



Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter



[Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board](#) is a multi-agency partnership providing strategic leadership for adult safeguarding across the City of Sunderland to promote the welfare of adults at risk of abuse and neglect, and is responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of what partner agencies do to support this. Follow us on Twitter: [@SunderlandSAB](#)

Issue 13 | June 2022

This issue at a glance:

- ADASS North-East Safeguarding Network Update: Self-Neglect 7 minute briefings
- Focus On: Exploitation
- Advocacy Services in Sunderland
- Scams Awareness Fortnight
- Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week
- Information for displaced people from Ukraine
- Sunderland Carers' Centre: Carer Information Hub
- Domestic Abuse Health Advocate Project Update
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Update

Who Should Read this Newsletter?

Everyone with an interest in safeguarding adults, enabling them to live their lives free from abuse and neglect, to access and receive appropriate care. We hope this newsletter is a useful resource for you to receive information regarding safeguarding adults, keeping you up-to-date, sharing good practice and important information. Please feel free to share this newsletter across your organisation.

ADASS North East Safeguarding Network Update

Self-Neglect: 7 Minute Briefings Resource

Covid-19 and the associated restrictions have impacted upon the increasing number and complexity of safeguarding concerns involving self-neglect that are being reported in the North-East. Reduced face-to-face contact with people (and access to their homes) as well as an increased reluctance for people to access support and services are thought to be contributory factors to this. This is probably to be expected, reflecting the challenges we have collectively faced over the past 2 years.

Our concern for adults at risk and neglect remains at the forefront of our work. To this end, and in response to requests from front-line practitioners, the North East ADASS Safeguarding Network (of which SSAB is a member) have recently commissioned and published a series of 7 minute guides that highlight the key issues around aspects of self-neglect.

To support these guides a short animation is being produced to help convey these key messages, an update regarding this will be published in due course.

The guides are available to download by following this link to the [SSAB website](#).

Focus on: Exploitation

Exploitation can take many forms. It could be:

- Criminal Exploitation - involving vulnerable children & adults in criminal activities such as shoplifting, or buying/selling/storing drugs. Suspected or confirmed criminal exploitation of a vulnerable child or adult at risk should always be reported to the police.
- Modern Day Slavery - forcing someone to work long hours for little/no pay, often taking away their pay when they earn it, and also their documentation/identity cards such as a passport, driving licence or bank card. The slavery victim may also be locked in a house or other building with inadequate facilities (e.g. a shed) when they're not working, so they can't escape. The following are useful modern slavery resources:
 1. Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) leaflet 'Modern Day Slavery - Spot the Signs of Labour Exploitation' - this can be viewed on the 'Learning Resources' page of the [SSAB website](#).
 2. SSAB's Modern Day Slavery Guidance, which can be viewed in the SSAB Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Procedures [here](#)

3. Police Modern Slavery poster, which can be viewed in the SSAB's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Procedures [here](#)
 4. Unseen website: www.unseenuk.org
 5. Hope for Justice website: www.hopeforjustice.org
- Financial abuse/exploitation - taking money (often repeatedly targeting the same person) from someone who is unable to stop the criminal. This may be because they have a learning disability, mental health issue or dementia, for example. This can also be linked to 'Mate Crime' where someone pretends to be a person's friend so that they can take their money or take financial advantage of them in another way, e.g. making the person let them stay in their house rent-free. The 'Tricky Friends' video is a useful resource on the topic of Mate Crime and can be viewed on the 'Learning Resources' page on the [SSAB website](#)
 - Sexual Exploitation - forcing the person to engage in sexual activity of any kind that they did not consent to, often 'grooming' them to engage in this activity, and often for the purposes of making money from that person, e.g. forcing them into prostitution/sex work
 - Predatory Marriage - where a person is coerced/tricked into marrying a stranger and the stranger stands to gain financially from the marriage, e.g. by inheriting property and/or money. SSAB has a useful poster outlining key points on predatory marriage on the 'Learning Resources' page of the [SSAB website](#)
 - Professional Curiosity is always a good approach when any type of abuse is suspected. Due to the secretive and manipulative tactics employed by the perpetrators, exploitation is a particularly difficult issue to spot. SSAB's Professional Curiosity Guidance can be found on the 'Learning Resources' page of the [SSAB website](#).

Advocacy Services in Sunderland



[Voiceability](#) have been supporting people to have their say in decisions about their health, care and wellbeing for almost 40 years. They are an independent charity and provide advocacy and involvement services across the UK, including Sunderland.

