



NEWSLETTER

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Foreword

Safeguarding is important every day of the year, but it helps if we focus some of our activity within one week each year, to attract more attention. This year we will be using National Safeguarding Week, from 18-24 November, to make as many people as possible think more about what safeguarding could mean for them. Our colleagues in other areas will be doing something similar, so I hope you will read a lot about safeguarding during the week. We want staff in every agency thinking about how they can contribute to keeping the people of Sunderland safer. And we want the public to understand more the risks that some people face, and the way in which everyone can play their part.

Can you help? It should be easy enough for all organisations to agree to sharing information amongst their own staff during this week. Maybe you could raise the issue in staff meetings, and explore ideas for how you could be more effective?

What about discussing safety in tenants' meetings? What about holding an open session at the local drop in centre? Reviewing how formal carers can keep a watchful eye? If you are already organising some other event for the public, what about making sure there are leaflets about safeguarding present? What about joining one of the events that the Safeguarding Adult Board are already organising?

Sometimes we can all get hung up about jargon. Not everyone understands what "safeguarding" means. For the public, we might talk about "looking out for each other". It doesn't matter what we call it – what we all want is that the people of Sunderland feel safer, and that we all understand better how we can play our part.

Sir Paul Ennals CBE
Independent Chair, SSAB

[Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board \(SSAB\)](#) 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**

Focus on: Modern Slavery

Modern slavery is the recruitment, movement, harbouring or receiving of children, women or men through the use of force, coercion, abuse of vulnerability, deception or other means for the purpose of exploitation.

Someone is in slavery if they are:

- Forced to work—through coercion, or mental or physical threat;
- Trapped and controlled by an 'employer', through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse;
- Dehumanised, treated as a commodity or bought and sold as 'property';
- Physically constrained or have restrictions placed on their freedom of movement

Possible Indicators of Modern Slavery:

- Physical appearance
- Isolation
- Poor living conditions
- Few or no personal possessions (including documentation such as passports, bank details, visas)
- Restricted freedom of movement
- Unusual travel times
- Reluctant to seek help (often frightened and unsure of who to trust)

Manisha's Story (from [Unseen](#))

I am from Africa. I am now 19. When I was younger my father used to drink all the time and I never knew my mother as she left me when I was a baby.

I was sent to live with my aunt in the UK who had promised to get me into a school and look after me. My aunt paid for me to come to the UK, but didn't do anything about getting me into a school. I spent my days cooking, cleaning and looking after my cousins. I worked non-stop from 6am to 1am each day. I was beaten most days - once I was hit so hard I had to have stitches. Then one day my aunt tried to drown me in the bath, but I screamed so loud the neighbours heard my cries and called the Police. I was taken away from my aunt.

I cannot go home to Africa, I am too scared. My aunt knows lots of people who would hurt me.

On arriving at Unseen Manisha received support to access health services and counselling, legal representation, healthy relationships workshops and supported housing, in addition to finding a place to worship. She needed emotional support from staff and help with budgeting, accessing welfare benefits, looking for work and attending local education classes. Manisha was granted positive conclusive grounds (identified as trafficked) and resettled in supported housing in the UK.

What to do if you suspect Modern Slavery

The point of contact for all human trafficking and modern slavery is the Police. If you have information about a crime or where victims are at risk that requires an immediate response, dial **999**.

If you hold information that could lead to the identification, discovery and recovery of victims in the UK contact the Modern Slavery Helpline **0800 121 700**.

If you are an employee or volunteer and you suspect an adult is a victim of modern slavery, and they meet the [safeguarding threshold](#), [safeguarding adults procedures](#) should be followed. [Safeguarding Children Procedures](#) should be followed for child victims.

