



**Durham
Safeguarding Adults
Partnership**

Durham Safeguarding Adults Partnership Annual Report 2022 to 2023

Message from Lesley Jeavons



Hello. My name is Lesley Jeavons and I am the **Independent Chair** of the Durham **Safeguarding Adults Partnership**. **Chair** means that I am in charge of our meetings.



The **Partnership** is made up of people from social care, health services, the police, and other organisations. **Independent** means I do not work for social care, health services, or the police.



The people in the Partnership work together to help keep people safe from harm, abuse, and neglect. This is called **Safeguarding Adults**.



This is our **Annual Report**. An **Annual Report** is about the work the Partnership did in the last year. It shows what we have done to keep people safe from harm, abuse, and neglect.

What did we do in the year April 2022 to March 2023?



We started having some **hybrid** meetings. **Hybrid** means mixed, some people joined online, and some people were in the same room. This was because the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing was coming to an end.



We held lots of short online events in our **Safeguarding Week**. **Safeguarding Week** tells people about safeguarding adults and about abuse and neglect.



We launched 'What to do about **self-neglect**', a film to support people to know about self-neglect. **Self-neglect** means you stop taking care of yourself or where you live.



We trained staff, **volunteers** and people who use services about safeguarding. We used online Microsoft Teams, meetings in the same room, and workbooks.

Volunteers give their time free to help people.



Last year we gave certificates to 14 people who did the Stop Abuse Now easy read workbook, and to one person who did the Staying Safe easy read workbook.



We listened to the views of people who use services.



We shared information about the Mental Capacity Act 2005, Autism Acceptance Week, Carers Week, and lots more.



We worked with others to help protect people from **scams** and financial abuse. **Scams** means people are tricked into giving their money to criminals.



Last year new scams tricked people about getting help if they do not have enough money for food or their bills.



We worked on our website to make it better.

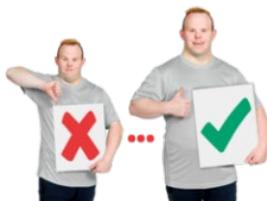
www.safeguardingdurhamadults.info



Durham County Council Adult and Health Services have carried on the project to help home care and care homes to improve their services.



We have updated some of our **guidance** and **policies**. **Guidance** helps people to work better. Our **policies** are rules to follow if there is abuse, neglect, or harm to adults.



We will continue to learn from **Safeguarding Adult Reviews** to help us improve our work. **Safeguarding Adult Reviews** happen if an adult has died or has been seriously harmed, and we want to know if everyone worked well together.



In 2019 there was a BBC programme about Whorlton Hall in County Durham. Since then we worked on the Safeguarding Adult Review about it. During this year we shared learning from the Review and put the **Summary** on our website. **Summary** means a shorter version of a report.

What will we do in 2023 to 2024?



We will carry on our Safeguarding Adult Reviews. This includes more of the learning from the Safeguarding Adult Review about Whorlton Hall.



We will train staff and volunteers and share updates on our website. We will tell more people about the easy read workbooks, Staying Safe and Stop Abuse Now.



We will carry on sharing messages about safeguarding.



We will improve our guidance and policies and write new ones.



We will look at different ways to hear the voice of adults who use services, to help us to better understand abuse and neglect.



We will plan an **empowerment** campaign with adults about what stopping abuse means to them. **Empowerment** means help to make your own decisions.

What to do if you are worried that someone is being abused or neglected



If abuse or neglect is happening to you, or you are frightened of someone, or if someone tells you they have been abused, call Social Care Direct on **03000 26 79 79**.



Social Care Direct will listen to you and you will be taken seriously. Please do not worry, your details will be kept private.



If you are in danger call the police on **999** first before calling Social Care Direct.



You might like to watch Tricky Friends, a film to support and empower people to tell someone if 'something's not right'. Click on [Tricky Friends Video on YouTube](#)