

# ESAB

Essex Safeguarding Adults Board  
**Annual Report 2009**



**Essex  
Safeguarding  
Adults  
Board**

# Foreword

For some time now I have been the Vice Chair of ESAB (formerly the Essex Vulnerable Adult Protection Committee) and the transition to becoming the Essex Safeguarding Adults Board is one that has been very positive in terms of embracing the wider safeguarding agenda.

The Board has produced this report not only to enhance the awareness of the work that it does, but also to reflect the many challenges that we face and the means by which improvement is necessary in order to make adults safer from abuse in the county.

The departure of Aidan Thomas – the Chair of ESAB will bring about changes to the look of the board; and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his commitment to safeguarding as a whole and on behalf of everybody involved with the Board I wish him well in his new role in Norfolk.

Since its formation in 2000 the Board has had a major impact in promoting the adult safeguarding agenda and it is committed to do so as it grows throughout the coming year.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz Chidgey'.

Liz Chidgey

Vice Chair - Essex Safeguarding Adults Board  
Deputy Executive Director - Adults, Health and Community Wellbeing

# Introduction

This Annual Report was collated and edited by the Essex Safeguarding Adults Board, and depicts the activity of ESAB with particular reference to the period April 2008 to March 2009.

## Aims of the Board

"The aim of the Board is to improve outcomes for vulnerable adults by coordinating the work of local agencies to safeguard and promote their welfare and ensuring the effectiveness of that work."

The board strives to:

- Ensure multi-agency policies and procedures for safeguarding vulnerable adults are in place.
- Participate through board partners in the strategic planning of services for vulnerable adults.
- Communicate the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of vulnerable adults to professionals and the public.
- Conduct case reviews when a vulnerable adult dies or is seriously harmed and abuse or neglect is suspected.
- Provide multi-agency training and to develop staff understanding of adult safeguarding.
- Support agencies in Essex in developing robust policies and training strategies to safeguard vulnerable adults.

# Who are we?

The Essex Safeguarding Adults Board is a strategic body that oversees how organisations across Essex work together to safeguarding vulnerable adults from abuse.

The Board's membership includes all statutory agencies in Essex involved with vulnerable adults for example Essex Police, Essex County Council and the NHS. The board also includes membership from private and voluntary organisations.

# The Team



**Shirley Jarlett**  
Assistant County Solicitor  
Legal and Registration



**Paul Bedwell**  
Business Manager, ESAB



**Paula Ward**  
Training and Development  
Manager, ESAB



**Wesley Jarvis**  
Communication & Partnership  
Manager, ESAB



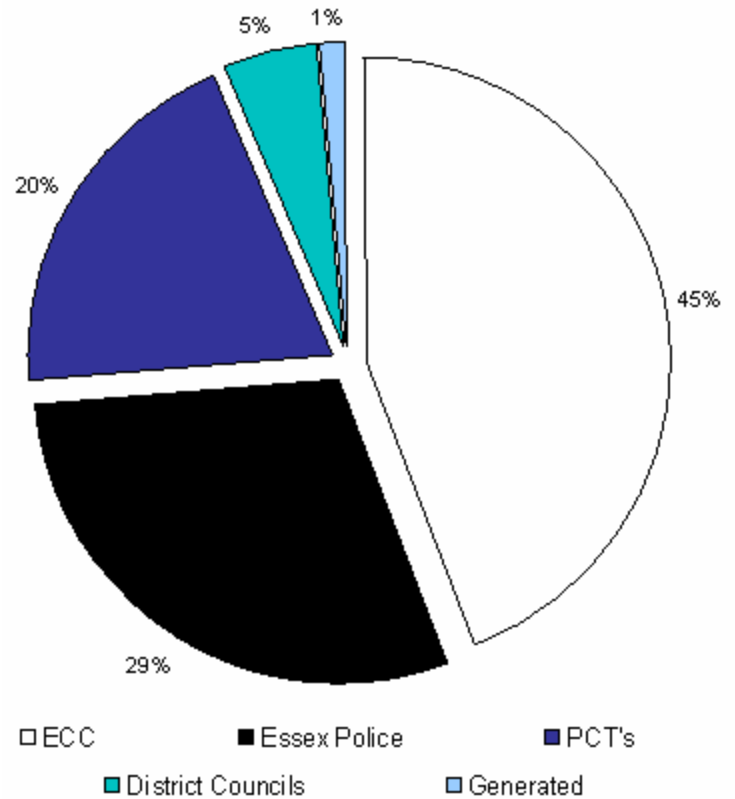
**Michala Jury**  
Project Officer, ESAB

