

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS WEEK 2021

Safeguarding and You

This information is provided by [The Ann Craft Trust](#)

- [Our Safeguarding Checklist- A Free Assessment - Ann Craft Trust](#)

The Care Act statutory guidance defines adult safeguarding as:

Protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action.

This must recognise that adults sometimes have complex interpersonal relationships and may be ambivalent, unclear or unrealistic about their personal circumstances.

Safeguarding and You - Safeguarding is everyone's business

Do you know what your [role in safeguarding](#) is? Safeguarding is everyone's business; never assume that it is someone else's responsibility. Safeguarding is about knowing about all of the measures to protect the health, wellbeing and human rights of individuals, that allow people to live free from harm, abuse or neglect.

How can you make a difference?

- **Learn** about the different types of harm and abuse
- **Discover** how to spot the signs
- **Record** any concerns you have
- **Report** your concerns

This factsheet contains some key information and helpful links, and more information is available on the [Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adult Board website](#), or the [Ann Craft Trust website](#).

It is important to remember that safeguarding is everyone's business, but it is not our job to do it alone. There are lots of different people, roles and organisations who are able to help and work together to make sure vulnerable adults are protected from harm, abuse or neglect.

What helps us when working with Safeguarding?

[The Care ACT 2014](#) is about protecting adults at risk from mistreatment. It's also concerned with improving their quality of life. The Act sets out six principles that aim to emphasise that everyone in care is a human being with unique wants and needs. For more information, read our guide to the [six principles of Safeguarding](#).

It's important to understand the various types of harm a person can experience. According to The Care Act 2014, adults might experience 10 distinct categories of abuse. We've also identified four additional types of harm, including cyberbullying and financial abuse.

We have a separate primer for each type of harm. Each primer features information on the signs to look out for, and the action you can take if you have any concerns. [You can read our primers to the various types of harm here.](#)

[The Mental Capacity Act 2005](#) (MCA) is about protecting the decision-making process. It determines whether a person has capacity to make a decision that is in their best interests.

The priority is to ensure that the person has a clear understanding of the consequences of their decision, despite the risk involved. A person's ability to do this may be affected by things like learning disability, dementia, mental health needs, acquired brain injury, and physical ill health.

There should be a commitment to "[Making Safeguarding Personal](#)" (MSP). This means that adults should be more involved in the safeguarding process. So their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs must be taken into account. No decisions that affect them should be made without consulting them.

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 states that every individual has the right to make their own decisions. It also provides the framework for this to happen.

The issue of capacity or decision making is key in safeguarding adults. It's useful for organisations to have an overview of the concept of capacity. You can learn more about the legislation itself and pursue more training by [implementing the Mental Capacity Act](#)

If you have any concerns about a vulnerable adult, please call **0300 303 8886** to speak to someone in Rochdale's Adult Social Care about your concerns or complete a [concerns form](#) and email adult.care@rochdale.gov.uk.

If you feel an adult is in immediate danger, you should call 999.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/RESOURCES FROM SCIE: [Social Care Institute for Excellence](#)