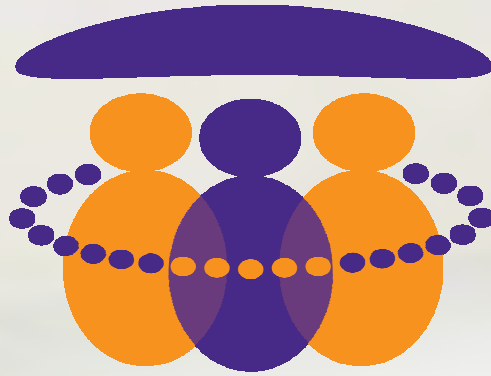




& our Partners,

Committed to  
Safeguarding Adults



# Harrow Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB)

## Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2012/2013 (Easy to Read Version)



In partnership with:



# Say **NO** to abuse



# 1. Introduction

## What is “safeguarding adults”?

“Safeguarding adults” is about keeping people with a disability or mental health problem safe from abuse or harm.



It is only about people who are aged 18 years or older as there are other arrangements for protecting children.

## What is abuse? Abuse can be:

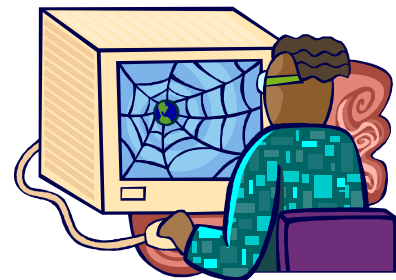
- physical (hitting, pushing, slapping, punching)
- financial (to do with your money)
- neglect (not being looked after properly)
- emotional/psychological (for example – being made fun of because of your disability)
- institutional (more than one person in a care home is being abused)
- sexual (being made to do something that you don't want to do – for example, kissing)
- discriminatory (for example - being made fun of because your disability makes you look different to other people)

# How do we let people know about safeguarding adults?

- we have “easy to read” leaflets



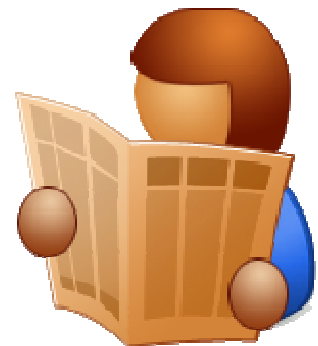
- we have information on the Council's website



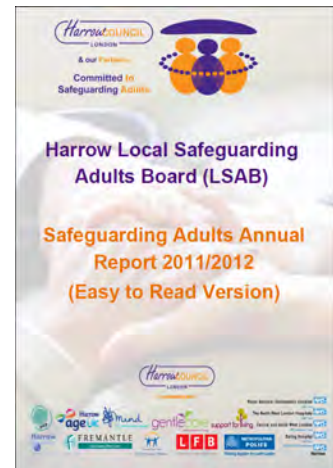
- the Safeguarding Adults Team visit staff where they work to tell them what to do if they are worried that someone may have been abused



- we write in magazines and newspapers about what members of the public should do if they are worried that someone may have been abused



- this report is written every year and is easy to read



- we go to special days in Harrow like “Under One Sky” to give out information about keeping people safe from abuse



## Why do we need a report about safeguarding adults?

The Harrow Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) is a group of managers (from the Council, the Hospitals, the Police, care homes, care agencies and voluntary groups) that meet every 3 months to work together to try and keep people with a disability or mental health problem safe from abuse.

The names at the bottom of this page show how many different groups get together at LSAB meetings.



This is the 6<sup>th</sup> time that the LSAB has written a report to tell everyone what was done last year and what it is going to do next. This report also tells us about how many people were abused last year and where the abuse happened.

## What did we do together last year to keep people safe?

- 1,478 people had some training in safeguarding adults (220 more than the year before)



A lot of different people went to training for the first time e.g. Colleges, GPs and library staff



Some volunteers and users also had training e.g. at Harrow MIND which is very good



- special events were held for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2013



- Last year the LSAB asked a Social Worker (who doesn't work for Harrow) to meet with people who have been abused to check that they understood what happened after they reported their concerns. She found that not many people understood, so easy to read information about "what happens next" has been written



- The LSAB talked about the abuse that happened at Winterbourne View and what actions can be taken



locally e.g. Harrow Mencap will be asking "users by experience" to visit local care homes to check that they are giving good care - they will tell the LSAB what they find



- the LSAB used local newspapers and radio to let people know who to contact if they are worried about someone and more alerts were received which is good



- a lot of information was collected from the people who called because they were worried that someone may have been abused.

This information is called “statistics”



## 2. Statistics (numbers)

For the second year Harrow has been able to see what other Councils are doing to protect vulnerable people at risk of abuse. This means that the LSAB can check what work is going well and what needs to be done better.

### How many people were worried about being abused?

In 2012/2013 we were contacted about 657 people where there was a safeguarding concern, compared to 544 the year before. This means that 113 more people were worried that they might be being abused. These 657 calls are “alerts”.