Advocates are independent professionals who work with people to help them understand their options, know their rights and say what they want. Advocacy is a statutory right for eligible people. The Mental Capacity Act and Care Act state that you must refer eligible people for advocacy. The Mental Health Act states that you must make eligible people aware of how to access advocacy.

Download the [Service Overview for Professionals in Sunderland](#) and [What is a Relevant Person's Representative \(RPR\)](#) guides for more information on services provided by Voiceability and referral information.

Scams Awareness Fortnight 2022: 13th - 26th June

Scams Awareness Fortnight is led by the national Citizen's Advice Bureau. This year it is 13th - 26th June. Help to spread the message that scams are crimes that can happen to anyone (especially individuals who are at risk of abuse and/or neglect, as they may be more vulnerable due to physical or mental issues) and that we can all take a stand to help stop them. There are actions we can all take to report them, share stories and raise awareness of scams to safeguard ourselves and others. More information and resources can be found on the Citizen's Advice [website](#).

Be Scam Aware

Scammers are clever. We're all worried about money - don't let them take yours.

Find out how to spot scams, report them and get help at citizensadvice.org.uk/ScamsAdvice

If you've been scammed:
Call our Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133 for support
Report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040

The poster features a photograph of a woman holding a baby while talking on a mobile phone. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the image area. Logos for Citizens Advice, CTSI (Chartered Trading Standards Institute), the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, and National Trading Standards are at the bottom.

1 - Click to enlarge

Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week 2022: 21st - 27th November

**Safeguarding
Adults Week
2022**

21 – 27 November
#SafeguardingAdultsWeek

The national Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week 2022 is led by the Ann Craft Trust. This year it is 21st - 27th November, and it will focus on the theme 'Responding to Contemporary Safeguarding Challenges'. The daily themes for 2022 have also been released:

- Monday - Exploitation and County Lines
- Tuesday - Self-Neglect
- Wednesday - Creating Safer Organisational Cultures
- Thursday - Elder Abuse
- Friday - Domestic Abuse in a Technological Society

- Saturday & Sunday - Safeguarding in Everyday Life

Organisations in Sunderland are encouraged to think about how they can engage with Safeguarding Adults Week, and use it as an opportunity to raise awareness of safeguarding adults issues, both with their own staff, and the individuals they advise, support and care for through the delivery of their day to day services. Later on this year, SSAB will be asking their partner organisations to say what activity they will have planned for the week, and publicising that information. Further information and resources can be found at the Ann Craft Trust [website](#).

Information for Displaced People from Ukraine

See Something Poster

The See Something poster, which has been kindly shared by Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board and amended for use in Sunderland, is to be shared widely across all partners. The poster translates as:

See something, hear something, say something. If you do not feel safe, or your host does not make you feel safe, or you are in danger please call 0191 520 5552. If it is an emergency and you need help now please call 999.

The poster is also available from the [SSAB website](#).



2 - Click to enlarge

Further Resources

[Hope for Justice](#) has produced a comprehensive list of materials to inform displaced people from Ukraine entering the UK of their rights and entitlements, which can be accessed [here](#).

[The Human Trafficking Foundation](#) also have a collection of resources and guidance available for nationals arriving in the UK and for hosts under the Homes for Ukraine scheme, which can be found [here](#).

A coalition of anti-slavery and human rights groups has launched a new website for Ukrainian refugees in the UK, aimed at keeping them safe from trafficking and helping them to 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. The website is available in the Ukrainian, English and Russian languages and includes links to the Government's information for displaced Ukrainians.

SSAB Resources

SSAB and Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership have recently refreshed their safeguarding information leaflet. The leaflet can be accessed from the [SSAB website](#) and provides an overview of types of abuse and neglect, as well as contact numbers and other support services.



What is Adult Abuse?
Abuse happens to people of all ages, in all settings, in all cultures, religions, ethnicities, sexual orientations, genders, abilities, disabilities, and backgrounds. It can happen to anyone, at any time, in any place, and by anyone.

Who is an adult?
An adult is a person aged 18 or over. In some cases, a person aged 16 or 17 may be treated as an adult if they are in a care home, hospital, or other institution.

What is an emergency always call the Police on 999?
If you are reporting a crime, you should call 999. If you are reporting a problem, you should call 101. If you are reporting a problem that is not a crime, you should call 101.

Other services
If you need help, you can contact the following services:
- NHS: 111
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Citizens Advice: 0345 450 450
- The Samaritans: 116 123
- The Samaritans: 116 123

3 - Click to enlarge



What is a child?
A child is a person aged 17 or under. In some cases, a person aged 16 or 17 may be treated as a child if they are in a care home, hospital, or other institution.

What is child abuse?
Child abuse is any form of physical, emotional, or psychological harm to a child. It can happen to anyone, at any time, in any place, and by anyone.

