



# The six principles of adult safeguarding

1

## Empowerment

The presumption of person led decisions and informed consent. This means that interventions must support people to make decisions and have a say in their care.

2

## Protection

**Support and representation for those in greatest need**

Supporting victims and allowing them to have a say. This include support and representation for those in greatest need.

3

## Prevention

**It is better to take action before harm occurs.**

There should be emphasis on health promotion and a reduction in isolation before need arises. Interventions for people at risk should focus on preventing care and support needs. In populations with established care and support needs, there should be a focus on re-enablement and increasing independence.

4

## Proportionally

**Proportionate and least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.**

Interventions must represent the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented. This is in keeping with human rights principles.

5

## Partnership

**Local solutions through services working with their communities.**

Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting abuse  
Local solutions from services working within the community have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse. This means that housing providers, their contractors and residents all have a role to play. Safeguarding is everybody's business.

6

## Accountability

**Accountability and transparency in delivering**

Safeguarding practice and arrangements should be accountable and transparent to the public. There should be a lead safeguarding officer that is known and available to staff.