



**Durham**  
**Safeguarding Adults**  
Partnership

# **Durham Safeguarding Adults Partnership**

## **Annual Report 2023 to 2024**

### **Message from Lesley Jeavons**



Hello. My name is Lesley Jeavons, and I am the **Independent Chair** of the Durham **Safeguarding Adults Partnership. Chair** means that I am in charge of our meetings.



Our **Partnership** is made up of people from social care, health services, the police, and other organisations. **Independent** means I do not work for social care, health services, or the police.



**Safeguarding Adults** means the people in the Partnership work together to help keep people safe from **abuse** and **neglect**. **Abuse** is if someone does bad things to you that upset you or hurt you. **Neglect** is if someone caring for you gives you poor care and you are harmed.



This is our **Annual Report**. An **Annual Report** is about the work the Partnership did last year. It says what we did to keep people safe from abuse and neglect.

## What we did from April 2023 to March 2024



We held meetings about our work. We asked the people on the Partnership to tell us how their organisations keep people safe.



We held lots of short online events in our **Safeguarding Week**.

**Safeguarding Week** tells people about safeguarding adults and about abuse and neglect.



We trained staff, **volunteers** and people who use services about safeguarding. We used online Microsoft Teams, meetings in the same room, and booklets.

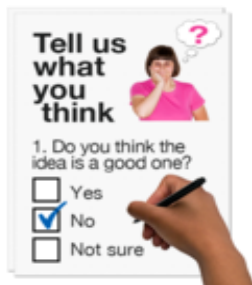
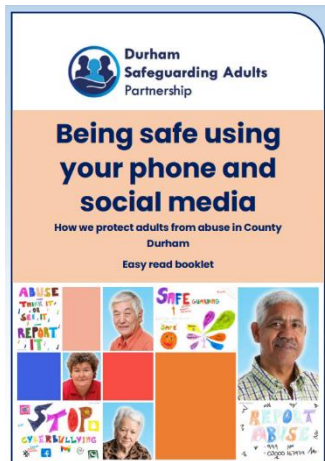
**Volunteers** give their time free to help people.



We wrote our new easy read booklet 'Being safe using your phone and social media'.



We updated our other easy read booklets to make them easier to use. Reading the booklets will help people keep safe.



Last year we gave certificates to

- 32 people who did the Stop Abuse Now easy read booklet
- 27 people who did the Staying Safe easy read booklet
- 4 people who did the 'Being safe on your phone and social media' easy read booklet.

We listened to people about using care services and health services.

We sent emails about

- the Mental Capacity Act 2005
- Autism Acceptance Week
- Carers Week
- Co-production Week
- Having a Vaccine, a Beyond Words booklet

and lots more.



We worked on our website to make it better.

[www.safeguardingdurhamadults.info](http://www.safeguardingdurhamadults.info)



We wrote a booklet about how to help people say what they want and to make decisions.



We updated some of our **guidance** and **policies**. **Guidance** helps people to work better. Our **policies** are rules to follow if there is abuse or neglect to adults.



We told home care services and care homes about safeguarding adults, and our guidance and policies. This helps them give better services.



We had **Safeguarding Adult Reviews**. If an adult has died or has been badly harmed and we want to know what happened we call it a **Safeguarding Adult Review**. We find out what went wrong in looking after people, and what might stop it happening again.



In 2019 there was a BBC programme about Whorlton Hall Hospital in County Durham. Since then we had a Safeguarding Adult Review about it.



In 2023 we put the report of the Whorlton Hall Safeguarding Adult Review and an easy read report on our website.



We held a **Summit** about the **action plans** from the Whorlton Hall Review. **Summit** means a lot of people go to a big meeting. **Action plans** means people spoke about what their organisation can do to stop it happening again.

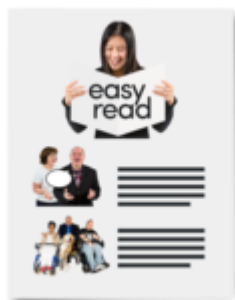
## What we will do from April 2024 to March 2025



We will carry on our Safeguarding Adult Reviews. This includes more learning from the Safeguarding Adult Review about Whorlton Hall.



We will train staff and volunteers and share news on our website.



We will tell more people about the easy read booklets, Staying Safe, Stop Abuse Now, and Being safe using your phone and social media.



We will carry on sharing messages about safeguarding adults.



We will make our guidance and policies better and write new ones.



We will hear the voice of adults who use services, to help us learn more about abuse and neglect.



We will plan an **empowerment** campaign with adults about what stopping abuse means to them.

**Empowerment** means help to make your own decisions.



## What to do if you are worried that someone is being abused or neglected



If abuse is happening to you, or you are frightened of someone, or you are neglected, or if someone tells you they have been abused, call Social Care Direct on **03000 26 79 79**.



Social Care Direct will listen to you carefully. Please do not worry, your details will be kept safe.



If you are in danger call the police on **999** first before calling Social Care Direct.



You might like to watch Tricky Friends, a film to support and empower people to tell someone if 'something's not right'. Click or tap on [Tricky Friends Video on YouTube](#)