



Welcome to the seventeenth edition of the Durham Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board's Newsletter.

The local safeguarding adults board is a multi-agency statutory partnership with responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of the arrangements to safeguard adults at risk of abuse. Click on our logo above for more info.

News from Durham

Safeguarding Adults Partnership

Upcoming Safeguarding Adults online courses in 2022

Dates for our training courses can be accessed using the links below.

NEW: Modern Slavery 'Must Knows'

A brief overview of modern slavery, and the support available to potential victims, professionals, practitioners, and volunteers, suitable for all staff and volunteers.

[Modern Slavery Online Course Dates \(PDF, 231.6kb\)](#)

NEW: SARs local and national emerging themes

This course will provide an understanding of:

- The common themes from local and national Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- Some of the actions taken locally to address the learning

[SAR Emerging themes – Wednesday 22nd June 9.30-12.30 – Click to book](#)

NEW: Submitting a SAR referral and what good looks like

This course will brief multi-agency practitioners of the role of the Durham Safeguarding Adults Partnership (DSAP) in Safeguarding Adult Reviews and related processes.

[SAR Referrals – Wednesday 15th June 9.30-12.30 – Click to book](#)

Prevent Awareness

The Prevent Awareness course provided by the Home Office should be used from June 2022

[Prevent Awareness – Durham Safeguarding Adults \(safeguardingdurhamadults.info\)](#)

New on Safeguarding Durham Adults Website

Section 42 enquiry: potential actions for providers

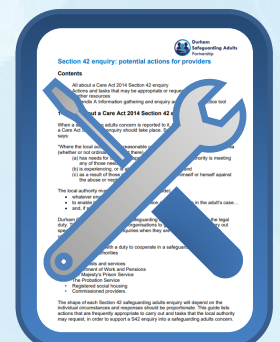
This step-by-step guide outlines some of the actions that may be undertaken during a Section 42 safeguarding adults enquiry.

Direct link [Safeguarding Enquiry Actions for Providers pdf \(safeguardingdurhamadults.info\)](#)

Page link [Policies, procedures and forms - Durham Safeguarding Adults Website \(safeguardingdurhamadults.info\)](#)



**Durham
Safeguarding Adults
Partnership**



Warning: scam calls and doorstep visits in Co Durham

Scammers have been cold calling by phone and at the doorstep pretending to be from the Council e.g. Care Connect – and they sound very convincing. Be alert to any activity which appears suspicious, both professionally and personally.



Residents have been contacted and:

- Asked to register for medical pendants
- Offered medical care or personal alarms for sale
- Asked if they are over 50
- Asked if they have recently had any falls
- Told they may be eligible for a free pendant or equipment
- Asked for bank details

ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
0300 123 2040

Further information about scams and the support available for people who may have been targeted by scam activity is available on www.durham.gov.uk/scams

Report suspect phone numbers to **BT**; report all incidents to **Durham Police on 101**.

Ukraine scams

Fraudsters are attempting to take advantage of people's generosity during the crisis in Ukraine. Perpetrators are using the humanitarian crisis to scam the public of their money and deny vital support to the people of Ukraine. Examples are:

- Fraudsters are asking for money to release frozen funds in bank accounts. This may be an attempt to access your personal bank accounts and steal your personal information or bank details.
- Be aware of fake websites with links that if clicked on, download malware to steal personal information or bank details.
- Emails showing potentially a photoshopped photograph with urgent requests for help to send funds for flights, visas, and support for family members.
- Cash donations or Cryptocurrency scams with sites listing addresses for Bitcoin and Ethereum for Ukraine donations will never reach anything other than criminals' accounts.



Only use genuine charities that are registered with the Charities Commission. You can search the [charity register on the GOV.UK website](http://www.gov.uk)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

New website aims to keep people fleeing Ukraine safe and stop exploitation

Ukrainians Welcome



A coalition of anti-slavery and human rights groups has launched a new website for newly arrived Ukrainian people in the UK, aimed at keeping them safe from trafficking and helping them adjust to their new home.

www.ukrainianswelcome.org is a "one-stop shop" of useful websites, helplines, and other information – anything from where to get basic travel and housing advice to opening a bank account and understanding your rights as a worker.



Andrew Wallis, CEO of anti-slavery charity Unseen, one of the groups behind the initiative said:

"There are millions of Ukrainian people on the move, many of them with no support network, who are vulnerable to all sorts of exploitation. The more information we can give them on how to stay safe in the UK and where to go for support for an entire range of issues, the better. It will stop exploitation."

www.ukrainianswelcome.org is available in the Ukrainian, English and Russian languages.

Scammers target church communities

Church scams reported in North Yorkshire with other areas also targeted with a recent email scam in which the sender claims to be the local reverend and asks the recipient to purchase high value Amazon gift cards on their behalf. Church wardens, treasurers and volunteers have been targeted, with some emails claiming to be from e.g. the Archbishop of York. Other scams ask for money to be sent to help the reverend who is stuck abroad.

Residents are being urged to check the sender email address of any emails appearing to be from a reverend or other church representative and not to make any purchases based on email correspondence received.

Anyone receiving these emails should report it by calling their local **Police 101** or Action Fraud **0300 123 2040**

[Scammers using religion to extract your money | Craven Herald](#)



Scams Resources

Citizens Advice produced resources for its Scams Awareness Fortnight, held in June.

- Fraudsters have been taking advantage of the cost-of-living crisis by pretending to be energy companies, offering too good to be true deals; others send out phishing emails offering fake government rebates.
- The Scams Awareness briefing includes advice on spotting a scam, how to protect yourself, the three steps someone who has been scammed should take, where to go for help, and tips on working with the media.
- Help make sure people have the skills and knowledge they need to protect themselves and others from scams.

citizens
advice



[SA22 - Key messages and advice pdf \(citizensadvice.org.uk\)](#)

Hadj fraud targets people planning travel for Hadj

Every year more than two million Muslims celebrate Hajj by making the pilgrimage to Mecca, including thousands of UK citizens, many of whom will have saved for years for a once-in-a-lifetime trip. In 2022 Hadj is in July and is open to outside pilgrims again after the pandemic restrictions. Sadly many people are targeted by fraud and scams. Reported fraud includes fake ATOL protected claims, unlicensed companies, and fake deals resulting in no accommodation or flights.



To find out more visit

[Hajj fraud | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](#)

[Hajj and Umrah pilgrimages: How to avoid scams when heading to Mecca | Yorkshire Post](#)

The British Sign Language (BSL) Act 2022



The BSL Act came into being on 28 April and recognises BSL as a language of Great Britain. There will be duties on the government to issue guidance on promoting BSL, expected in the near future.

UK
Parliament

“BSL is a rich, visual-gestural language with a distinctive grammar using handshapes, facial expressions, gestures and body language to convey meaning. It helps to build a sense of community and belonging for Deaf people and highlights Deaf culture, identity, community and history”.

Under the Act, BSL include the visual forms used by Deaf people and a range of forms of BSL used by Deafblind people such as “hands-on” signing or “Deafblind manual” fingerspelling.

[British Sign Language \(parliament.uk\)](#)

