



## Summer 2017: Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the joint safeguarding boards' newsletter.

Each edition will have two particular themes (one for adults and one for children) as we move through the year and this edition has a focus on:

- **Child Neglect**
- **Adult Financial Abuse**



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Twitter –find us [@LSCB Rochdale](#)

The Rochdale Safeguarding Adults Board are on Facebook [@rochdalesab](#)

### INSIDE THIS EDITION

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# FINANCIAL ABUSE

A campaign has been launched to raise awareness of financial abuse of adults at risk of abuse or neglect in the Rochdale Borough, and to urge people to report suspicions.

The “Don’t Ignore It – Report It” campaign is co-ordinated by Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board (RBSAB) and is designed to raise awareness of the different types of financial abuse and encourage anyone who may be concerned about the financial abuse of an adult at risk to report their suspicions.

The campaign will see posters and flyers distributed to hospitals, GP surgeries, libraries and other public buildings, talks being given to community groups and coverage in the press and radio.

## **What is financial abuse?**

Financial abuse is the term used to describe harming someone by taking or defrauding them of their money, goods or property. It can include pressurising people to hand over benefits, sign over deeds to their home or to make changes to their will.

Financial abuse can happen anywhere and at any time, and affects people from all types of backgrounds. It can happen in a person’s home, care home, day centre, hospital or in a public place.

The campaign aims to give greater protection to anyone aged 18 or over who may be at risk because they are unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation due to learning or physical disabilities, sensory impairment, frailty or mental health problems.

Lots of information about financial abuse, as well as easy read information on managing your money, is available on the RBSAB website [here](#).

If you have concerns about abuse of an adult, please give Rochdale Adult Care a call in confidence on 0300 303 8886.



If you suspect financial abuse...

**Don't ignore it - Report it!**

If you're being abused, or you suspect that someone else is, you need to report it.  
**Safeguarding is everybody's business.**

Don't let someone vulnerable be abused.  
Call Adult Care today **0300 303 8886**  
Visit [www.rbsab.org](http://www.rbsab.org)

**RBSAB**  
ROCHDALE BOROUGH  
SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

**GREATER MANCHESTER  
POLICE**

**NHS**  
Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale  
Clinical Commissioning Group

**ROCHDALE  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

# FINANCIAL ABUSE

A campaign to make people more aware of financial abuse is being launched at the council's Number One Riverside building on Friday 11 September.

The campaign is being coordinated by Rochdale Safeguarding Adults' Board, in partnership with the council, police, NHS and other key local organisations.

The aim is to make people aware of the dangers around financial abuse and, if they suspect any wrongdoing, encourage them to report it to the authorities.

Anyone is welcome to pop along to Number One Riverside on 11<sup>th</sup> September, from 11.30am. Just look out for the stall packed with information!

In the meantime if you, or someone you know, is being financial abused don't ignore it, report it. Call adult care on 0300 303 8886 or visit [www.rbsab.org](http://www.rbsab.org)



## Financial Abuse in Rochdale



Rochdale Adult Care have received **920** safeguarding concerns in the past year



Safeguarding concerns reported to Adult Care in the past year have increased by

**9%**

**222** concerns have been raised about financial abuse in the past year



**60%** of safeguarding referrals are for people aged **65** or over



Nationally, financial abuse affects more than

**130,000**

over-65s who suffer theft, fraud and coercion - often at the hands of relatives

**41%** of abuse takes place in the victim's home



Source: Age UK

If you suspect that a adult has or is suffering harm, neglect or abuse please call 0300 303 8886 or email [social.services@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:social.services@rochdale.gov.uk). Out of office hours: contact 0300 303 8875. If you feel an adult is in immediate danger please contact the police on 999

# 01

## Background

Financial abuse is the term used to describe harming someone by taking or defrauding them of their money, goods or property.

Financial abuse is never acceptable, no matter how minor it may seem.

Financial abuse is a crime.

## Why it matters:

# 02

Adults at risk of harm are people aged 18 or over who are unable to protect themselves from harm or exploitation due to learning or physical disabilities, sensory impairment, frailty or mental health problems.

# 07

## What to do?

Call 0300 303 8886 to speak to someone in Rochdale's Adult's Social Care about your concerns.

Out of office hours, you can contact 0300 303 8875.

More information is available at [www.rbsab.org](http://www.rbsab.org)

## Questions:

### Look for:

An unexplained inability to pay for household shopping or bills

Personal possessions which go missing from the person's home

Living conditions are low compared to the money the person receives

# 06

# Financial Abuse

# 03

## Information:

Financial abuse can happen to people anywhere and at any time, and affects people from all types of backgrounds. It can happen in a person's home, care home, day centre, hospital or in a public place.

