

What is adult safeguarding?

When an adult is experiencing or is at risk of abuse, neglect or self-neglect they may need help. Some people may not be able to protect themselves from what is happening to them and may benefit from support from the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at Portsmouth City Council.

This leaflet provides information about the types of abuse or neglect that may affect adults, and what to do if you are worried about someone.

What you can do

- In an emergency, call 999.
- Talk to the person, let them know that help is available and ask what they want to do
- Report your concerns (see overleaf)
- Face to face support is also available from the police at the Eastern Police Investigation Centre at Airport Service Road, PO3 5GE



Types of Abuse

Physical Abuse - includes hitting, kicking, slapping, pinching, force-feeding, unauthorised restraint

Neglects and Acts of Omission - when needs are ignored (medical, emotional and physical), medication not being given, medical attention not been sought, food and drink not being given, being left in dirty or wet clothes

Sexual Abuse - includes being made to take part in any form of sexual activity without consent: kissing, touching, rape, being made to listen to sexual comments or watch sexual material without consent

Financial Abuse - includes theft or misuse of another person's money or property, includes fraud and scams

Discriminatory Abuse - when people are treated unfairly, harassed or insulted because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation

Psychological/Emotional Abuse - includes being shouted at, threatened, intimidated, ridiculed or bullied, enforced social isolation, failure to respect privacy

Self-Neglect - includes when someone is unable and/or unwilling to care for themselves, they may neglect their own personal hygiene, medical needs, or home environment

Organisational Abuse - includes neglect and poor practice in a care setting such as a care home, hospital, or the person's own home. This could include regimented routines, lack of respect and dignity, lack of stimulation, lack of individual care, poor leadership

Domestic Abuse - includes physical, psychological or coercive, controlling behaviour between people who are or have been in a relationship, or family members. Also includes 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage

Modern Slavery - includes forced labour, domestic servitude, human trafficking. Includes **Sexual Exploitation** - being forced to participate in escort work, sex work, pornography

Who could be causing the abuse?

Anyone can abuse another person - this could include a carer, a relative, a friend, a neighbour, a health worker or social worker, a stranger



What will happen if I report abuse?


If you report a concern, we will:

- Listen to you and take your concerns seriously
- Make enquiries about the concerns you have raised
- Consider the views and wishes of the adult at risk, which may involve talking directly to them, or supporting them with an advocate (someone to represent them) if they need one
- Talk to other agencies that might need to be involved e.g., care homes, police, GP, other social workers
- Refer the person to another agency for specialist support if required
- Decide on the best way to keep the person safe now, and in the future
- Support the adult to live their life the way they want, free from abuse

What to do if you are concerned about an adult in Portsmouth

If it is an emergency and the adult is at immediate risk of harm, call **999**

Otherwise, you can contact the Adult Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at Portsmouth City Council by phone or by email

 023 9268 0810 (M-F office hours)
0300 555 1373 (Out of Hours)

 PortsmouthAdultMASH@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

If you would like more information about safeguarding adults in Portsmouth, visit the Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board website

 portsmouthsab.uk

If you need this information in another format or language, call 023 9284 1786 or email PSAB@portsmouthcc.gov.uk



Portsmouth Safeguarding
Adults Board

Safeguarding Adults in Portsmouth

Supporting people to be safe and reporting concerns about abuse or neglect