# Funding & Expenditure

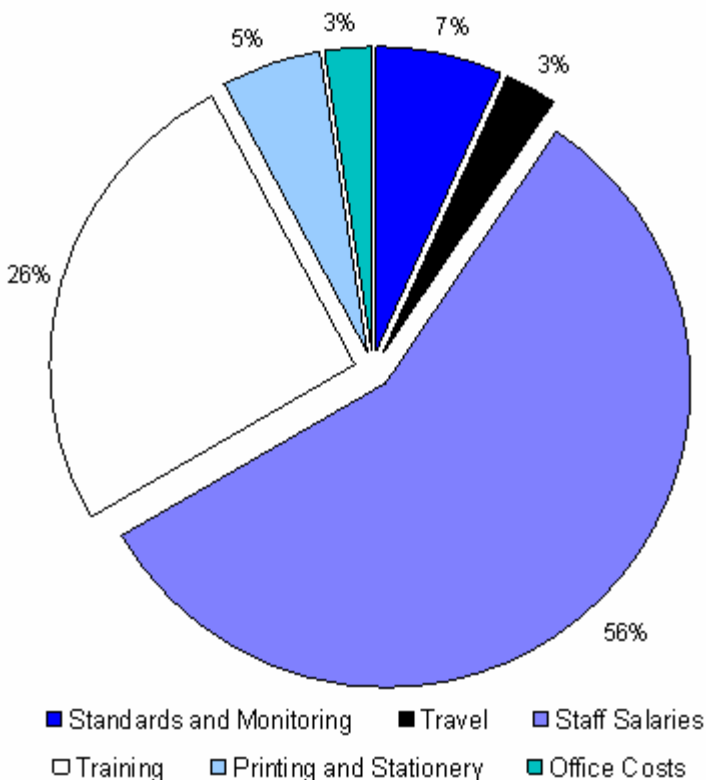
## Funding

Whilst the board has been able to generate some of its own income through the sales of DVD packs and training which has been provided specifically in care homes; the majority of funding is secured ESAB's various statutory partners.

ESAB Funding April 08-March 09



ESAB Expenditure April 08-March 09



## Expenditure

Despite the leap in training provided on the equivalent figures from last year, costs relating to training have been kept low due to the training provided in-house by Paul Bedwell.

In the coming year, the board will look to replicate the increase in training provided whilst keeping additional training costs to a minimum. The inevitable increase in staff salary with the growth of the board will

Increased spending on staff salaries over the coming year due to the growth of the board will be complimented by greater volumes of training on offer. Whilst the cost of hiring trainers will decrease, increased volumes of training will inevitably introduce fresh costs through more frequent venue hire.

