

### What you can do if you have concerns or suspicions:

In all cases it is very important that early warning signs are acted upon, and if you think that somebody you have come into contact with is suffering from abuse you can report your concerns in the following way:

Risk/Concern	Who you should tell	Contact details
Physical, Emotional, Sexual abuse or neglect of an under 18	Essex Social Care AND the Police (if a crime)	0845 603 7627 101 (or 999 in an emergency)
Child Sexual Exploitation / Modern Slavery (if under 18)	Police AND Essex Social Care	101 (or 999 in an emergency) 0845 603 7627
Physical, Emotional, Sexual, Financial, Discriminatory, Institutional abuse or neglect in a vulnerable adult (see definition)	Essex Social Care AND the Police (if a crime)	101 (or 999 in an emergency) 0845 603 7630
Modern Slavery (18 and over)	Police OR The Salvation Army (24 hour Referral Helpline)	101 (or 999 in an emergency) 0300 303 8151

If a child, young person or vulnerable adult is at immediate risk of significant harm you should always ring 999 in the first instance, followed by Essex Social Care to discuss your concerns.

### For further information:

#### Essex Safeguarding Children's Board

[www.escb.co.uk](http://www.escb.co.uk)

#### Essex Safeguarding Adults Board

<http://dnn.essex.gov.uk/esab/Home.aspx>

#### National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)

0808 800 5000 or [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

#### ChildLine

0800 1111 or [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

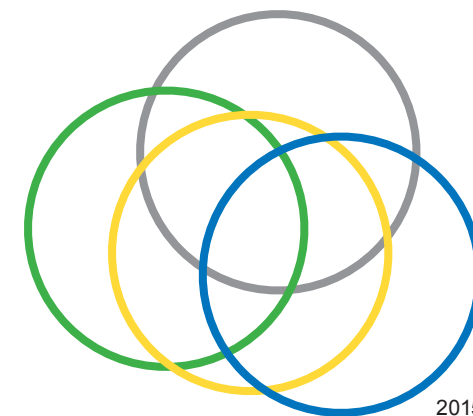
#### AskSal (Vulnerable Adult Helpline in Essex)

08452 666 663 or [www.asksal.org.uk](http://www.asksal.org.uk)



# SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

## A GUIDE FOR LICENSED DRIVERS



**This guide has been designed to help you to recognise and understand signs of abuse so that you can help to safeguard the children, young people and vulnerable adults you come into contact with.**

### Vulnerable Adult

Where an adult:

- (a) has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs),
- (b) is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and
- (c) as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it. (Care Act 2014).

### Child

The Children Act 1989 defines a child as any person who has not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### Abuse

“A violation of an individual’s human and civil rights by any other person or persons. It may involve a single or repeated act, occurring within a personal or other close relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm to another person”.

**The four main types of abuse of children and vulnerable adults are:**



<b>Physical abuse</b>	where a person is physically hurt / injured.
<b>Sexual abuse</b>	when a child or vulnerable adult is sexually abused, either by adults or by children, to meet their own sexual needs.
<b>Neglect</b>	where parents or carers fail to meet basic and essential needs to have food, clothes, warmth and medical care.
<b>Emotional abuse</b>	deliberate hurtful behaviour, usually repeated over a period of time.

### Other types of abuse relating to vulnerable adults

<b>Financial abuse</b>	unauthorised, fraudulent obtaining and improper use of funds, property or any resources.
<b>Discriminatory abuse</b>	when values, beliefs or culture result in a misuse of power that denies mainstream opportunities to some groups or individuals.
<b>Institutional abuse</b>	collective failure of an organisation to provide an appropriate and professional service.

**Child Sexual Exploitation** is illegal activity by people who have some form of power and control over children (under 18) and use it to sexually abuse them.

Some children may be more vulnerable to exploitation than others, and it can happen to boys as well as girls, affecting children from any background.

### Warning signs to be aware of:

- Going missing or regularly returning home late
- Having older boyfriends or girlfriends
- Drug and alcohol misuse
- Displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviour or displaying sexual knowledge or behaviour that is inappropriate for their age
- Regularly being dropped off at hotels or other such venues

**Modern Slavery** (or Human Trafficking) involves the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people who, with the threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, abuse of power or deception. Victims are exploited for the purposes of prostitution, forced labour, slavery or other similar practices.

*Victims are trafficked all over the world including in and around the UK for little or no money. Victims may be forced to be involved in criminal activity or even to have their organs removed to be sold. There is no typical victim and many victims don't understand that they have been exploited and that they are entitled to help and support.*

### Warning signs to be aware of:

- Appearing to have been told what to say and allowing others to speak on their behalf, even if you speak to them directly, and they seem capable of responding for themselves
- Regularly appearing withdrawn, timid or frightened. Physically or emotionally harmed