 

Keeping safe from abuse



3. Reporting abuse

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|  | Everybody has a right to be safe from abuse. This book has been written to help you understand abuse and to stay safe. |
|  | It was made by the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board. |
|  | Safeguarding is about everyone working together to make sure people are safe. |
|  | This book has information about what happens when you report abuse.  You can read it alone or ask someone to support you. |

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|  | You can report abuse yourself. |
|  | You can report abuse if you think it is happening to someone else. |
| Tell friend | You can ask someone you trust to report abuse for you. |
| Advocate Independent | You can ask an advocate to help you report abuse.  An advocate is an independent person who supports people to have a voice and may help a person to get the support they  need. |

# is happening

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|  | They will listen to you. |
| Chat Manager 2b | They will take you seriously. |
|  | They will ask questions to make sure that you or the person you are worried about are safe. |
|  | They will ask questions to help everyone decide what needs to happen next. |



**Is this a safeguarding issue?**

Some things you might say to the Council are:

* I want to feel safe
* I want the abuse to stop
* I want help to protect myself
* I want the abuser to stay away
* I want to feel more confident
* I want to be involved in what happens next

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|  | The information you give will help the Council to know if this is a safeguarding issue. |
|  | If it is a safeguarding issue they will ask you what you want to happen next. |
|  | If it isn’t a safeguarding issue, the Council will still listen to you and help you. |

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| Share Information 2 | Once the Council has enough information they may start an enquiry. |
|  | An enquiry is about:   * finding out what happened * looking for information and evidence * talking to people involved |
|  | The enquiry helps the Council decide if anything can be done to support you and who will do it. |
| Consent form yes | The Council will ask if it is okay to talk to other people about what has happened. |
| Consent form no | They may talk to other people without asking you if it is okay if they are worried that other people may be unsafe. |
|  | They might speak to the police and ask them for their help. |

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|  | You decide how much you want to be involved in talking to people or going to meetings. |
| Look after Friend | You can bring someone with you – this could be someone from your family, or a friend or an advocate. |
| Where | You can ask at any time if you don’t understand something. |
| Advice 2 | You can ask someone you trust to go to meetings instead of you. |

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| Safeguarding Circle | There may be other people there whose job it is to help you stay safe. |
|  | This might include a social worker, a support worker, an advocate, or a police officer. |
| Social worker3 | Everyone will listen to you. |

**Your Keeping Safe Plan**



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|  | When everyone agrees what needs to happen next it will be written down in a Keeping Safe Plan. |
| Keeping Safe | This is a list of things you would like to happen to help keep you safe. |
| **Keeping Safe Plan** | The Keeping Safe Plan lets everyone else know what you want to happen and make sure it is working. |
|  | It should be in a format you can use and understand. |
| Assessment (P) | You will be asked if you want to speak to someone about the support you are getting or might need. |

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|  | When everything that was agreed has been done, the enquiry will finish. |
| Thinking Right Wrong | You can say if you are happy and feel safer, or if you think something else needs to happen. |
| Social work 2 | If you have been abused the Council may also give you information and advice about other people and organisations who can help you. |
| Annual Health Check 2 | This might include talking to counsellors, doctors and other people so you feel better. |

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| Confidential | Information about you is kept private and will not be shared with anyone who doesn’t need to know. |
| Consent form sally | If the Council does have to share private information with others to keep you safe they will ask you if it is okay first. |
|  | There is more information in the other Keeping Safe books.  Book 1 is ‘What is abuse?’ and Book 2 is ‘Speaking up about abuse.’ |

Contact details

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|  | **North Yorkshire Council**  Telephone: 0300 131 2 131 |
|  | **North Yorkshire Police**  For emergencies call 999. To talk to someone call 101. |

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who helped us make this book including:

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|  | KeyRing self-advocates from the North Yorkshire Learning Disability Partnership Board. |
|  | Inclusion North [www.inclusionnorth.org](http://www.inclusionnorth.org/) |
|  | North Yorkshire Council Health  and Adult Services. |

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