Financial Abuse is the use of a person's property, assets, income, funds or any resources without their informed consent or authorisation. It includes theft, fraud, exploitation, undue pressure in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits, the misuse of an enduring power of attorney or a lasting power of attorney, or Appointeeship or Deputyship.

## Information:

### What are the signs of financial abuse?

Unexplained withdrawals from the bank, unusual activity in the bank accounts, unpaid bills, unexplained shortage of money, reluctance on the part of the person with responsibility for the funds to provide basic food and clothes etc., an unusual interest from a family member, friend, carer or salesperson in the financial affairs of the adult.

# 05

# 04

# RBSAB

ROCHDALE BOROUGH SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

# RBSCB

ROCHDALE BOROUGH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD



# BRUISING

Assessing the significance and age of bruising, whatever the age of the child, is not always straightforward and if in doubt about an explanation then consideration should always be given to obtaining a medical opinion. There is specific guidance in respect of bruising for immobile babies and children which should always be followed.



More information on bruising can be found on the [Greater Manchester Safeguarding partnership](#) site.

## SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES MANUAL

**Did you know that the RBSCB has an online safeguarding procedures manual?**

You can access it on the [Greater Manchester Safeguarding partnership site](#).

The manual provides you with a comprehensive range of procedures that have been agreed across the 10 Greater Manchester Local Authority areas. The content is written in a succinct style and is accessible to users from all the agencies that are partners in the RBSCB and the third sector.

You can also register for alerts to let you know when the policies, procedures & guidance are updated.

**[REGISTER FOR ALERTS NOW](#)**

**01 Background:** [Bruising](#) occurs after a bump or injury which damages underlying capillaries and causes leaking and collection of blood in the soft tissue under the skin. Usually bluish or purple coloured, bruises gradually fade through shades of yellow or green – usually after around two weeks. Many factors affect the colour of the bruise, including the amount of blood that leaks after injury, the amount of force applied and the amount of tissue damage incurred, the age of the person injured and the underlying colour of the injured person's skin. The precise age of bruises is impossible to estimate by colour. Bruises in active children are common and often are considered "normal" childhood injuries. However, bruises may also be the result of physical abuse or some serious medical conditions. The [Serious Case Review](#) for Baby Peter, whose bruises were hidden with chocolate by his mother, stands as a reminder that practitioners must remain alert and seek a satisfactory explanation for bruising on children.

**02 Why it matters:** Bruising is the most common injury to a child that has been physically abused. The younger the child, the greater the risk that bruising is non accidental. It is not illegal for a parent to hit their child as long as the 'smack' amounts to 'reasonable punishment'. Unreasonable punishment is classed as a smack that leaves a mark or bruise on the child, or the use of an implement to hit the child, such as a belt or cane. Physical abuse causes serious, and often long-lasting, harm – and in severe cases, death. Disabled children are more likely to be abused and children who are immobile because of their disability have a significantly increased risk of non-accidental injury. Many parents report that their child 'bruises easily', but there is limited research on child-to-child variation or the extent to which the number of bruises in a given child varies over time.

**07** practitioners must remain alert and seek a satisfactory explanation for bruising on children.

**03** Information: Bruises in very young infants in any location are uncommon. In infants less than 9 months, without a known medical condition, bruises are likely indicators of abuse. As children begin to walk, bruises are seen more frequently. After 9 months of age, bruises commonly are seen on the shins & knees. Between 9 months and 4 years of age, it is not unusual for children to bump and bruise the forehead. Parts of the body rarely affected in children of any age but common in abused children include the face, head, neck, trunk, and buttocks. Some distinct patterns of bruising may mean that physical abuse has taken place:

## What to do?

If a child has been seriously harmed call 999

Any injury, bruising, or mark that might be bruising, in a child of any age that is brought to the attention of a professional is matter for inquiry and concern. Injuries in a non-mobile child should raise suspicion of maltreatment and result in an immediate referral to Children's Social Care (0300 303 0440) and an urgent paediatric opinion.

## Questions:

Have parents/carers been asked for an explanation & when was bruising first noticed?  
Is the explanation compatible with the bruising, case history and the child's stage of development?

[GM Protocol Bruising on immobile babies & children](#)

**06** Body maps: [Baby Child](#)  
NSPCC Core Information [Bruising](#)

# Bruises on children

## Information:

- As a result of defending themselves, abused children may have bruising on the forearm, upper arm, back of leg, hands or feet.
- Clusters of bruises are a common feature in abused children.
- Bruises which have dots of blood under the skin around them are found more commonly in abused children.
- Bruises can often carry the imprint of the implement used or the hand

Some distinct patterns of bruising may mean that physical abuse has taken place:

- Abusive bruises often occur in soft parts of the body – such as the abdomen, back and buttocks.
- The head is by far the commonest site of bruising in child abuse. Other common sites include the ear and neck

**05**

**04**

# COMPLEX SAFEGUARDING EVENT



In July 2017, the Rochdale Borough Children and Adults Boards hosted a Complex Safeguarding event for multi-agency practitioners in Number One Riverside. Organised by the Complex Safeguarding sub group, the purpose of the event was to raise awareness of complex safeguarding and of the innovative work taking place locally and across Greater Manchester by showcasing examples of good practice and positive outcomes.