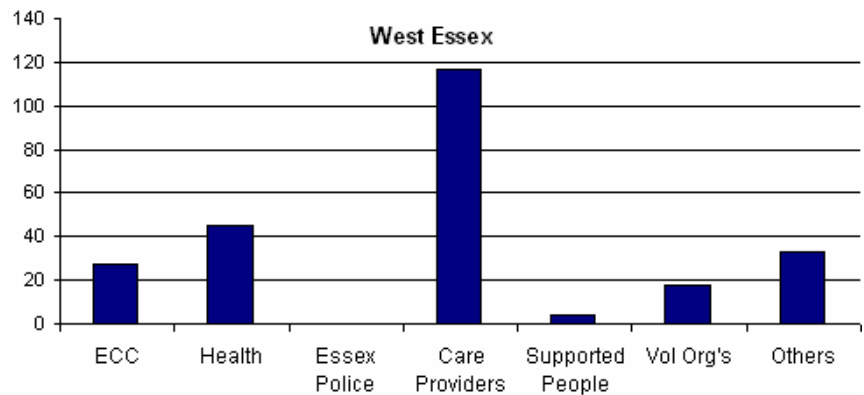
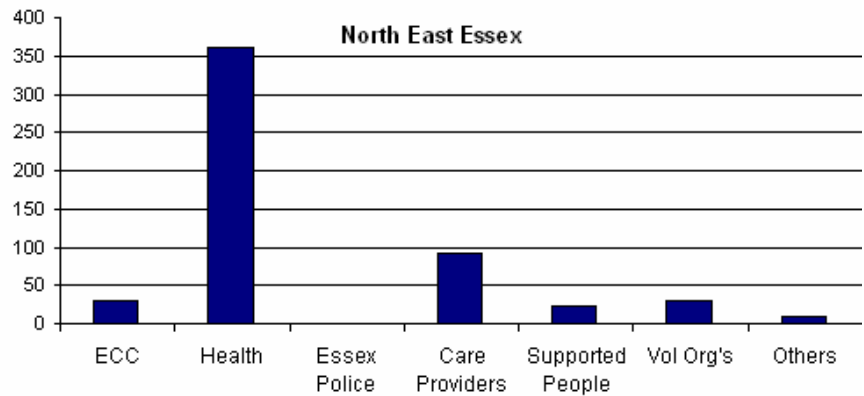
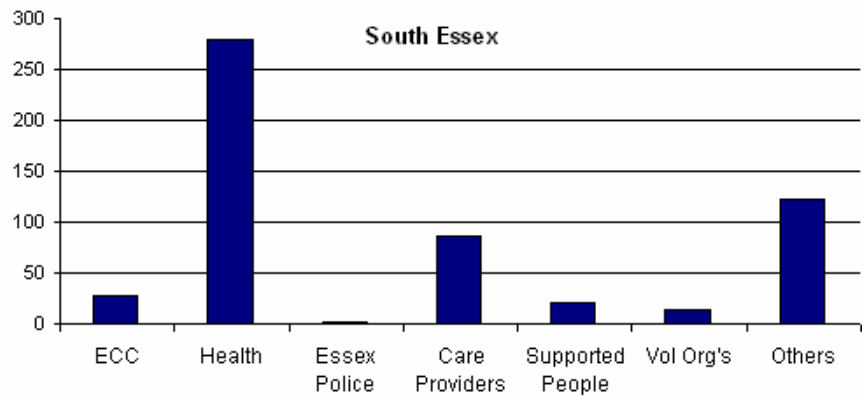
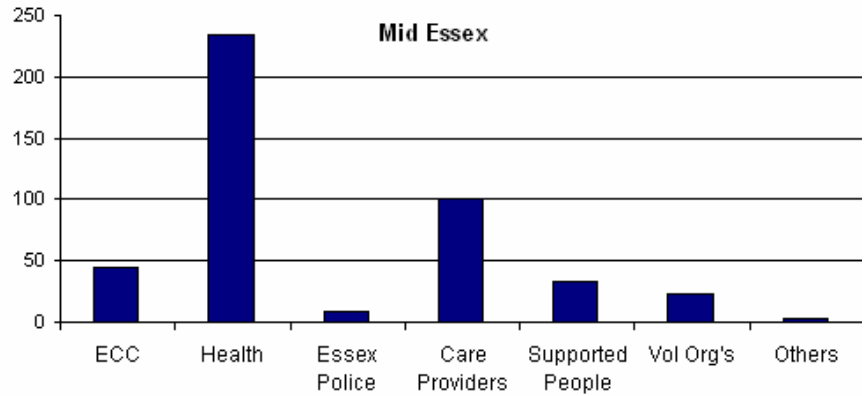
# Training

Once again training has continued to be at the forefront of ESAB’s activities. Thanks to funding from all contributors this year we have again been able to provide a full programme of basic awareness training courses across the county.

This year in excess of 1700 delegates will have received basic awareness training which will be spread across the four localities with the majority attending from health.

Overall training figures show a 65% increase in the total number of attendees demonstrating the lengths that the Board has gone to in order to enhance awareness of adult safeguarding and the correct procedures.

