# What happens next?

Whatever you tell us will be treated with sensitivity. You will be asked for details about the person you think is at risk of harm and about the person who is harming them. You do not have to give your name but we will have to act on any concerns you raise. We will look very carefully at the situation and the help given will depend on the circumstances and wishes of the person involved.

### Who should I contact?

For help and further information, please contact the Council's Adult Intake Team on 0141 355 2200. You can also speak to a health professional or contact any police office. They will take your concerns seriously.

# Other Formats & Translations

This document can be provided in large print, Braille or on audio CD and can be translated into other community languages. Please contact the Council's Corporate Communications Team at 12 Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow G66 1TJ

## Tel: 0300 123 4510

本文件可按要求翻譯成中文・如有此需要,請電 0300 123 4510。
- ベノキル、0300 123 4510 べっけい にんしょく いっぱい にんしょく いっぱい でしょく いっぱい でしょく いっぱい でしょう いっぱい でしょう いっぱい でしょう でいる でいませい でいる でいませい でいる でいませい でいる 0300 123 4510 で るでいる 0300 123 4510 で の 0300 123 4510 で 0300 123 4510 で



Adult Support & Protection: Act Against Harm





# Adult Support & Protection: Act Against Harm

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 provides ways to offer support and protection to certain adults who may be at risk of harm or neglect.

# Who does the Act say is an "adult at risk" of harm?

An "adult at risk" of harm is defined as a person aged 16 or over who may be unable to protect themselves from harm, exploitation or neglect, because of a:

- > disability
- > mental disorder
- > illness. or
- > physical or mental infirmity

#### What can I do?

If you are worried that you or someone you know is being harmed, it is important to tell someone.

Remember, the person who did this may also be doing it to others. Or it could be that the person who is being harmed may not be able to report it themselves. Even if it happened many years ago, it is still important to report it.

If you are concerned that your own actions towards an adult in your care may be harmful, it is important to ask for support and advice to help you deal with this situation.

An independent advocacy worker can be available to assist you in putting forward your views and to provide you with support. Ceartas is East Dunbartonshire's independent advocacy service and the Social Work Service can put you in touch with them. See 'Who should I contact' section on back cover.

## What is meant by harm?

Harm is defined as all harmful behaviour. Some examples of this include:

**Physical:** hitting, slapping, pushing, shaking, locking someone in a room, tying someone to a chair, restricting their freedom.

**Psychological:** threats of harm, humiliation, intimidation, causing distress, verbal abuse, bullying, constant criticism, controlling, preventing contact with others.

**Neglect:** failure to provide medical or physical care, access to a doctor or other services, or denying someone medication, food or heating, privacy or dignity, self neglect.

**Financial:** stealing, fraud, pressure to hand over or sign over property or money, misuse of property or welfare benefits, or stopping someone getting their money or possessions.

**Sexual:** any sexual activity that a person doesn't understand or want, photographing, sexual harassment, voyeurism.

**Information:** withholding information or advice about rights or entitlements.

**Discrimination:** because of age, colour, disability, gender, race, religion, cultural background or sexual orientation.

#### Who can cause harm?

This can be anyone, including family members and paid staff. And it can happen anywhere e.g. in someone's own home, a care home, day centre or hospital.

## People's rights

The Act is about keeping a balance between respecting people's rights and taking action, where necessary, to support and to protect them. Everyone has the right to live as they wish without fear of harm, abuse or neglect.

