



Welcome to the newsletter of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board

Issue 41

If your organisation would like its safeguarding work featured in a future newsletter, please contact the DSAB Board Manager, Natalie Gee at DerbyshireSAB@derbyshire.gov.uk

Our newsletters are published quarterly to update professionals and volunteers who work with adults with care and support needs on key information related to the Board.

Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) is a multi-agency strategic partnership, which ensures and oversees the effectiveness of arrangements made by agencies to safeguard adults who have care and support needs and are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, abuse or neglect.

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Message from our Independent Chair



Hello everyone, and a very belated Happy New Year! Welcome to the latest edition of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) newsletter.

The past few months have been incredibly busy and productive for the Board, following a successful Safeguarding Adults Week in November 2025. Across the week, seven training sessions were delivered, we raised awareness at Chesterfield FC to highlight support available to unpaid carers, and we formally launched our new [Prevention Principles document](#), which many of you will have already seen featured in our previous newsletter. Safeguarding Adults Week is always a true partnership effort, and I want to thank the DSAB team and all our Board partners for their hard work in planning, facilitating, and attending events throughout the week.

Earlier this month, I was delighted to attend the Derby and Derbyshire SAB Dignity Awards. It was inspiring to recognise the outstanding work taking place across our services to promote dignity, respect, and person-centred care. You can read more about the event in this newsletter, but I would like to extend my congratulations to all of the nominees and to the 11 recipients of Dignity Award certificates. My thanks also go to Derby SAB for hosting such a positive and uplifting event.

More recently, I attended Derbyshire County Council's Scrutiny Committee to share key headlines from our Annual Report and to speak with local Councillors about adult safeguarding across Derbyshire. These conversations remain vital in ensuring continued transparency, accountability, and a collective commitment to protecting adults with care and support needs.

I was also recently invited to share a presentation about the work of our Board to GPs and GP Safeguarding Leads. This was a valuable opportunity to share key messages and to hear about safeguarding challenges, with around 40 colleagues from across the county and city attending the session.

I hope you find this edition interesting. If you have any suggestions for future content, including if you want us to spotlight your work helping to safeguarding adults in Derbyshire, you can contact the Board office at any time with your contributions DerbyshireSAB@derbyshire.gov.uk

Chesterfield FC Charitable Trust and Cllr Joss Barnes help us shine a light on unpaid carers



On 29th November 2025, Councillor Joss Barnes (pictured) popped along to Chesterfield FC's home game at the SMH Group Stadium to shine a light on the amazing work unpaid carers do for family, friends and neighbours. Fans didn't just read about it in the match programme – the message was up on the big screens around the ground too. A huge thank you to [Chesterfield FC Charitable Trust](#) for helping us to spread such an important message.

For Cllr Barnes, caring isn't just something he oversees as Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, it's something he has lived with all his life.

Growing up, he helped care for his younger brother, who was disabled and had highly complex needs. With only a year between them, caring became part of everyday family life from an early age and continued well into adulthood. Those experiences shaped his understanding of the responsibility and constant pressures that caring can bring.

Today, alongside his role on the council, Cllr Barnes is again an unpaid carer, supporting an elderly relative in palliative care. He knows how exhausting it can be to juggle work, family life and caring responsibilities, and how often carers put their own wellbeing last.

This personal experience is why supporting unpaid carers matters so deeply to him. He understands that behind every caring role is a person doing their best, often without recognition or respite and is committed to make sure carers are seen, valued, and able to access the help and support they deserve.

If you look after someone who couldn't manage without your help, you are an unpaid carer. There is not a 'typical carer' and everyone's caring role is unique. Some carers move in and out of the role many times and provide various types of care, often to more than one person.

Caring is something to be proud of, but it can come at great personal cost. Many unpaid carers give up a lot of time, energy, and money to support someone else, which can impact their own health and wellbeing. That's why it's so important we recognise what carers do and make sure they get the right support to carry on caring and live their own lives.

Derbyshire County Council wants to make sure carers get the support they need and that's why they work with Derbyshire Carers Association (DCA) to offer help through the Derbyshire All Age Carers Support Service (DAACSS). This service is here for all carers — including male carers, young carers, carers who work and carers from a variety of backgrounds.

The service offers:

1. Guidance and information about caring
2. Help through a carer assessment
3. Emotional and practical support either face to face or over the phone
4. Wellbeing activities and social groups
5. Financial advice, including help checking if you are entitled to Carer's Allowance, Council Tax discounts, or other benefits

If you're an unpaid carer supporting someone who lives in Derbyshire, help is just a call or click away. You can contact DAACSS:

1. By phone: 01773 833833 (Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm)
2. By email: info@derbyshirecarers.co.uk
3. Or visit the website: to find out about social events and ways to meet other carers.
www.derbyshire.gov.uk/carers

You can also request printed information that is easy read or understand. If you're an unpaid carer supporting someone who lives in Derbyshire, help is just a call or click away. On Facebook, search Derbyshire Carers Association.



Support for Unpaid Carers in Derbyshire

- Wellbeing support
- Information and advice
- Carers assessments
- Financial advice
- Signposting to short breaks
- Carer support groups

Telephone 01773 833833
or scan the QR code to find out more



Derbyshire Carers Association awarded Excellence for Carers Quality Standard

We congratulate Derbyshire Carers Association (DCA) for being awarded the prestigious Carers Trust Excellence for Carers Quality Standard - a nationally recognised benchmark that celebrates outstanding support for unpaid Carers.



For DCA it's not just a badge of honour - it's a rigorous assessment of their commitment to Carers. It recognises:

- Their ability to provide safe, effective, and person-centred support to unpaid Carers.
- The robust systems and practices they have in place to ensure Carers' voices are heard and their needs are met.
- The ongoing training and development of their staff and volunteers to maintain excellence in service delivery.
- Their collaborative approach with local partners, stakeholders, and communities to strengthen the support network for Carers.

You can [read the full story](#) on the [Derbyshire Carers Association website](#).

Recognising and celebrating dignity in care



February is Dignity Action Month, which is an annual opportunity for health and social care professionals, as well as the wider public, to champion the right to dignity and create meaningful, memorable experiences for those accessing care. It reinforces the importance of treating every person with respect and ensuring they have choice, control, and purpose in their daily lives.

The annual Derby and Derbyshire Dignity Tea event, held as part of Dignity Action Month in February 2026, was held by Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs) in the [Better Together Café](#) in the Council House in Derby on Monday, 2nd February 2026.

The event saw a range of professionals from various care services receive recognition for upholding the dignity and care of the people they work with. Certificates were presented by the Mayor of Derby, Ajit Atwal, Richard Proctor, Independent Chair of Derby SAB, and Amanda Clarke, Independent Chair of Derbyshire SAB. A poem, 'Dignity in Care', written by Matthew Fowler, a Derby resident, was also read out.

The following professionals and teams received awards:

- Hayley Crossley, Palliative Specialist Nurse at University Hospitals of Derby and Burton.
- Alana Biggs, Lead Nurse, Aitune Medical Practice
- Sharleen Gonza, JS Supported Living Services
- David Shardlow, Social Worker, Derby City Council
- Rubine Sharief, Registered Manager, Waythrough

- Steven Stockley, Staying Close, The Children and Young Adults Supportive Care Services, Derby City Council
- Joe Michael, Derwentio Housing Trust
- Luca Marini, Social Worker, Derbyshire County Council
- Sarah Wigley, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Cygnet Derby Safeguarding Champions Group
- Temporary Accommodation Team at Derby Homes

Together with partner agencies, Derby and Derbyshire SABs would like to encourage everyone to promote the importance of treating the people we support with dignity. To find out more, visit the [Dignity in Care website](#).

Derby and Derbyshire Dignity Tea event 2026 photo memories

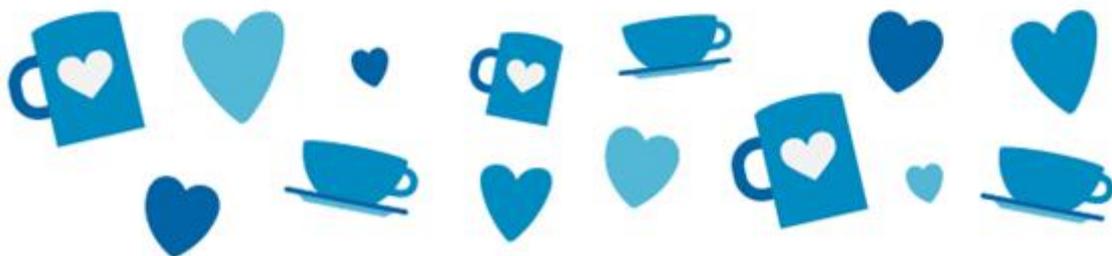


What does dignity mean to you?

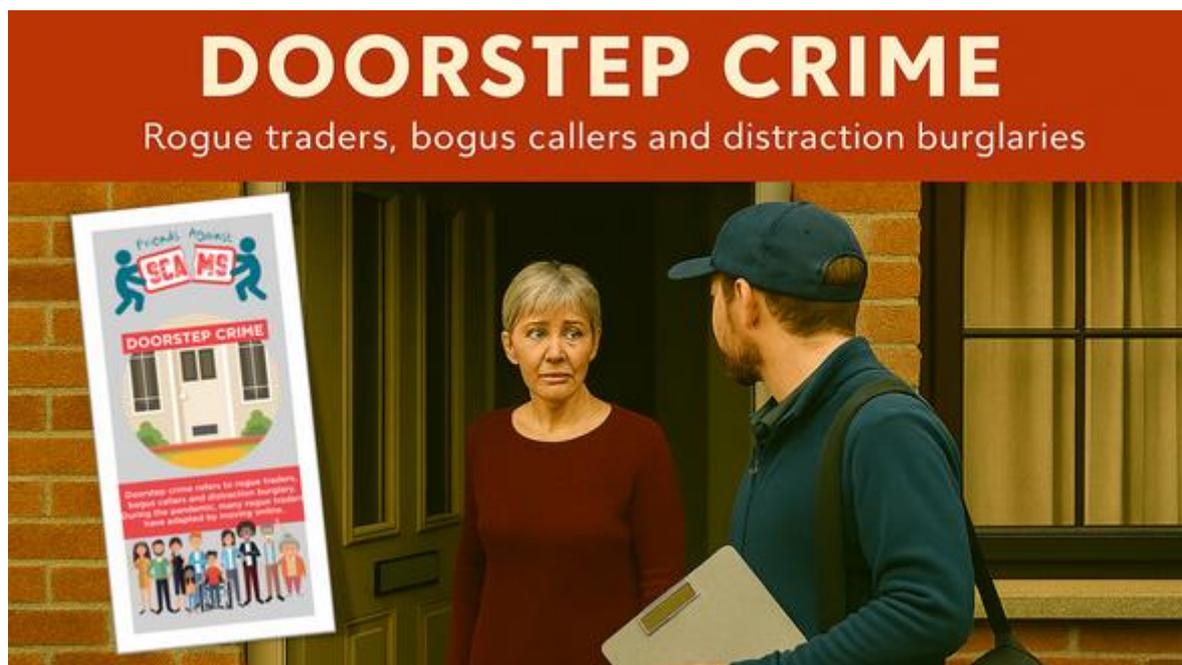
Little things make a big difference when someone's looking after you.

Celebrate Dignity Action Month throughout February with our colleagues in care.

Find out more at www.dignityincare.org.uk



Doorstep crime



Doorstep crime covers things like rogue traders, bogus callers, and distraction burglaries

While plenty of legitimate people might knock on our doors, there are also those who try to take advantage of others in their own homes. This can include people offering fake services, charging far more than they should, or using logos and ID that look genuine but aren't.

Criminals often strike when they think someone might be feeling more vulnerable and therefore easier to exploit. There are lots of everyday situations that can leave a person feeling off-balance — such as dealing with a bereavement, coping with the aftermath of bad weather, or even just being in a hurry. In those moments, it can be easier to let your guard down.