86 practitioners attended the event from a range of organisations. There were presentations after Gail Hopper, director children's services at Rochdale Borough Council, welcomed everyone to the event. Speakers presented on Honour Based Violence, FGM, The Guardian Project, CSE and ACT.

96% of participants who returned evaluations agreed that the event was interesting and held their attention throughout the morning and there was clear evidence of learning from the event.

You can access the presentations and relevant resources on the [Safeguarding Board](#) site.

## EVENT FEEDBACK

*"Very good, easy to understand and delivered by passionate people with passion for quality in their delivery."*

*"I thought the training was very well organised with each speaker delivering a great presentation. My knowledge on key safeguarding areas has improved."*

*"Overall the event was excellent, very interesting topics presented by knowledgeable officers."*



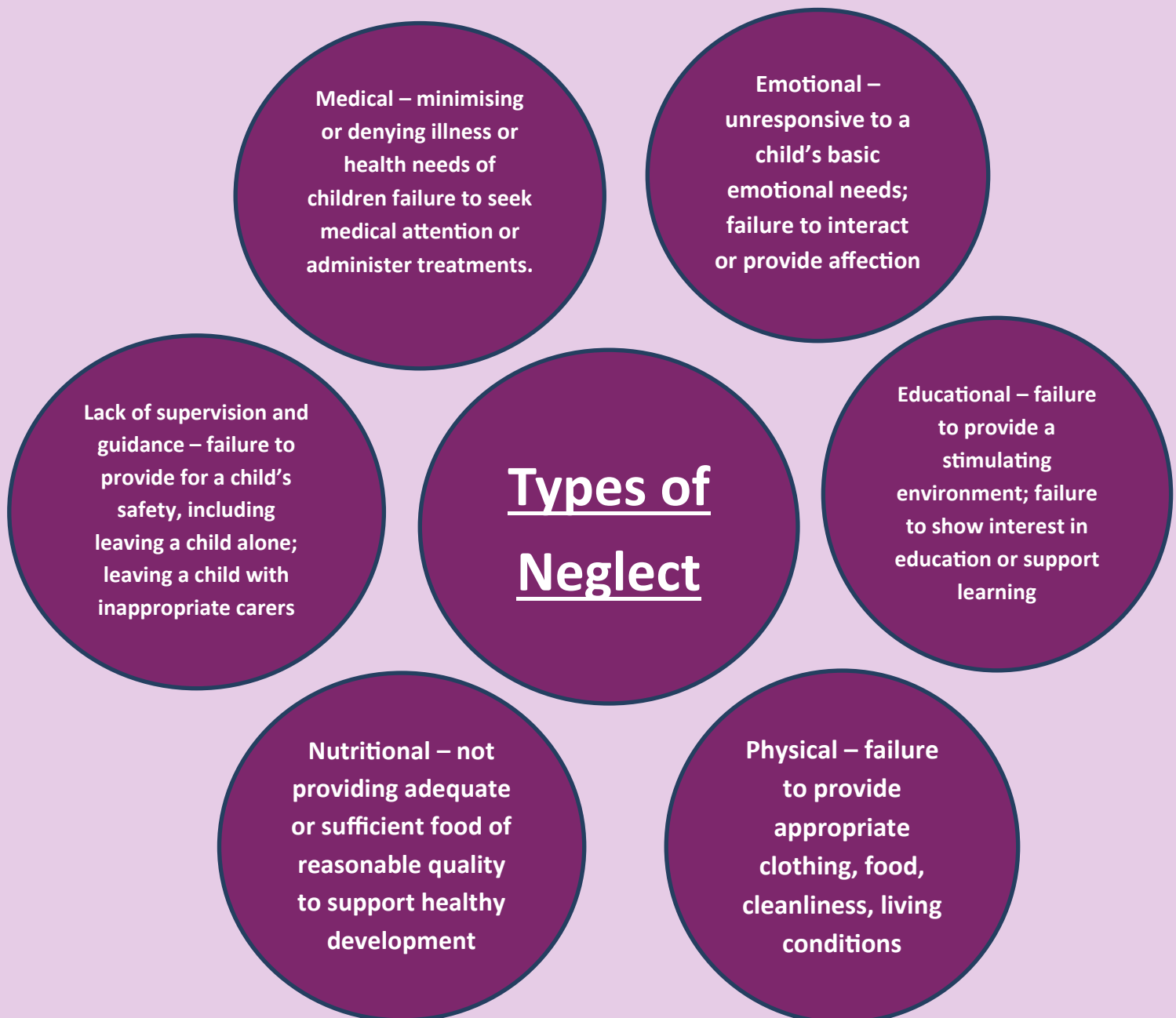
# NEGLECT

## Focus on Child Neglect

Tackling child neglect is a priority for Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Children Board. This article forms part of the ongoing work to raise **awareness** of neglect, helping practitioners to **spot the signs** and know how to respond.

