

## What we mean by Safeguarding

Safeguarding is about protecting children and adults from abuse or neglect and educating those around them to recognise the signs and dangers. Abuse can take place anywhere:

- in someone's own home
- a care home
- a public place

Anyone can be an abuser:

- a family member or partner
- a neighbour
- a health or social care worker
- another professional worker, for example a financial advisor or solicitor
- a volunteer worker
- a friend
- a service user

Abuse comes in many forms and more than one type of abuse may be happening at the same time. The following are some examples of abuse:

**Criminal exploitation** Often controlled and maltreated, victims are forced into crimes such as cannabis cultivation or pick pocketing against their will.

**Domestic servitude** Victims are forced to carry out housework and domestic chores in private households with little or no pay, restricted movement, very limited or no free time and minimal privacy often sleeping where they work. As it takes place in private households it is a deeply hidden form of exploitation.

**Financial abuse:** having money or property stolen, being pressured into giving people money or changing a will, misuse of benefits, not being allowed access to money.

**Forced Labour:** are forced to work against their will, often working very long hours for little or no pay in dire conditions under verbal or physical threats of violence to them or their families.

**Neglect:** ignoring medical or physical care needs, withholding food or drink, not allowing access to appropriate health or social services, being left in wet or dirty clothes.

**Physical abuse:** being hit or slapped, being given the wrong medication on purpose, being locked in or force-fed.

**Psychological abuse:** being threatened, not being given choices, being bullied or isolated from other people.

**Radicalisation:** involves the exploitation of susceptible people who are drawn into violent extremism by radicalisers often using a persuasive rationale and charismatic individuals to attract people to their cause. The aim is to attract people to their reasoning, inspire new recruits and embed their extreme views and persuade vulnerable individuals of the legitimacy of their cause.

**Sexual abuse:** being touched or kissed when it is not wanted, being made to touch or kiss someone else, being raped, being made to listen to sexual comments or forced to look at sexual acts, or materials. forced to perform non-consensual or abusive sexual acts against their will, such as prostitution, escort work and pornography.

**Trafficking** being moved either internationally or domestically so they can be exploited.

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