Many rogue traders have shifted online, creating fake profiles to try and draw people in with fraudulent services. It can look convincing, but a little caution goes a long way. Take a moment to do some research before agreeing to anything — a quick check can save a lot of hassle later. It's also worth seeing if your local authority runs any approved trader schemes, as these can help you find reputable and trusted businesses.

Whether on the doorstep or online, if someone is offering something at a price that doesn't seem realistic, it's usually a sign to be cautious. Take your time, don't let anyone rush you into making a decision, and always check things out properly before agreeing to anything.

[Friends Against Scams](#) has more information about doorstep crime, which includes a leaflet and posters to download, along with contact numbers for advice and reporting.

Derbyshire Trusted Trader

Finding the right trader can be a big worry. We've all heard stories about cowboy builders, dodgy workers and rip-off merchants.

That's why [Derbyshire Trusted Trader](#) was set up, which can help you find honest and reliable traders who commit to doing a good job for a fair price. You'll find plumbers, builders, roofers, decorators, joiners, electricians, gardeners, retailers and many more.



Derbyshire Trusted Trader was set up to:

- help local people find traders and businesses who agree to do a good job at a fair price and commit to providing good customer service
- help protect consumers by making it easier for them to find and use Trusted Traders rather than rogue traders who typically cold-call and use high pressure sales techniques
- support good local businesses

Businesses interested in becoming a Derbyshire Trusted Trader can visit [Derbyshire County Council's website](#) to learn more about the benefits and how to sign up.

Action Fraud is now Report Fraud

Report Fraud has replaced Action Fraud as the UK's national reporting centre for where you should report cybercrime and fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cybercrime in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Criminals operate everywhere online, including websites, apps, emails, text and phone, so it is essential to learn and understand what you can do to prevent the risks of fraud for yourself and to make others aware.



Take a look at [Report Fraud's new website](#) and discover how you can protect yourself, get help and support, and make a report.

Action Deafness Derbyshire Community Facebook group

The new Action Deafness Derbyshire Community Facebook group is an online community created for deaf, hard-of-hearing individuals, families, carers, supporters, and professionals across Derbyshire.

The group provides a friendly, supportive space where people can:

- connect locally with others who share similar experiences and perspectives
- stay updated on upcoming events, workshops, and community initiatives in Derbyshire
- share information about communication access, interpreting services and equipment
- find peer support through shared stories, advice, and recommendations

Explore the [Action Deafness Derbyshire Community Facebook group](#) page



NEW - Learning themes library



The [learning themes library](#) is your go-to hub for guidance and information to support your safeguarding practice.

You'll find resources that help practitioners and managers improve their knowledge in areas where common learning themes have been identified across Safeguarding Adult Reviews, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Domestic Abuse-Related Death Reviews, and LeDeR Reviews in Derbyshire and Derby City.

This first edition of the Learning Themes Library includes the following key themes, each relevant to multiple review processes:

- Domestic abuse
- Fire safety
- Legal Literacy
- Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)
- Management of constipation and recognition of sepsis
- Multi-Agency working and information sharing
- Professional curiosity
- Substance use
- Unpaid Carers

Hosted on the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board website, the library is regularly updated to reflect new and emerging learning from reviews. Use the library to learn and improve your knowledge and confidence to drive better outcomes for the people we support.

NEW - Support for people who feel lonely or isolated

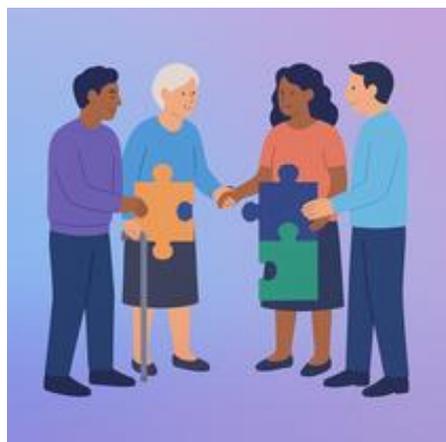
Loneliness remains a significant social issue across the UK, affecting people of all ages and backgrounds.