What is child neglect?
Child neglect is a form of child abuse where a child's basic needs are not met. This can include not providing a child with food, clothing, shelter, or medical care.

What is child sexual abuse?
Child sexual abuse is any form of sexual activity with a child. It can happen to anyone, at any time, in any place, and by anyone.

What is child exploitation?
Child exploitation is any form of abuse where a child is used for the purpose of financial gain or other advantage. This can include child labor, child trafficking, and child prostitution.

4 - Click to enlarge

SSAB has also recently refreshed it's Safeguarding Adults Posters - there are two designs available to download & print from the [SSAB website](#). The posters give links to how members of the public and professionals can raise a safeguarding concern.



SUNDERLAND
SAFEGUARDING
ADULTS BOARD

Adult Abuse

Support Help Care
Vulnerable Services Protect
Safeguarding
Awareness Advice Concerned

Recognise it. Report it. Stop it.
Abuse can and does happen to adults.
www.sunderlandsab.org.uk

Worried about someone? If you are a member of the public and worried about your own safety or about the safety of someone else, please contact the Safeguarding Adults Team using the online form on <https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/article/14182/Report-a-safeguarding-concerns-members-of-the-public> or call 0191 520 5552.

If you are a professional wishing to report a safeguarding concern, please visit the Safeguarding Adults Portal <https://adultportal.sunderland.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/safeguarding>, read the guidance, then complete and submit the online Safeguarding Adult Concern (SAC) form.



SUNDERLAND
SAFEGUARDING
ADULTS BOARD

Adult Abuse



Recognise it. Report it. Stop it.
Abuse can and does happen to adults.
www.sunderlandsab.org.uk

Worried about someone? If you are a member of the public and worried about your own safety or about the safety of someone else, please contact the Safeguarding Adults Team using the online form on <https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/articles/14032/report-a-safeguarding-concerns-members-of-the-public> or call 0191 629 6662.

If you are a professional wishing to report a safeguarding concern, please visit the Safeguarding Adults Portal <http://adultportal.sunderland.gov.uk/web/social/pages/safeguarding>, read the guidance, then complete and submit the online Safeguarding Adult Concern (SAC) form.

Sunderland Carers' Centre - Carer Information Hub



The Carer Information Hub is Sunderland Carers' Centre's new online information, advice and guidance library to give carers more ways to access help and feel more supported. Visit now at: www.sunderlandcarers.co.uk/information-hub

In addition, when visiting the Carers Centre, they have a dedicated area which houses their information library, computer for carer use, Carer Contact Team and Dementia Advice Service. There you will find some of their available documents and guide-to's to download.

Domestic Abuse Health Advocate (DAHA) Project: Update

Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group have agreed three-year recurrent funding from April 2022-2025 for the Wearside Women in Need (WWIN) Domestic Abuse Health Advocate project which will support the programme to be embedded in all Sunderland GP practices and develop the role of the domestic abuse champions further.

The funding also supports development of an online presence, a service brand and advertising the service further.

- Supports routine enquiry for domestic abuse, based in primary care GP practices supported and funded by SCCG and is being rolled out to all practices across Sunderland.
- Recognised by NHS England (NHSE) as outstanding practice, with NHSE Safeguarding Star awards given to practitioners across the practices.
- WWIN have now engaged with twenty-five practices out of thirty-eight and are planning to engage all Sunderland practices in 2022-2023.

IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor): Update

Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group's safeguarding team have developed a business case for recurrent funding of the IDVA post now renamed DAHA (Domestic Abuse Health Advocate) based with South Tyneside & Sunderland NHS Foundation trust (STSFT). This proposal has been successful and will fund, going forward, a part-time post to support people presenting at Emergency Departments with domestic abuse issues and also to provide support to the maternity services with any concerns regarding domestic abuse. The post will be facilitated by STSFT, who will provide matched funding to support the post further and extend to full time. The post will then match the services provided in South Tyneside areas and will support cross cover and also provide easier access to information for complex presentations.

Report a Concern

Everyone has a responsibility to safeguard children, young people and adults who may be at risk of abuse.

If you are worried about someone:

- In an emergency call 999
- If there is no immediate risk, call the police on 101

From Monday 4th April 2022 how to make a referral to the Safeguarding Adults Team changed. Referral forms and guidance for professionals working with adults at risk of abuse or neglect are available [here](#).

If your concern relates to a child, please call 0191 520 5560 (0191 520 5552 out of hours).

Future Articles

If you have an idea for an article for a future publication, please contact the Strategic Safeguarding Team: strategic.safeguarding@sunderland.gov.uk