect) by contacting **01983 814980**.