Loneliness isn't always about the number of people in your life; it's often about the quality and consistency of interactions. Sometimes reconnecting with friends or family members – even those we haven't spoken to in a while – can help reduce loneliness.

Loneliness can affect your mental wellbeing, so reaching out to a GP, therapist, or local support service can make a big difference. We've put together [Loneliness webpage](#) with some suggested ways in which people who are feeling lonely or isolated can access support, as well as some national and local resources and groups that may be beneficial



What is co-production and what does it mean to you?



During Safeguarding Adults Week 2025, the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Boards hosted a Co-Production and Safeguarding session.

Two service managers from Derbyshire County Council's Safeguarding Adults Quality and Development Team, working in partnership with the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Boards, produced two short videos highlighting the importance of co-production in safeguarding

These videos, which are available on YouTube, amplify the voices of people with lived experience and reflect the Boards' commitment to inclusive and person-centred safeguarding:

- [What does co-production mean to you?](#) features Ottiley Baker in conversation with Noel Mitchell, an unpaid carer, exploring what co-production means from his perspective.
 - A second video discusses the work of Derbyshire County Council's Safeguarding Co-Production Group, with contributions from Ottiley Baker, Amanda Davies and Noel Mitchell [the work of Derbyshire County Council's Safeguarding Co-Production Group](#).
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Safeguarding Adults Week 2025 resources from The Ann Craft Trust

Safeguarding Adults Week 2025 was from 17 to 21 November.

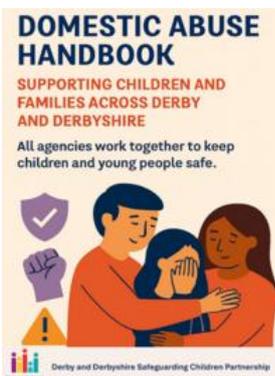
The Ann Craft Trust has published short, easy-to-read [summaries of the workshops](#) delivered at this year's Safeguarding Adults Conference in Nottingham. There's also links to recordings of the online seminars that ran throughout the week.

If you missed a session or want to revisit key insights, these summaries are a great way to stay informed and inspired.

Safeguarding Adults Week 2026 will run from 16 to 20 November.



NEW - Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership - Domestic Abuse Handbook



The [Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership \(DDSCP\)](#) is proud to launch the [Domestic Abuse Handbook](#) (located in the guidance document section of the documents library), created to support practitioners across all agencies in recognising the profound impact domestic abuse has on children—including unborn babies—and to equip them with the tools, knowledge, and confidence to respond effectively.

This handbook draws on learning from statutory reviews, the lived experiences of children, and best practice across the safeguarding sector. It places the voice of the child at the heart of our collective response, ensuring that every intervention is informed, compassionate, and focused on safety and wellbeing.

By strengthening practitioner awareness and fostering whole-family approaches, the handbook aims to improve outcomes, enhance collaboration across services, and embed trauma-informed practice. Together, we can ensure that children's voices are heard, their needs are prioritised, and their futures are protected—please circulate the handbook widely within your agency and teams.

To understand how the Domestic Abuse Handbook has supported practitioners, feedback will be collated over the next six months through surveys, reflective sessions, and discussions. This process will explore practitioners' awareness, confidence, application, and the impact of the handbook in practice. Feedback will also be sought on how the handbook could be improved in future editions and how it can be made more accessible.

Thank you to all colleagues and agencies who supported the development of the handbook.

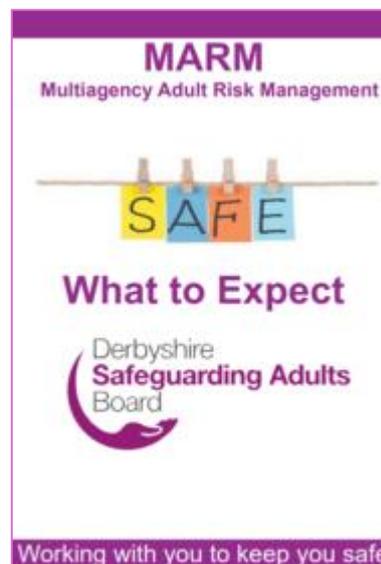
Multiagency Adult Risk Management (MARM) webinars

This is a free half-day webinar that will look at the [Multiagency Adult Risk Management \(MARM\) process](#) and how to use it most effectively to support individuals. This webinar is only available for individuals who work and provide services within Derbyshire boundaries.