## What is neglect?

Neglect is the ongoing failure to meet a child's basic needs. It can have a considerable detrimental impact on physical, emotional and social health, with impact often persisting into adulthood. Neglected children may be left hungry or dirty, without adequate clothing, shelter, supervision, medical or health care. They may be put in danger or not protected from physical or emotional harm. They may not get the love, care and attention they need from their parents. Research also shows that neglect often co-exists with other forms of abuse.





# NEGLECT

## What is Neglect? (continued)

Working Together 2015 defines neglect as:

The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy, for example as a result of maternal substance abuse, but once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment
- It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

**Alert:** Practitioners need to be wary of waiting until neglect is 'persistent'. Early identification, timely intervention and support are essential for the short- and long-term welfare of children in cases of neglect.

## Why is neglect a priority for RBSCB?

- Child neglect is the most common form of child abuse, both locally and nationally
- At the end of July 2017, Neglect was the primary category of abuse for 53% of children subject to a Child Protection Plan in the Rochdale Borough
- Neglect has harmful consequences in the short and long term
- It can be life threatening and needs to be treated with as much urgency as other forms of child abuse
- Neglect can result in poor physical, emotional and mental health - it can severely alter the way a child's brain develops, damage their capacity to form positive relationships and increase vulnerability to other forms of abuse such as Child Sexual Exploitation.

# NEGLECT

## Spotting the signs

Spotting the early signs is crucial. Indicators may include:

- An unkempt, inadequately clothed, dirty or smelly child
- A child who is perceived to be frequently hungry
- A child who is observed to be listless, apathetic and unresponsive with no apparent medical cause; displaying anxious attachment, aggression or indiscriminate friendliness
- Failure of a child to grow or develop within normal expected patterns with an accompanying weight loss or speech / language delay
- Recurrent / untreated infections or skin conditions e.g. severe nappy rash, eczema or persistent head lice / scabies
- Unmanaged / untreated health / medical conditions including poor dental health (Tooth decay may indicate neglect. Dental services should consider initiating further enquiries or making a safeguarding referral)
- Frequent accidents or injuries (Frequent accidents may be an indicator of poor quality parenting through lack of supervision or living in an unsafe home)
- A child frequently absent from or late at school
- Poor self-esteem
- A child who thrives away from the home environment.
- Persistent failure by parents or carers to attend or keep appointments with health visitor, GP, hospital, school etc.

Read more on the signs and indicators [here](#)

**Alert:** If there are any concerns about the neglect of a child, consideration should always be given to the possibility that other children in the household may also be at risk of neglect or abuse.

# NEGLECT

## Impact

Persistent neglect can lead to serious impairment of health and development, long-term difficulties with social functioning, relationships and educational progress. The damaging effects of severe neglect can lead to accidental injuries, poor health, disability, poor emotional and physical development, lack of self-esteem, mental health problems and suicide. Neglect during infancy and early childhood has been shown to negatively affect early brain development and can have enduring repercussions into adolescence and adulthood.

## **Children who have been neglected may be:**

- slow to develop language and motor skills
- passive and unable to be spontaneous
- unable to play imaginatively
- easily distracted and do badly at school.
- at risk of depression and anxiety
- over-friendly with strangers
- vulnerable to CSE, radicalisation and criminal activity

## **They may also:**

- have feeding problems and grow slowly, including failure to thrive.
- find it hard to develop close relationships
- get on badly with other children of the same age
- think badly of themselves



**Act on Neglect**

“Neglect is a serious form of harm. It can be life threatening & should be treated with as much urgency as other forms of child abuse”

Know the signs  
Change lives  
Act on Neglect

[www.rbscb.org/professionals/neglect/](http://www.rbscb.org/professionals/neglect/)

**RBSCB**  
ROCHDALE BOROUGH  
SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

## Adolescent neglect

Several studies have challenged a widely-held assumption that young people may be more resilient to abuse or neglect than younger children. [The impact of maltreatment](#) does not decline with the age at which it is experienced and in adolescence the impact of long-standing abuse or neglect may also present in behaviours which place the young person at increased risk of harm. It is important to understand the impact of long term neglect on a teenager’s emotional wellbeing and consider the risk of self-harm or suicide.

