



**Safeguarding  
is everyone's  
responsibility...**

**ABUSE  
SEE IT. STOP IT.**

**Neglect or physical, sexual,  
emotional or financial abuse  
is not always obvious**



**Brent**

**Safeguarding  
adults from abuse**

**[www.brent.gov.uk](http://www.brent.gov.uk)**

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responsibility...**

# **ABUSE - SEE IT. STOP IT.**

Everyone has the right to live their lives free from abuse of all kinds and to be treated with dignity and respect. Brent exercises zero tolerance of abuse and together we can safeguard against it. But we need your help by reporting it.

If the person is in immediate danger, ensure they are safe and call emergency services by dialling 999. If there is no immediate danger, you should contact one of the numbers in the back of this leaflet as soon as possible.

## **What is abuse?**

"Abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by any other person or persons."

*The No Secrets Act, 2000, Department of Health*

Abuse can be:

- physical
- psychological
- financial
- institutional
- sexual
- emotional
- discriminatory
- neglect and acts of omission

## **Who can fall victim of abuse?**

Anyone. Adults aged 18 years or over who:

- need help because of a disability, illness or frailty
- are unable to care for or protect themselves from significant harm or exploitation

## **Who is an abuser?**

Anyone can be an abuser and it need not be deliberate. It could be:

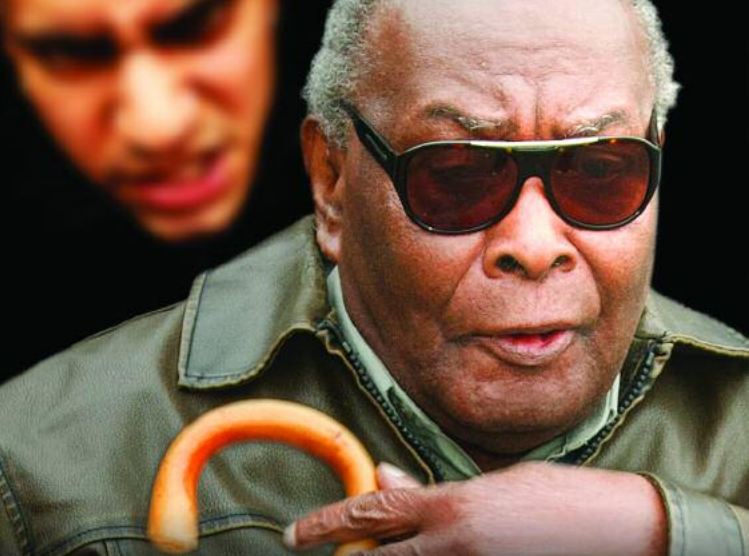
- carers or care workers
- professional staff or volunteers
- relatives or family members
- friends or neighbours
- strangers

## **Where can abuse take place?**

Abuse can take place almost anywhere:

- in the person's own home
- in someone else's home
- in nursing and residential homes
- in day centres
- in hospitals
- in a public place

**In an  
emergency  
call 999  
or call  
020 8937 4300**



### **Confidentiality**

You can remain anonymous when reporting abuse. We will not normally take action or share information with others without the permission of the person who is being abused.

The only exception is when there are others at risk of harm and when the person is not able to make a decision for themselves because of their mental capacity.

### **If I report it to you, what happens next?**

- we will take your referral seriously
- we will investigate the matter
- we will safeguard the person being abused
- we will give you information about the referral

### **How do I report abuse?**

Call Brent Council Social Services enquiry line:

**020 8937 4300**

Or **999** in an emergency



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