

"SPEAK UP!"

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS BEING ABUSED **THEN WE CAN HELP**

REPORT IT ON
0808 800 4005
IN AN EMERGENCY
Always call 999

What is Adult Abuse?

Adult abuse is when someone hurts an adult at risk. There are many different types of abuse, such as:

Physical, emotional or sexual abuse

Financial abuse

This is when people take money or belongings without asking.

Institutional abuse

This is when paid staff in a hospital or care home do not care properly or respect people's rights.

Self-neglect

This is when people don't look after themselves and this puts them at risk.

Discrimination

This is when people treat others badly or unfairly because they are different.

Neglect

This is when people who are there to help do not look after people properly.

Domestic abuse

This is threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between adults who are, or have been, in a relationship, or between family members

Modern slavery

This is when people are forced to work or are bought or sold as if they were a piece of property.

Lots of different people may abuse adults at risk, such as:

Friends and family

Neighbours

Professionals and volunteers

Strangers who 'groom' vulnerable adults for abuse

What are the signs of abuse?

There are many signs of abuse. For example, when the person:

- Looks dirty or is not dressed properly
- Has an injury that is difficult to explain
- Seems frightened around certain people
- Seems unusually down or withdrawn
- Finds money is missing

Even if you're not sure whether these signs mean abuse, you should still report them to us.

What should I do?

If you are worried about an adult at risk in Suffolk please contact us. You can report your concern anonymously but please give us as much information as possible so that we can follow it up.

- **Call:** Suffolk County Council (Customer First) on **0808 800 4005**
- **Call:** MASH Professional Consultation Line on **0345 606 1499** - for professionals to discuss whether the situation they are concerned about should be the subject of a safeguarding referral
- **Online form:** [suffolkas.org/concerned](https://www.suffolkas.org/concerned)

You can also use these **numbers** if you are worried about a **child**

In an emergency call the police on **999**

For more information see **www.suffolkas.org**

What will happen next?

We will look into your concern and, where necessary, work with the adult at risk to put a plan in place that helps to keep them safe.