# 01 Background:

[Working Together](#) defines neglect as ‘the persistent failure to meet a child’s basic and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development’.

There is widespread understanding of the impact of neglect on the safety & welfare of younger children but neglect of adolescents has, by contrast, had less recognition.

[Children’s Society research](#), conducted with 2,000 young people aged 12–15, asked about their experiences of being cared for. The survey had questions on educational & emotional support, physical care, supervision, subjective well-being & risk taking behaviour. Most young people were well cared for, but 15% had experienced neglect in relation to at least one form of parenting

# 07

## What to do?

Use the Adolescent [Graded Care Profile](#) to assess neglect.

Be proactive and persistent.  
Positive relationships are key.

Focus on self-esteem and helping young people to develop a sense of agency and control.

Further [reading and research](#).

## Questions:

What makes the young person vulnerable?

What are the root causes of surface problems?

Do you have a clear understanding of the young person’s experiences over time?

Is there an assumption that they will ask for help if they need it?

Is the young person being expected to behave/cope as an adult?

Is there an understanding of normal versus harmful risk taking?

What are the views of the young person/to what extent has their voice been heard?

# 06

# Why it matters:

# 02

Several studies have challenged a widely-held assumption that young people may be more resilient to abuse or neglect than younger children – [the impact of maltreatment](#) does not decline with the age at which it is experienced and many adolescents carry the legacy of long-standing abuse and neglect with them.

Young people who experience maltreatment only during adolescence display a range of negative outcomes at least as strong as those of children who experience maltreatment only during childhood. More than ¼ of Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) are for young people aged 11-18 (Sidebotham et al, 2016; Brandon et al, 2012)

# 03

## Information:

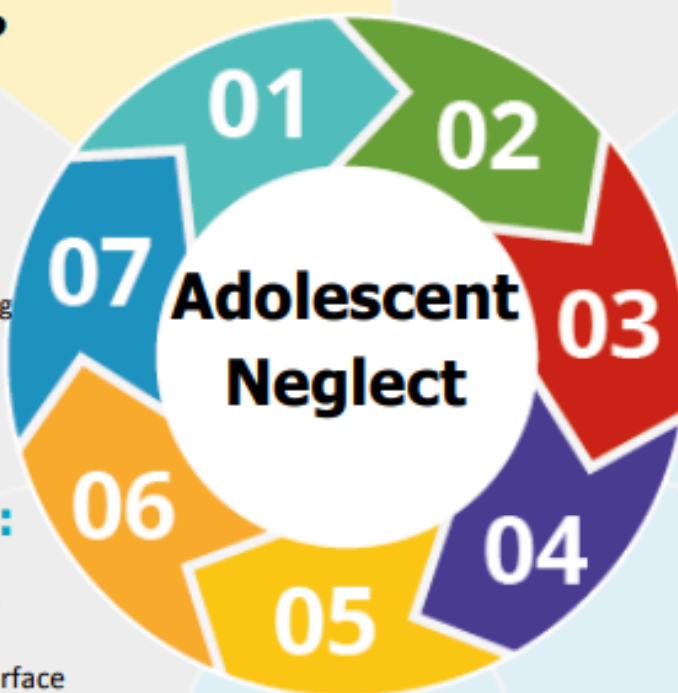
It is essential that practitioners understand the impact of neglect and how to better support young people and their families where neglect occurs.

[Ages of Concern](#), an Ofsted thematic review of SCRs, noted the range of the risk factors facing teenagers, which encompassed factors such as alienation from their families; school difficulties; accommodation problems; abuse/exploitation by adults; unemployment; drug and alcohol misuse; emotional and mental health difficulties; domestic abuse in the home; reactions to bereavement; and risks arising from adults’ misuse of the internet.

Children who have experienced neglect are more likely to have [disorganised or insecure attachment styles](#) and may find caring and supportive relationships frightening or confusing.

High risk behaviours can be interpreted as adult ‘lifestyle choices’ with the consequence of children being denied appropriate support.

# 04



## Information:

- There is a higher risk of neglect where a family is headed by a lone parent.
- The re-constitution of families can lead to neglect – e.g. an increased tendency for older adolescents to be forced out of home when a new partner/step-parent is introduced
- Parental alcohol/drug misuse is known to be associated with neglect
- Young people whose parents suffer from mental ill health such as depression may be at higher risk of neglect as may those living in households where there is domestic abuse

# 05

# NEGLECT

## **Assessing neglect**

The assessment of neglect cases can be difficult. Neglect can fluctuate both in level and duration. A child's welfare can, for example, improve following input from services or a change in circumstances and review, but then deteriorate once support is removed. Practitioners can also become overwhelmed by the range of issues that need addressing in one family.

