

Safeguarding Adults Board safeguarding and domestic abuse audit tool

Use this audit tool to reflect on local strengths and areas for development in supporting people who have care and support needs and are experiencing domestic abuse. It is divided into practice and strategic level. Not all are SAB responsibilities, but each agency will have a part in contributing the different aspects of an effective response to domestic abuse of people with care needs, which relates to the SAB requirement to ensure that safeguarding arrangements are effective.

N.B. the tool runs over numerous pages.

How confident do you feel the quality of response to domestic abuse of people who have care needs in the following areas:

	Score 1 (strongly disagree) – 5 (strongly agree)	Action needed?
PRACTICE LEVEL Skills and knowledge that multi-agency practitioners need to have to work effectively with people who experience domestic abuse		
Practitioners have the skills and knowledge to recognise controlling and coercive behaviour		
Practitioners can make safe enquiries about domestic abuse, and know what to do if disclosures are made		
Practitioners can assess someone's mental capacity under the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005, including in the context of coercion		

	Score 1 (strongly disagree) – 5 (strongly agree)	Action needed?
Practitioners use the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal when making safeguarding enquiries and involve people in safeguarding and/or safety planning		
Practitioners work effectively with multi-agency colleagues in cases of safeguarding and domestic abuse		
Practitioners can signpost people to a range of legal responses and domestic abuse services that could support them		
STRUCTURAL/ ORGANISATIONAL LEVEL		
The partnerships and resources we have to support adults with care and support needs who experience domestic abuse in our area are effective		
We commission specialist services for people who have care needs and experience domestic abuse		
Attitudes towards responding to domestic abuse facilitate a good response from organisations		

	Score 1 (strongly disagree) – 5 (strongly agree)	Action needed?
Staff are supported by organisations (e.g. through training, informed management and supervision) to work with people experiencing DV		
Safeguarding arrangements allow practitioners to work flexibly enough to accommodate the needs of people experiencing DV (e.g. longer term working, working to reduce not eliminate risk)		
Risk assessment and management systems are set up around the person and focus on reducing or minimising risk to them		
Organisations support their staff to be legally literate in the context of DV (e.g. by knowing how and when to use a DVPO)		