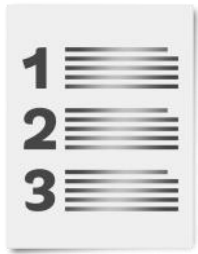




# Keeping Adults Safe in Somerset



Easy read annual report 2022 – 2023



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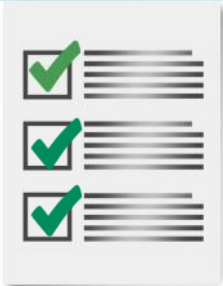
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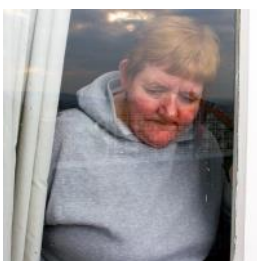
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## Introduction

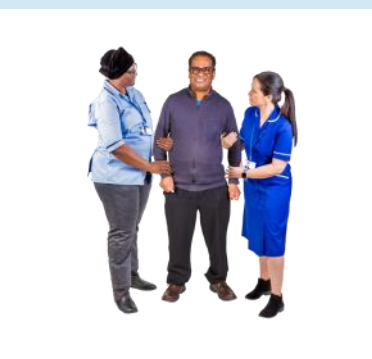


Somerset Safeguarding Adults board (SSAB) is a group of people from different organisations in Somerset



We work together to keep adults in Somerset safe from harm and abuse

Adults are people over 18 years old



Adults who have care and support needs can be more at risk from abuse and neglect

They may not be able to keep themselves safe



Abuse is when someone hurts you or treats you badly



Neglect is when someone does not look after you or support you well



# Introduction



Michael Preston - Shoot is the new independent chairperson of the Somerset Safeguarding Adult Board



Michael helps run the Safeguarding Board to make sure organisations get better at stopping abuse and neglect

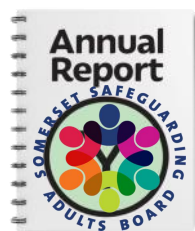


The Somerset adult safeguarding board also support adults who have been treated badly or abused in Somerset



When an adult with care and support needs dies or is seriously hurt we must do a **review**.

A **review** means to look at what as done and how things can be better in the future



We have written a report to tell you about the work we have done in the past year



This information is a short version of our full report



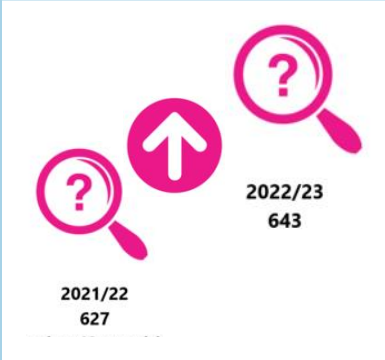
# Safeguarding concerns this year

Concern - worried that people are being abused or neglected



## Concerns reported

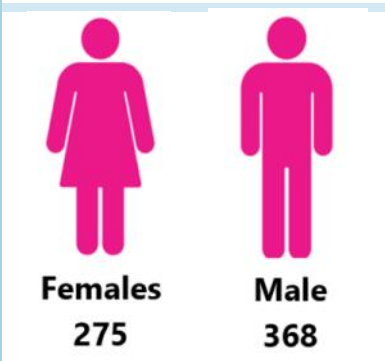
There were 81 less concerns reported to the local authority than last year



## Enquiries- finding out what happened

When is harm or abuse is reported about an adult at risk the local authority must find out more about what happened

There were **16** more than last year.



## People at risk of abuse and neglect this year

Most people at risk were **men**



## Type of abuse most reported

**244** reports of **Neglect** - not being looked after

**176** reports of **Financial** abuse - a person's money or things are taken

**165** reports of **Physical** abuse - a person's body is hurt



## Safeguarding concerns this year



### Places people are most at risk of abuse

- Own **home** - 370 concerns
- **Nursing** care home - 116 concerns
- **Residential** care home - 112 concerns



### Mental capacity

All the adults at risk needed someone to support them understand and make decisions about their safeguarding enquiry



Each adult at risk was supported by an advocate, family member or friend



### Making safeguarding personal

Most people with their supporter were asked how they wanted to be kept safe



### Stopping the risk of abuse

All the things people asked for to keep them safe were achieved



# What we have done this year



## 1. Listening and Learning

From people's experiences of safeguarding



## 2. Supporting people to keep themselves safe

Working together with other organisations in Somerset



## 3. Working together to safeguard people who cannot keep themselves safe

People can get the right support to keep safe



## 4. How the board works

Working in partnership to enable adults in Somerset to live a life free from fear, harm and abuse'



The work that we did was still affected by the Covid-19 crisis.

We worked on the tasks that we must do by law  
Our partners needed to spend more time in their own organisations and could not work with us as much



## What we will do next



### Community Engagement

- Work with people who use our services to help us make decisions
- Work together to co-produce policies and plans
- Have better links with local communities

We will

- Work with more people in Somerset
- Build ways to hear about safeguarding concerns
- Set up a safeguarding network
- Make sure care packages include support for people to have good lives



### Understand and manage self-neglect

**Self-neglect** is when someone does not look after themselves well enough to be safe

- We want people to spot signs of self-neglect
- We want people to know what to do
- We want people to understand the law about **mental capacity**

**Mental capacity**-means being able to understand and make your own decisions

We will

- Have policies and guides to help
- Encourage checks of people's understanding
- Find out if people are supported well and ways to make this even better







## What we will do next



### Promote the Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board

- We want organisations to understand the role of the board and how it keeps adults safe
- We want all our information to be accessible
- We want to work with more organisations about how to keep people safe in local communities

We will

- Tell more organisations about work the safeguarding adults board does
- Have opportunities for everyone to be involved
- Check how learning is shared with our partners
- Check we are supporting organisations well



### Safeguarding for young people becoming adults

- We want to recognise young people's needs do not change or stop when they become adults
- Some young people are forced to work making money for someone else - this is called **exploitation**



- We want to support these young adults
- We want children's and adult services to work together
- We want a partnership to support safeguarding where young people becoming adults are more at risk



We will

- Support people based on development not age
- Lower the risk of exploitation for all adults
- Set up a children and adults partnership board





## For more information

You can find our full report on the Somerset safeguarding website  
<https://ssab.safeguardingsomerset.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/SSAB-Annual-Report-2022-2023-1.pdf>

## If you need help



Contact us if you are worried about yourself or someone else and want our help



Adult Social Care:  phone 0300 123 2224

Adult Social Care:  Email [adults@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:adults@somerset.gov.uk)



In an emergency - phone the police 999

If it is not a police emergency, dial 101



We will make sure the people you tell us about are safe

Anything you tell us will be confidential



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