## **Rochdale Neglect Screening Tool**

This new screening tool has been developed for front line practitioners as a means to quickly identify areas of concern which may indicate a child/young person is being neglected. The tool is designed to be applicable to all ages of children. If the Screening Tool indicates that a child or young person is experiencing neglect, a [Graded Care Profile](#) should be used to provide a more comprehensive assessment.

## **Rochdale Graded Care Profile Assessment Tool**

Use of the Graded Care Profile (0-11) and Graded Care Profile (Adolescent) makes neglect more visible by helping practitioners to identify risks and potential harm effectively.

These are available on the [RBSCB website](#) for you to download and use.

## **What are we doing locally?**

- RBSCB Neglect Strategy Group
- [Neglect Strategy published](#)
- Performance Monitoring by Board
- Multi Agency Neglect Training
- [Multi Agency Case File Audit](#)
- Neglect 7 minute briefings
- Rochdale Graded Care Profile
- Neglect Screening Tool
- Neglect publicity campaign in September 2017

# NEGLECT

## What do serious case reviews tell us about child neglect?

- Be aware of the children who may be more vulnerable to neglect
- Seek to understand the child's lived experience/ Listen and act upon the voice of the child
- Use the Graded Care profile to assess neglect
- Monitor missed appointments - and do you know what to do if you are concerned?
- Pay attention to accidents, bruises and other injuries
- Know how to access parental capability to change
- See the bigger picture and understand the long term impact of neglect
- Support families through early, evidence based assessment and interventions
- ensure that their specific concerns are clearly and explicitly understood by parents
- Work closely with other agencies about concerns and when planning interventions
- Use critical thinking to analyse the significance of information gathered
- keep a focus on the need to improve outcomes for the child's daily lived experience.
- Stay alert to the possibility of disguised compliance
- The assessment of positive change needs to be made on the basis of timely outcomes for the child.
- use staff supervision to avoid case drift and 'start again syndrome'.

[7 Minute briefing: Neglect – Learning from Serious Case Reviews](#)

[Tri X Policy Briefing: Five Serious Case Reviews](#)

[Rochdale SCR: Child D – published 2014](#)

**Alert:** Numerous Serious Case Reviews have highlighted the importance of all practitioners having a clear understanding of thresholds and the concept significant harm. Without this shared understanding, neglect cases can drift.

There is a dedicated information and resource page on the Safeguarding Board's website on [Neglect](#).

# NEGLECT

## Tips for practitioners

- Always take the full history of the family into account and patterns of previous episodes of neglect. Include background information of the parents' own childhood to better assess parenting capability.
- Record all circumstances which may affect the level of care the child receives, for example substance misuse, and establish any patterns of care, such as the child being left with neighbours.
- Alongside proactive case management and decision-making, identify and record all incidents of neglect to build a picture of what is going on in the child's life.
- Emotional neglect is particularly difficult to evidence. Individual observations of emotional neglect should be systematically collated.
- GP's and other GP practice staff are in a good position to be actively curious when engaging with a family where there are concerns about neglect.

**Alert: Men play a very important role in children's lives and have a great influence on the children they care for. All practitioners should consider the role of fathers and men, both in assessments and when providing services. The status, influence and role of fathers and new partners should be understood in terms of their potential for protection and nurturing - as well as any adverse effect they may have on the safety of the child/ren and the mother.**

[More on Tips for Practitioners](#)

## Multi Agency Training

The Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Boards offer a programme of *free* multi agency safeguarding training for professionals working with children, young people, vulnerable adults & their families.

The current training programme includes two courses on child neglect, a full day course (Neglect and Emotional Abuse) and a one hour briefing.

Full details of courses are available [here](#).

# HAVOCA

## Help for Adult Victims of Child Abuse

HAVOCA is run by survivors for adult survivors of child abuse. They provide support, friendship and advice for any adult whose life has been affected by childhood abuse.

HAVOCA's ethos believes that every single child abuse survivor has the ability to survive and lead a more fulfilling life.

HAVOCA was established in 2001 to provide support and direction to any adult who has experienced child abuse. This experience may be first hand, or as a loved one of a survivor, or as a support worker for the victims of child abuse. The HAVOCA resource provides a wealth of information online and at the same time allows people to connect through The HAVOCA Survivor Forums. In doing so HAVOCA provides direction and friendship to survivors worldwide.

Together, as a survivors' community, HAVOCA provides the medium to break the silence and help individuals recover from their trauma.

More information can be found at <https://www.havoca.org/>

# RBSAB FALLS PROTOCOL

## **Council rises to falls challenge**

Providers across the borough, particularly those offering 24 hour care, have a number of safeguarding responsibilities in respect of falls.

Every year over three million people in the UK over 65 experience a fall. Even a minor fall can have serious consequences for an older person's physical and mental health.

