

Prevention Principles



The Care Act 2014 identifies prevention as one of the six key principles that should underpin all adult safeguarding work. Prevention is a strategic priority for the Derbyshire and Derby Safeguarding Adults Boards who are committed to preventing abuse and neglect. We will work together to raise awareness, strengthen communities, and reduce risks, ensuring that people live safely, and with dignity and independence in Derby and Derbyshire.

The prevention of abuse and neglect is a shared responsibility across all Board agencies. Each Board partner has a vital role to play in creating safe, inclusive, and supportive environments where adults are protected from harm. By adopting the following principles and showing a commitment to working together to embed prevention, we can all help to prevent adult abuse and neglect.

1. Improving and increasing public awareness

- Promoting public awareness of abuse and neglect using a variety of communication methods.
- Providing accessible information to adults, carers, and professionals about agencies and services which provide support for adults in Derby and Derbyshire.
- Identify groups who may be at increased risk of being abused and undertake bespoke communications tailored to these groups.
- Supporting events and communications aimed at reducing social isolation.
- Each SAB partner to identify ways in which they can help to inform, and support adults in protecting themselves from abuse.

2. Embedding prevention across Derby and Derbyshire SAB agencies

- Ensuring prevention is a golden thread through all Board subgroups and strategic plans and that broader wellbeing strategies from other partnerships i.e public health are understood and incorporated.
- Promote continuous learning and improvement in preventative safeguarding practice.
- Using findings from safeguarding adult reviews (SARs) and multi agency audits to identify and act on learning identified to prevent future harm.

3. Promotion of Making Safeguarding Personal and strengths based safeguarding practice

- Listening to what being safe means to each person and the use of professional curiosity to understand each person's unique circumstances.
- Supporting adults to define their own outcomes and working collaboratively to achieve them.
- Recognising and building on positive practice and strengths which support the prevention agenda.
- Ensuring the provision of Advocacy when appropriate to do so.
- Ensuring that the communication needs of each person are understood, and that bespoke adult safeguarding information is provided in the most appropriate formats, methods and languages.
- Focussing on equality in all aspects of safeguarding adults work to ensure people have equal access to protective services.

4. Partnership/multi-agency working

- Sharing of information proportionately and appropriately.
- Co-production of solutions that reflect local needs and strengths.
- Promotion of community responsibility in preventing, detecting, and reporting abuse.
- Training is provided for staff and volunteers to improve their understanding and early identification of the different types of adult abuse, so that an effective response can be achieved.
- Support practitioners to ask questions, explore concerns fully, and seek advice before making safeguarding adult referrals.

5. Transparency and accountability

- Being open and transparent in relation to safeguarding decisions, what is working well and where improvements to systems and processes are required.
- Monitoring and audit safeguarding practice to ensure it meets or exceeds the required standards.
- Using data and feedback to drive improvements and inform future prevention strategies.