

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
Policy & Procedures

Appendix 4

Categories of abuse and neglect as defined by the Care and Support Statutory Guidance (2014)

Neglect and acts of omission	Ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, care and support or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.
Sexual abuse	Rape, indecent exposure, sexual harassment, inappropriate looking or touching, sexual teasing or innuendo, sexual photography, subjection to pornography or witnessing sexual acts, indecent exposure and sexual assault or sexual acts to which the adult has not consented or was pressured into consenting.
Physical abuse	Assault, hitting, slapping, pushing, misuse of medication, restraint or inappropriate physical sanction.
Psychological/emotional abuse	Emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, cyber bullying, isolation or unreasonable and unjustified withdrawal of services or supportive networks.
Discriminatory abuse including hate crime	Forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment; because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.
Financial or material abuse	Theft, fraud, internet scamming, coercion in relation to an adult at risk's financial affairs or arrangements, including in connection with wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.
Organisational abuse	Neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, for example, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. This may range from one-off incidents to on-going ill-treatment. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.
Domestic violence	Psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse; so called 'honour' based violence; female genital mutilation; stalking and forced marriage.
Modern slavery	Slavery, human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.
Self-neglect	Neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding.