## Elder Abuse



Domestic abuse approaches have historically had an emphasis on partner violence. More recently there has been recognition of family and intergenerational abuse, particularly the ways in which it may differ.

The Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 specifies that freedom from abuse and neglect is a key aspect of a person's well-being.

Domestic violence is a recognised category of abuse which affects older people.(Wales Safeguarding Procedures - https://www.safeguarding.wales/ )

According to the National Council on Aging (NCOA), elders are more likely to self-report financial exploitation than emotional, physical, and sexual abuse or neglect. According to the NCEA, neglect is the most common type of elder abuse.

Physical and sexual abuse towards parents and other relatives can be carried out by adults and by young people.

Younger adults are often the main perpetrators of financial abuse.

Signs and symptoms of elder abuse can include:

- Injuries such as bruises, cuts, or broken bones.
- Malnourishment or weight loss.
- Poor hygiene.
- Symptoms of anxiety, depression, or confusion.
- Unexplained transactions or loss of money.
- Withdrawal from family members or friends.

Abuse in intimate relationships can be seen as one of 3 types:

- Abuse grown old - when abuse persists in old age.
- Recent abuse - when abuse exists in new relationships.

Consider the impact of abuse on people with additional care and support needs. Some victims of domestic abuse may lack capacity to make certain decisions for themselves or even recognise the abuse.

Make sure that any immediate harm is managed and avoid making assumptions about the person's needs.

Give opportunities for disclosure, discuss safety planning and encourage carer to seek support.

## In relation to immediate dangers contact the Police.

**The 'Home shouldn't be a place of fear' campaign was launched during the coronavirus pandemic to let those at risk know that help is still available, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via Live Fear Free.**



Llinell Gymorth   Live Fear
Byw Heb Ofn      Free Helpline
**0808 80 10 800**
ffôn • tecst • sgwrsio byw • ebost
call • text • live chat • email

Trefniadau Diogelu Cymru
Wales Safeguarding Procedures

https://www.northwalessafeguardingboard.wales/