Key learning outcomes for this webinar are to:

- explore the MARM policy and procedures
- consider the roles and responsibilities of different agencies within MARM
- explore some of the skills and methods that can support working with individuals
- develop confidence in working with MARM

This briefing is aimed at all professionals working for our partner agencies in Derbyshire.



These webinar sessions will be via the Microsoft Teams video platform on the following dates:

- 26 February 2026
- 17 March 2026
- 28 May 2026
- 28 July 2026
- 1 September 2026
- 5 November 2026

If you already have a [Derbyshire Learning Online \(DLO\)](#) account, log in and search for the course title. To enrol and book a place on the course click 'sign-up'. If you need to cancel your place, please log back in to DLO to do so.

For non-Derbyshire County Council employees who wish to enrol on this course you will need to create a DLO account. If you do not already have one, email derbyshire.learningonline@derbyshire.gov.uk quoting the course name together with your organisation's name, and instructions will be forwarded on how to register for an account. All staff should follow their internal agency guidelines when requesting to attend the webinar.

Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Helpline

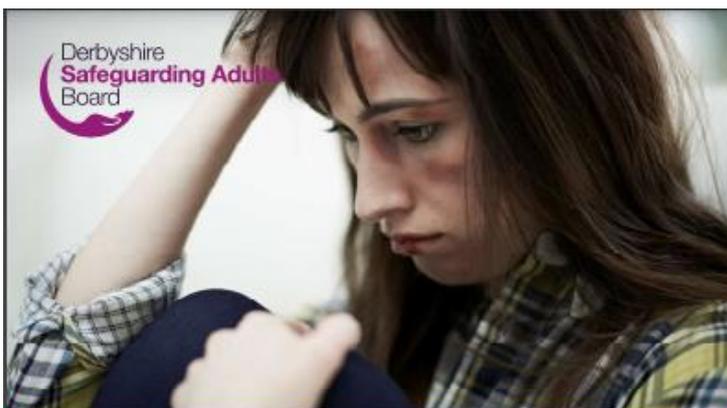
The Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Helpline, facilitated by The Elm Foundation, is a safe, welcoming, supportive place for any adult or child affected by domestic abuse

A friendly, informal, peaceful haven in which you can talk freely and make sense of your thoughts. A hub that can provide the advice, support and tools you may need to change your situation, where you will feel empowered to take back control of your life.



- Tel: 08000 198 668
- Hard of hearing/deaf text: 07534 617252
- Email: derbyshiredahelpline@theelmfoundation.org.uk
- [Online](#)

Reporting a safeguarding concern



Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board

There is NO Excuse for Abuse

If you or someone you know in Derbyshire is being abused or neglected please tell someone

In an emergency, contact the police, tel: **999** or if you are deaf/hard of hearing use emergency SMS by texting **999** from your phone, or use the NGT Relay Assistant by dialling **18000** from the app or textphone

If the person is not in any danger now but there has been a crime, contact the police, tel: **101**

If you're worried about yourself or someone else being abused or neglected, please contact Call Derbyshire, tel: **01629 533190**

Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board
www.derbyshiresab.org.uk

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If the person is not in any danger now but there has been a crime, contact the Police, tel: 101.

If you're worried about yourself or someone else being abuse or neglected, please contact Call Derbyshire, tel: 01629 533190.

There are eight 'There is NO Excuse for Abuse' posters. They are available to download from the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board website, www.derbyshiresab.org.uk



The next DSAB meeting is on 16 April 2026

For queries or comments please contact:

Natalie Gee (DSAB Board Manager) at DerbyshireSAB@derbyshire.gov.uk



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Derbyshiresab.org.uk



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