

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB)

Easy Read Report

2023**2024**

This is an Easy Read Report, you can read more in the big report.



Welcome to the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board yearly report.

The Care Act 2014 says that we must write a report every year.

This report says what we have done in Gloucestershire in the last year to help and protect adults who are at risk of abuse or neglect.

About Gloucestershire.



More people live in Gloucester than in other parts of Gloucestershire.

Gloucestershire has more people over 65 years old than the rest of the country.



In the year up to May 2020 about 12,100 adults were having care services paid for by Gloucestershire County Council.

There were about 1400 adult carers getting services paid for by Gloucestershire County Council.

There are about 20,200 people who are over 65 years old and who are carers who are not paid.



What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is about people and organisations working together to help people who could experience abuse or neglect.

Safeguarding is about listening to people to find out how they would like to be helped if they are experiencing abuse or neglect.

There are lots of different kinds of abuse and neglect.

You can see more about the different kinds of abuse and neglect in the big report.



The Care Act 2014 says organisations like, the Council, health, the police, the fire service, and others should work together to help people who could experience abuse or neglect.

What are the six main things that are important in Safeguarding?

- Supporting people to make their own decisions.
- Doing something before a person is harmed.
- Only doing what is needed to help prevent someone being harmed.
- Making sure people who are most likely to be harmed are supported.
- Working together with local communities so they can help keep people safe from harm.
- Taking responsibility to keep people safe and being open about how it is done.

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Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)

Sometimes people can't make decisions for themselves, this is called lacking capacity.



If that person needs things to happen to keep them safe, the local authority or the Court of Protection can say there needs to be a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).

This means they can say what needs to be done to keep the person safe.



Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)

The Care Act 2014 said there should be Safeguarding Adults Boards who make sure that there is good safeguarding in their area.

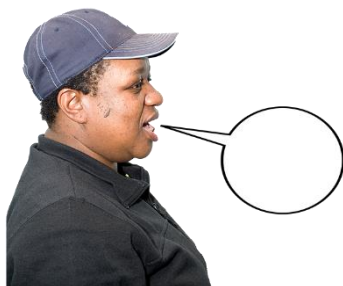
The Safeguarding Adults Board has to:



- Write a report every year.
- Have a plan about Safeguarding.
- Organise Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs).
- Check that other organisations are doing what they should be about safeguarding.
- Help keep adults safe from abuse and neglect.

How to report a safeguarding concern.

If you are worried that you or another adult is being abused, please report it.



Some people might be more likely to be abused or hurt because they have a disability or illness and need help and support.

If you think you need to report about yourself, or someone else being abused you can contact the **Adult Help Desk**

Telephone 01452 426868

8am to 5pm Monday to Friday

Or at other times

Call the Emergency Duty Team

01452 614194

Or email Socialcare.eng@gloucestershire.gov.uk



What you should tell us:

- Why you are worried.
- The name, age, and address of the person you are worried about.
- If anyone lives with them.
- If they are getting help from any organisation.
- Who might be abusing them.



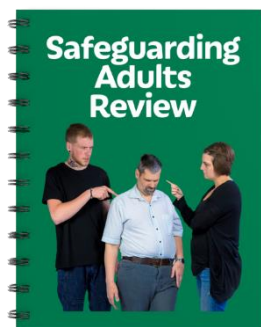
Safeguarding work April 2023 to March 2024.

2693 Safeguarding concerns were raised.

661 of these went on to be Section 42 enquiries.

Section 42 enquiries are when the local authority takes action because someone with care and support needs is experiencing or might be at risk.





Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)

What does a safeguarding adults review involve?

A Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) is when different organisations work together to see what could have been done differently to stop someone being harmed.

For 2023/24 we have one new SAR.

One that we are working on.

One that has been finished.

Single Point of Access (SPA) Team.

In 2023 the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Team introduced the Single Point of Access Team (SPA).

This is for staff who can report neglect or abuse.

The SPA have their own staff team.

They can act quickly to safeguard people.

Most referrals from staff go to the SPA.



Fire Safety Group.

What we achieved this year.

We carried on our work to support people living in cold homes or were worried about the cost of cooking.

We gave people electric blankets, slow cookers and heated throws.

We talked about times where people have died in fires in their home.

We know sometimes people are at risk of fires, but they have not been referred to the fire service.

We will carry on looking at better ways to share information.





We have two new groups in Cheltenham and Gloucester to support people who need help to cut down the clutter in their homes.

Having a lot of clutter in a home can make fires more of a risk.

The Fire and Rescue Service shared information and advice with organisations about fire risk.

What we plan to do in 2024-25

- Learn how we can reduce the chances of fires for people who are at risk.
- Work with the homeless nursing team to help them think about fire risks.
- Learn from serious fires to help stop them in future.
- Help all organisations learn from SARS.
- Make sure our work meets the aims of the GSAB plan.



The GSAB Plan 2022-25.

There are three main things in the GSAB plan.

- Help more people understand about Adult Safeguarding in Gloucestershire.
- Working to stop abuse from happening and doing something when abuse and neglect is reported.
- Learning and making what we do and how we do it better.



Communication and working together.

We used the NHS Information Bus to talk to people in the community about Adult Safeguarding.

We went to Tewkesbury, Gloucester, Cirencester, Cheltenham and Lydney.

We made a survey to find out what people thought.

Safeguarding Training.

There are **3 levels** of safeguarding training.

Level 1 – this is an introduction to safeguarding online called e-learning.

Level 2 – This is for staff who work with people who have care and support needs.

Level 3 – This is for people who need to report and respond when there is a safeguarding concern.

17935 Gloucestershire staff and volunteers did Safeguarding and Mental Capacity Act training this year.

There are around 46 people who can deliver the level 2 Safeguarding training in Gloucestershire.