



# Keep Safe Stop Abuse

What happens after you have told  
someone about abuse or harm?



Made by



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# Abuse is when:



Abuse or harm is when someone does or says something that:



- may hurt you



- makes you feel unhappy



- frightens you

# Who can you tell?



- family member



- friend



- social worker



- manager at work



You can phone the organisations at the back of this leaflet

## What they should do:



✓ stay calm and listen to you



✓ take what you say seriously



✓ offer support to help stop the abuse



✓ write down what you say in your own words



✓ be aware that evidence needs to be kept safe



✓ contact the services at the back of this leaflet, the police or your safeguarding lead

## They should not:



✗ ask you for more details



✗ think someone else will help you



✗ contact or go and see the person who may have caused harm or abuse



✗ promise to keep it a secret



✗ delay or be afraid to seek help

# What happens after you have told someone about abuse or harm?



The person you tell will need to talk to Social Services



They will raise a "Safeguarding Concern". This means that the abuse has been reported



This is so they can find the right people to help you

## Meetings



People from Adult Social Care will arrange to meet with you



They will ask you about what happened to you



This is called a Safeguarding Lead worker

## Support



You can bring someone with you to meetings. This could be:



● a family member



● a friend



● a carer



● an advocate -a person who can help you to speak up



You can bring someone to support you to any of the meetings. It is your choice

# A plan to investigate Safeguarding Concerns

A Safeguarding Lead worker could be a:



- social worker



- nurse



- manager



Someone else may be asked to help



They will ask you what has happened



They will ask you what you would like to happen with you and your family



They may need to talk to other people like nurses, support workers, witnesses or family members

## If you have any questions or worries



You can speak to your:



- Safeguarding Lead worker



- social worker



- nurse



You can talk to them at any time through the safeguarding process

# A plan to keep you safe - Protection Plan



The Safeguarding Lead worker will work with you and other people involved



They will make a plan together with you, to keep you safe



This is called a Protection Plan



This may be for you and it may also be to keep other people safe



You can agree to the Protection Plan that protects you



You can decide to accept the plan or not



If other people are involved in the Protection Plan you will not be asked to agree to it, as it is a plan to keep you and other people safe as well



If you are not able to make a decision, a best interests decision will be made for you

## Do I have a choice if the safeguarding process goes ahead?



If you are able to make your own decisions then you can decide if it goes ahead or not



Your Safeguarding Lead worker will talk to you about the risks and your plan to keep yourself safe in the future



If a crime has happened or other people are at risk of abuse the meeting may still go ahead

# Safeguarding Enquiry



You will be asked what you would like to happen



What you say is very important and will affect any decisions that are made during the Safeguarding Enquiry



Your Protection Plan will be reviewed and decisions about your safety and support are talked about at this meeting

## Who will be at the meeting?



- The Safeguarding Lead worker



- Safeguarding Co-ordinator - They make sure the Safeguarding Enquiry is completed properly



- Independent Chair- They make sure you are listened to



- Professionals like managers, nurses, social workers



- The police may need to be at some meetings



- People who can help us understand the risks of harm or actions we need to take to keep you safe



- Note taker

## Reviewing the Safeguarding Enquiry



Your Protection Plan will be reviewed if it is found that you feel unsafe



There will be a meeting to discuss what has happened

# Let us know about abuse



Borough of Poole



01202 633902



Bournemouth Borough Council



01202 454979



Dorset County Council



01305 221016



Out of hours service



01202 657279



Adult safeguarding board



[www.bpsafeguardingadultsboard.com](http://www.bpsafeguardingadultsboard.com)



Police



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## If you or someone you know feels they are in danger



Call 999 emergency



Ask for the Police



Call an ambulance if you or someone you know is badly hurt