

SAFEGUARDING

23rd July 2026



Adult Safeguarding Principles

The safeguarding adults' guidance given in this policy and procedures is based on the principles set out in the Care Act 2014.

The six principles of adult safeguarding

1 Empowerment

People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.

I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens.



3 Proportionality

The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest and they will only get involved as much as needed.



5 Partnership

Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me.



2 Prevention

It is better to act before harm occurs.

I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs, and what I can do to seek help.



4 Protection

Support and representation for those in greatest need.

I get help and support to report abuse and neglect, so I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent I want.



6 Accountability

Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they.



Safeguarding adults

Key Legislation and Government initiatives

The Sexual Offences Act introduced a number of new offences concerning adults at risk and children.

[Read more on the Sexual Offences Act 2003 Legislation.](#)



Mental Capacity Act 2005

Its general principle is that everybody has capacity unless it is proved otherwise, that they should be supported to make their own decisions, that anything done for or on behalf of people without capacity must be in their best interests and should be the least restrictive intervention.

[Read the act here](#)



Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Introduced the new Vetting and Barring Scheme and the role of the Independent Safeguarding Authority. The Act places a statutory duty on all those working with vulnerable groups to register and undergo an advanced vetting process with criminal sanctions for non-compliance.

[Read the act here](#)



Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

Introduced into the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and came into force in April 2009. Designed to provide appropriate safeguards for vulnerable people who have a mental disorder and lack the capacity to consent to the arrangements made for their care or treatment, and who may be deprived of their liberty in their best interests in order to protect them from harm.

[Read more](#)



[Read the Liberty Protection Safeguards Legislation](#)



Disclosure and Barring Service 2013

Criminal record checks: guidance for employers – How employers or organisations can request criminal records checks on potential employees from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

[Read the service update here](#)



The Care Act 2014 - statutory guidance

The Care Act introduces new responsibilities for local authorities. It also has major implications for adult care and support providers, people who use services, carers and advocates. It replaces No Secrets and puts adult safeguarding on a statutory footing.

[Read the guidance here](#)