That's why Rochdale Safeguarding Adults Board has put together a falls protocol for care homes, nursing homes and domiciliary care providers.

It is packed with useful information on how to raise a concern, what to expect when reporting a fall and how adult care will follow up on a falls report.



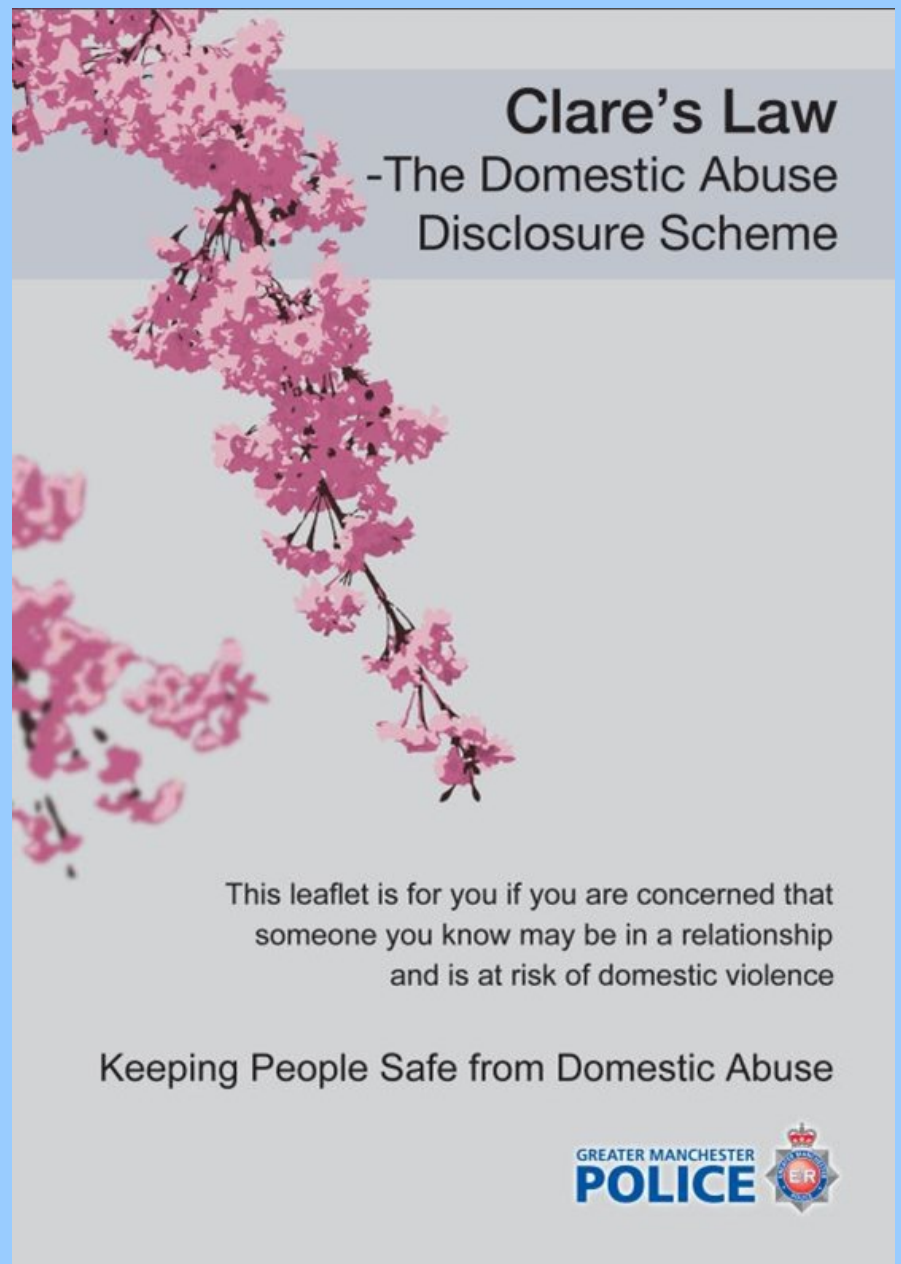
# CLARE'S LAW

The aim of the Clare's Law scheme is to give members of the public a formal mechanism to make enquires about an individual who they are in a relationship with or who is in a relationship with someone they know, and there is a concern that the individual may be abusive towards their partner. If police checks show that the individual has a record of abusive offences, or there is other information to indicate the person you know is at risk, the police will consider sharing this information with the person(s) best placed to protect the potential victim.

Your local police force will discuss your concerns with you and decide whether it is appropriate for you to be given more information to help protect the person who is in the relationship with the individual you are concerned about.

The scheme aims to enable potential victims to make an informed choice on whether to continue the relationship, and provides help and support to assist the potential victim when making that informed choice.

