



SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS

HARCSAC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all adults in need of care and support or adults at risk who use our services. Safeguarding is a specific activity that is undertaken to protect specific children and adults who are suffering or are at risk of suffering harm.

Adults with care and support needs are people aged over 18 who are in need of care and support, ie could or do receive a service from the local council to meet their support needs.

Adults may have care and support needs because of disability, age or illness and may be unable to take care of themselves or to protect themselves from harm or exploitation.

Adult safeguarding helps prevent the abuse of power. Adults with care and support needs are dependent on others to meet their everyday needs.

The organisation operates a confidential service but if it is assessed that an adult at risk is being abused or likely to suffer abuse, then confidentiality can be breached within procedural guidelines see Confidentiality policy [LINK](#).

In this event, a volunteer is expected to discuss the action they propose to take with the client beforehand.

If it is felt that an adult with care and support needs is at risk of harm through abuse or neglect and the details of the adult with care and support needs are known, the designated local agency in that area should be contacted following discussion and agreement of any actions with the designated Safeguarding Trustee at HARCSAC.

No referrals will be made to external agencies in respect of suspected abuse of an adult with care and support needs without prior discussion and agreement with the designated Safeguarding Trustee, unless it is an emergency situation.