



Safeguarding Adults

Date: February 2024

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.

Safeguarding does not mean protecting every adult from every kind of harm or risk to their own personal safety.

The Care Act tells us that statutory safeguarding responsibilities only apply in specific circumstances.

These are where an adult:

- ➔ Has needs for care and support (whether or not these needs are being met) and
- ➔ Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- ➔ As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

Care and support needs means the mixture of practical, financial, and emotional support for adults who need extra help to manage their lives and be independent.

IMPORTANT

All timescales are measured from date of contact. They do not relate to the time between each stage or decision point.

What our Customers say

"No decision about me, without me"

Helping people to make their own decisions about the way they live and the care they receive is fundamental good practice.

Safeguarding should not be a process we apply to people, but instead something we do with them, on their own terms.

"I am asked my views, and this directly informs what happens next"

What our Service Intel says

The partnership is actively reporting safeguarding concerns at the front door. All concerns are recorded and conversion rates and repeat concerns are monitored.

Partners will receive feedback when conversion rates are exceptionally low. Training can be offered to support partners.

What we are doing Next

Caused Enquiries

The Local Authority has formal responsibility of all adult safeguarding enquiries.

There may be cases when the Local Authority is not the right agency to undertake the enquiry and it can cause another to make enquiries it thinks necessary to enable it to decide whether action is taken.

The Local Authority retains accountability and oversight of the enquiry including decision making.

What YOU can do

In preparation to implement the new Section 42 enquiries procedure on 11 March 2024:

1. Communicate and discuss the briefing within your teams.
2. To feedback any thoughts to the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board Manager (Jackie Scantlebury).

What Could be Better

Reporting statutory Safeguarding to the Local Authority:

See it ➔ Recognise what you are seeing/hearing as abuse or neglect.

Talk to the Person ➔ Share your concerns with the person, ask what they would like to happen.

Make a Judgement ➔ then; **Report your concern to the Local Authority** or

Take alternative actions: Record what you have done, and why. Rotherham SAB fully supports defensible decision-making by partner agencies.

What is Working Well

The Local Authority revised its pathway in February 2023, which has led to improved recording practices and making Safeguarding personal practices.

The partnership are supportive of the new pathway and the approach to caused enquiries. They are actively involved in supporting the new process.