



# Adult Protection

# Supporting and Protecting Adults at Risk of Harm

## Who are Adults at Risk?

People over 16 who are unable to protect themselves from harm because of a disability, mental disorder, illness, physical or mental infirmity.

### What is Harm?

Harm may be:

- Physical
- Neglect
- Financial
- Sexual
- Psychological
- Discriminatory

### Who can cause harm?

- Relatives and family
- Professional staff
- Paid care workers
- Volunteers
- Other service users
- Neighbours
- Friends



**Harm can  
happen  
anywhere  
Anybody can  
cause harm**

# What should you do?

If you believe an adult may be at risk from harm you should:

- Make sure the adult is safe
- Dial 999 if immediate help is needed
- Contact one of the services in this leaflet



# What will you be asked?

You will be asked who you are calling about and why you are concerned. You might be asked how you know the adult involved.

**You do not need to give your name if you do not wish to.**



**Don't leave it  
to someone  
else, or it  
could be too  
late!**

## What happens next?

The Council has a duty to investigate an alleged incident of harm. Other professionals may be involved, for example police officers or health services. The investigation will be handled as sensitively as possible. The adult will be listened to and their wishes considered. If the concerns are serious the Council will act immediately to make sure the adult is safe.

**Your concerns will be treated with the respect and attention they deserve.**

## Adult Protection Contact Numbers

**Aberdeenshire Adult Protection Team**

**01651 871246**

**Out of hours**

**0845 840 0070**

**Police Scotland**

**101**



**For more information or to read the Grampian Policy for the Support and Protection of Adults at Risk of Harm please visit our website:**

**[www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/adultprotection](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/adultprotection)**