Forms of Modern Slavery

- **Forced labour** - any work or services which people are forced to do against their will under the threat punishment
- **Debt bondage or bonded labour** - the world's most widespread form of slavery, when people borrow money they cannot repay and are required to work to pay off the debt, then losing control over the conditions of both their employment and the debt
- **Human trafficking** - involves transporting, recruiting or harbouring people for the purpose of exploitation, using violence, threats or coercion
- **Descent-based slavery** - where people are born into slavery because their ancestors were captured and enslaved
- **Child slavery** - not to be confused with child labour, but it is much worse. Whilst child labour is harmful for children and hinders their education and development, child slavery occurs when a child is exploited for someone else's gain. It can include child trafficking, child soldiers, child marriage and child domestic slavery
- **Forced and early marriage** - when someone is married against their will and cannot leave the marriage. Most child marriages can be considered slavery

Herbert Protocol



The Herbert Protocol initiative was launched force-wide by Northumbria Police in July 2019. Named after George Herbert, a war veteran of the Normandy landings, who lived with dementia, and died whilst 'missing', trying to find his childhood home.

The Herbert Protocol is a simple risk reduction tool to be used in the event of an adult with care and support needs going missing. It consists of a form that contains vital information about a person at risk that can be shared with the police at the point the person is reported missing.

Carers, care providers, family members and friends can complete in advance, a form recording all vital details, such as medication required, mobile numbers, places previously located, and a recent photograph. In the event of an adult with care and support needs going missing the form can be easily handed to the police to reduce the time taken in gathering this information.

Click [here](#) for further information regarding the initiative and to access the Herbert Protocol form.

National Safeguarding Adults Week 2019

National Safeguarding Adults Week will take place 18th - 24th November. Working with partners from the local authority, health, emergency services and others, SSAB plans to raise everyone's awareness of what safeguarding means and the many situations in which it can arise.

A media pack will be developed and shared with partners with resources available to help you find out more about the event.

How to get involved

You can help by:

- Learning about the key issues of adult safeguarding from SSAB's resources and information
- Share the resources within your organisation and with the people you support
- Use the **#SafeguardingAdultsWeek** hashtag on social media to share resources and what you and your organisation are doing
- You could also use the National Safeguarding Adults Week to:
 - Identify key safeguarding issues in your area and share these with your staff and people you support
 - Run an event or training session in your organisation to get you all up to date on the latest safeguarding information
 - Take time out to assess your policies and practices



Further information and resources will be available closer to the event on the [SSAB webpage](#)

SSAB Annual Report



The [SSAB Annual Report 2018/19](#), looking back at the achievement and challenges of the last year is available to download from the [Board's website](#). The report includes the workings of the Board and its sub-committees as well as links with other strategic partnerships across the City of Sunderland.

The work of SSAB focuses on four strategic priorities, as identified in its [Strategic Delivery Plan 2019 - 2024](#):

- Prevention
- Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)/User Engagement
- Partnership
- Key local areas of risk

These priorities inform the Board's local actions to safeguard adults in Sunderland and are underpinned by the Care Act's six key principles of adult safeguarding.

The report highlights significant progress against its strategic priorities, and provides detail of the future direction of travel for the Board with regard to continuing to develop the SSAB Prevention Strategy; refreshing the SSAB Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Procedures; further development of the SSAB website and ongoing work to develop Adult Missing Sexually Exploited and Trafficked (AMSET) arrangements in Sunderland.

Useful Apps

[NHS England Safeguarding app](#):

This app provides support to frontline staff and public with 24-hour, mobile access and up-to-date safeguarding guidance. It provides an overview of legislation and guidance covering both children and adult safeguarding as well as an NHS staff guide.

[The Safe Car Wash app](#):

This free app is a new tool that will enable the largest community intelligence gathering exercise ever attempted in the UK. The app asks a series of questions related to indicators of modern slavery, you will then be asked to report your concerns to the [Modern Slavery Helpline](#).

[Mental Capacity Act Made Simple](#):

A mobile app suitable for workers who want to know more about the practical implications of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. Simply answer each question with a swipe and use key terms to find out more about this legislation.

All apps are free and available to download on Apple IOS and Android

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

If you are a professional wishing to report a safeguarding concern regarding an adult, please read the [guidance](#) and complete the [Safeguarding Adults Concern \(SAC\) form](#). Further information is available [here](#).

If your concern relates to a child, please call 0191 520 5560.

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