More information about Clare's Law, and Domestic Abuse in general, can be found [here](#).



# SAFENET DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES

SafeNet has been keeping women and children safe from domestic abuse since 1977. SafeNet protects victims and survivors of domestic abuse through the provision of safe refuge and support services, and promotes the prevention of further harm through various initiatives including specialist group work programmes and working to build safe and healthy relationships and promote equality.

SafeNet deliver services throughout the North West from bases in Blackpool, Burnley, Lancaster, Preston and Rochdale.

In Rochdale we provide refuge spaces for women and children and the dedicated floating support service for those at risk of domestic abuse and violence in the community. We are developing a series of safe houses as move on properties before living completely independently, to accommodate larger families or families with older boys and there will be a dedicated safe house for men.

Over the years we have extended our services to all survivors and have developed specialist support for ethnic minority communities, children and young people, those with multiple disadvantage needs, LGBT and male survivors. At SafeNet we are proud to deliver fully inclusive and accessible services.

A referral into SafeNet is a referral into the service across the districts overcoming many barriers to safety and support



## Stay Safe with SafeNet Rochdale Domestic Abuse Services

*Essential support for victims and survivors of domestic abuse*

If you need help, talk to us in confidence, phone SafeNet today on:

**01706 868896**

**SAFENET SERVICES**  
**It's your choice!**

**Safe Refuge Accommodation**  
A safe place to stay for you and your children. We operate a 24hr emergency accommodation and support service 365 days per year.

**Floating Support**  
Confidential, emotional and practical support in the community. Help to stay safe and support with housing related issues, including resettlement.

**Specialist Support Services**  
Recovery refuge for those with more complex needs. Safehouses. Dedicated male victim Safehouses.



*"I felt I was believed for the first time"*

Talk confidentially to one of our experienced domestic abuse support workers.

# RBSCB E-SAFETY WORK

Young people have recently been sharing their views on e-safety with RBSCB

- Schools already do lots of work around e-safety
- More needs to be done to educate parents about e-safety
- It's important not to stop or discourage young people from using social media but it's important that they understand how to keep safe
- Some young people are much better informed about e-safety than the majority of adults and they can share their knowledge and be more in tune with other young people due to the similar age range.



A working group, will be meeting in September to discuss how the Safeguarding Boards can lead and strengthen e-safety across the borough. The group includes representatives from; schools, the Youth Service, the Sunrise team, community safety, the Kashmir Youth project, Barnardo's and Rochdale Mind Young Advisers.

We now plan to create multi agency strategy and develop a toolkit of e-safety resources. If you would like further information or lead a group that might like to get involved,

please email Alyson Harvey, Safeguarding Boards Development Officer

[Alyson.Harvey@Rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:Alyson.Harvey@Rochdale.gov.uk)

We are aiming to finalise everything in time for Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, 6 February 2018.

## IT'S NOT OKAY WEEK OF ACTION

The It's Not Okay in Sport week of action took place across Greater Manchester from June 10th-18th, with a great response to the online promotion, awareness events and general promotion of CSE advise.



It's Not Okay have also updated their branding. Copies of logos and brand guidelines can be found on the [It's Not Okay website](#).

# FREE TRAINING

The Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Boards offer a programme of *free* multi agency safeguarding training for professionals working with children, young people, vulnerable adults & their families.

You can find the suite of courses on the [Safeguarding Board's website](#).

The Multi-Agency Training Programme is coordinated by the Safeguarding Boards Development Officers.

Some of the courses on offer include;

- **Neglect** 1 Hour Briefing
- **Neglect** and Emotional Abuse
- Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery
- Safeguarding Individuals with Additional Needs
- CSE
- Domestic Abuse 1 Hour Briefing
- Children Missing from Home or Care

There is an extensive list of free e-learning courses on the [safeguarding site](#) too, including;

- CSE
- Domestic Abuse / Toxic Trio
- Parental Substance Misuse
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Safeguarding Adults
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Human Trafficking Awareness
- Introduction to Cyber Security: Stay Safe Online
- Child **Neglect**
- Understanding Children: Babies Being Heard



There is also an extensive library of free 7 Minute Briefings available on the [safeguarding site](#) too.

# RBSCB



If you have any queries about this newsletter or wish to submit something for a future edition please contact Katie Gee, Communications Officer at Rochdale Borough Council and Chair of the Joint Safeguarding Board Communication Officers Group

[katie.gee@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:katie.gee@rochdale.gov.uk)

01706 925681

**Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Children Board**

**Floor 4, No 1 Riverside**

**Smith Street**

**Rochdale**

**OL16 1XU**

**Telephone - 0300 303 0350**

**(The office is open Monday – Friday 08.30 - 16.45)**

[www.rbscb.org](http://www.rbscb.org)