The LSAB is pleased that more people came forward. This tells the LSAB that people know who to call if they are worried that someone may have been abused.





Out of the 657 people, only 461 needed someone to look into their problems more carefully. This is called a “referral”.

## How many men and women were worried about abuse and what background were they from?

More women were worried about possible abuse than men.

Out of the 461 referrals:

- 275 were from women
- 186 were from men



273 of the 461 people were white and 188 were black or black Asian.

## What was the type of abuse that people were worried about?

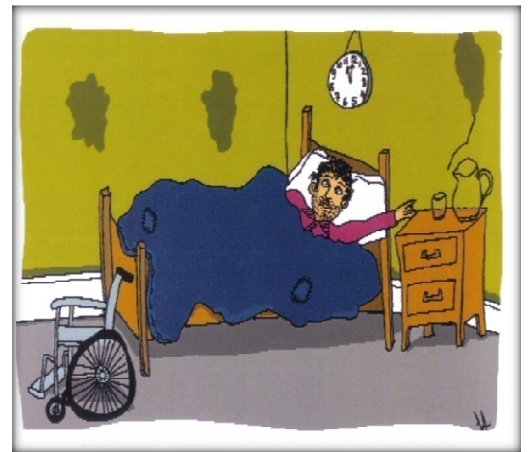
173 people were worried about physical abuse (hitting, pushing, slapping, punching)





124 people were worried about financial abuse (to do with their money)

111 people were worried about neglect (not being cared for properly)



131 people were worried about emotional/psychological abuse (for example – being made fun of because of their disability)



There were 25 concerns about institutional abuse (where more than one person in a care home is being abused)



19 were worried about sexual abuse (being made to do something that they didn't want to do – for example, kissing)

7 people were worried about discriminatory abuse (for example - being made fun of because they look different to other people)



## What disability did the person have who was worried about abuse?

- 292 people were over 65 years of age  
(older people)

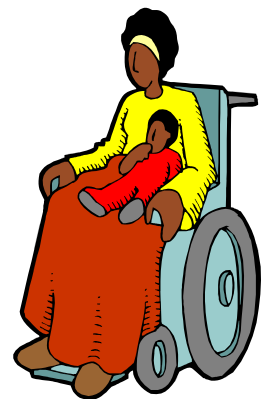


- 81 people had a learning disability



- 256 people had a physical disability  
(for example they use a wheelchair)

Some people with a disability were also older (over 65 years), so have been counted twice



- 77 people had a mental health problem  
(for example bad depression)



- 4 people were using too much alcohol or drugs



## Where did the abuse happen?

- 235 people were living in their own home



- 141 people were living in a care or nursing home



- 34 people were living in “sheltered” housing (where they get help from a Warden or support workers)



- 7 people were living in the home of the person that they said was abusing them

- 10 people were in a hospital



- 6 people were at a day centre



## Who was the abuser?

- 89 were social care staff  
(for example home care workers)



- 121 were family, including husband or wife



- 30 were neighbours or friends



- 12 were health care workers



- 8 were strangers



- 3 were volunteers or befrienders



## What did all the information tell us?

Last year more people knew who to contact if they were worried that someone might have been abused.

This is good.



More people than last year who do not speak English very well have heard about what to do if they were worried that someone might have been abused.

This is good.



Work to protect people in Harrow from abuse is being done as well as most other places in England.

This is good.



Younger people (less than 65 years old) with a mental health difficulty (like bad depression) in Harrow may not know where to call if they are worried about abuse.

This is not so good.



Everywhere in England (and in Harrow) there have been more people who have been financially abused (for example, their money has been stolen)

This is not so good.





### 3. What are we going to do next?

- make sure that people with mental health difficulties know where to call if they are worried about abuse
- work with the Police and the Banks to try and stop financial abuse (theft)
- have new training next year (2014) that helps all staff (wherever they work) to be confident in protecting vulnerable adults
- make sure that everyone knows when someone in a care home or hospital might be unable to leave when they want to
- ask people from other Councils to visit Harrow and tell us what is good about our safeguarding adults services and what we could do better
- make sure that all staff know what to do if they are worried about a child living with an adult they are visiting

Who to call or write to if you are worried that someone is being abused



The website is:

[www.harrow.gov.uk/safeguardingadults](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/safeguardingadults)



The e-mail address is:

[safeguarding.adults@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:safeguarding.adults@harrow.gov.uk)



You can write to:

Civic Centre (Second Floor East Wing)

PO Box 7,

Station Road, Harrow, Middx. HA1 2UH



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Adult abuse - break the silence  
**REPORT IT**

If you or someone you know is being abused, hurt or exploited, please call Harrow Council's Safeguarding Adults Service

Abuse can be physical, sexual, financial, psychological, discriminatory or neglect.

**Safeguarding Adults Service**

during office hours:

tel: **020 8420 9453**

at all other times

**020 8424 0999**

fax: **020 8416 8269**

email: [safeguarding.adults@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:safeguarding.adults@harrow.gov.uk)

web: [www.harrow.gov.uk/safeguardingadults](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/safeguardingadults)