

01 BACKGROUND:

Adult Abuse and neglect is a violation of a person's human and civil rights by any other person. It's where someone does something to another person that puts that person at risk of harm or it has a negative impact on their quality of life.

Adult Abuse may be deliberate, or may be the result of ignorance or lack of training and can happen once or repeatedly.

Further information and guides can be found here

<https://www.rbsab.org/the-public/>

WHY IT MATTERS:

02

All adults have the right to live their lives free from abuse or harm. They should be able to choose how to live their lives independently, receive support in doing this and be treated with respect and dignity.

Related Legal Guidance & legislation:

- Care Act 2014
- Mental Health Act 1983 and 2007
- Mental Capacity Act 2005
- MCA - Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards addendum 2007
- Human Rights Act 1998

Guidance & procedures can be found at:

<https://www.rbsab.org/professionals/>

03

RISKS:

Some adults may be at more risk of harm than others, including people who depend on others for care, because of age or illness, have mental ill health, have learning or physical disabilities, have sight or hearing impairment or loss, have dementia or misuses drugs or alcohol.

Abuse can take different forms:

Physical: Hitting, smacking, pushing, shaking, or misuse of medication.

Sexual: Any sexual activity that is unwanted or not understood.

Emotional: Intimidation, threats, humiliation, isolation, verbal or psychological abuse

Neglect: Ignoring medical/ physical care needs, withholding food, heating.

Discriminatory: Being treated differently because of ethnicity, sexuality, gender, age etc.

Financial: Theft of money, property or belongings.

Domestic: May include any of the above.

Organisational: Poor working practices in care homes or hospitals that cause poor or inadequate care.

07 What to do?

Any concern about adult abuse and neglect can be referred to Rochdale Adult Care on 0300 303 8886 (Office hours) 0300 303 8875 (Other times)

E mail: AdultPreventionTeam@rochdale.gov.uk

If anyone is in immediate danger Contact Police on 999 Call Police on 101 if you think a crime has been committed

Concern about a paid worker or volunteer?

If you have concern about a paid worker, professional or volunteer who is abusing an adult you must speak to the Safeguarding lead in the Service or the Rochdale Allegation Management Lead via aml@rochdale.gov.uk

Guidance and procedures on Allegation Management can be found here:

<https://www.rbsab.org/professionals/>

06

If you are in any doubt about reporting your concerns don't think "What if I'm wrong?" think "What if I'm right?"

Guidance & procedures can be found here:

<https://www.rbsab.org/professionals/>

Information:

Anyone can be an abuser - a relative, friend or neighbour, a paid or volunteer carer, professional worker or another vulnerable person. Abuse can happen anywhere - in the person's own home, in a care home, in hospital or in a public place.



What to do if you suspect adult abuse or neglect

05

04