

What to do if you are worried an adult is being abused.

For advice and support from the Designated Professional Safeguarding Adults for Sefton Place ICB please contact:

Email: sefton.safeguarding@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk

Tel: 07780127015

Any member of staff who believes or suspects that an adult may be suffering or is likely to suffer harm should always refer their concerns to Adult Social Care. Never delay emergency action to protect an adult whilst waiting for an opportunity to discuss your concerns first.

If an adult is in immediate danger please call 999

Are you concerned an adult at risk is being abused ? eg

- You may observe an injury or signs of neglect
- You may be given information that outlines abuse or neglect
- An adult may disclose abuse

Step 1

**Inform the adult that you will refer to Adult Social Care and obtain consent and discuss their wishes and feelings
UNLESS**

The adult may be put at increased risk of further harm (e.g. suspected sexual abuse, female genital mutilation, increased risk to adult, forced marriage or there is a risk to your own personal safety)

Step 2

Make a referral to Sefton's Adult Services:

- Staff to use the professional referral online portal: [Online Assessments \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://sefton.gov.uk/online-assessments)
- If the concern requires an immediate response, staff need to call 0345 140 0845.
- Document all discussions held, actions taken, decisions made, including who was spoken to and who is responsible for undertaking actions agreed.
- For physical abuse document injuries observed on a body map.

Step 3

Adult Social Care acknowledges receipt of referral and decides on next course of action. If the referrer has not received an acknowledgement contact Adult Social Care on 0345 140 0845 again for an update.

Step 4

You may be requested to provide further reports / information or attend multi-agency meetings

Other important numbers:

Police - emergency 999

Police - non-emergency 101

For further information in respect of safeguarding adults, please visit:

[Sefton Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board](#)