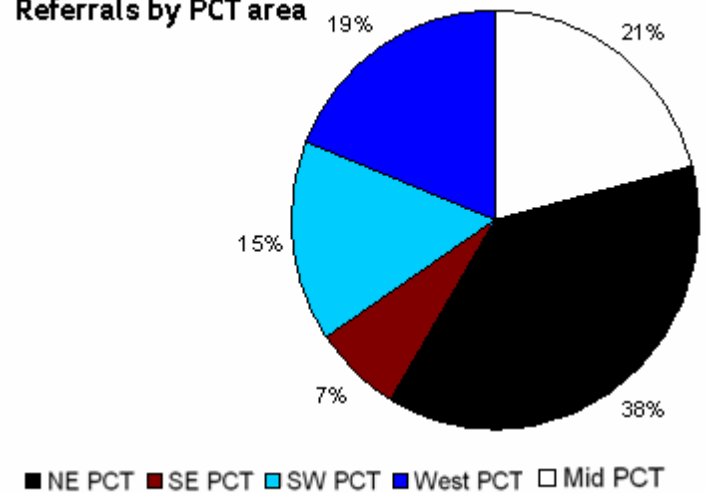
With the Board’s growth over the coming year, we will look again to increase the number of people attending training in Essex, with the aim of making Essex a safer place for vulnerable adults.



# Referrals

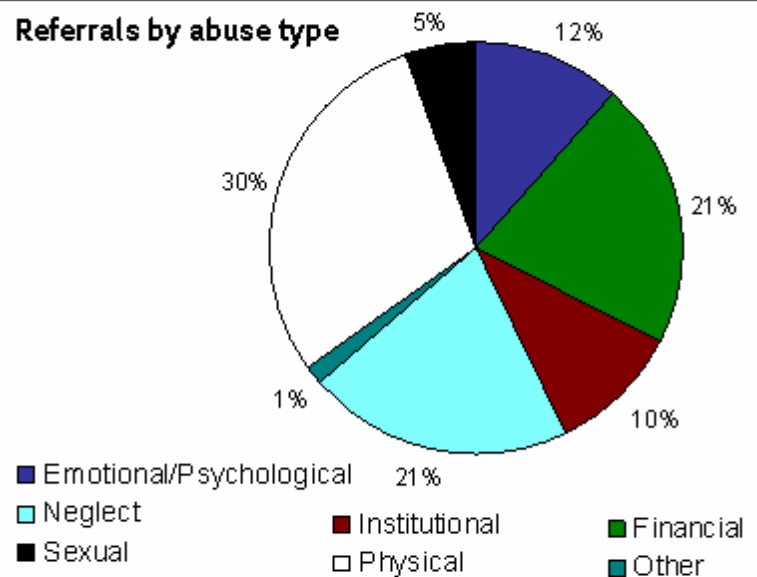
The PCT area with the largest number of referrals was North East Essex with 38% of the total figure. Mid Essex, West Essex and South West Essex PCT's all shared very similar referral rates with 21%, 19% and 15% respectively. The South East Essex PCT area accounted for just 7% of total referrals.

Referrals by PCT area



Referrals by abuse type in Essex largely correlate with nationally released figures. The most common referrals related to physical abuse, with neglect and financial abuse also showing fairly high referral rates.

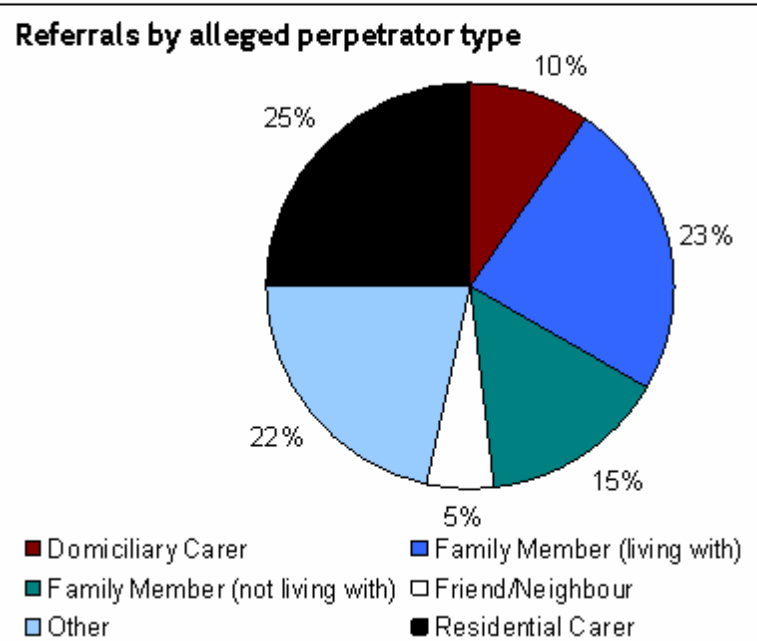
Referrals by abuse type



Overall, there was a fairly even spread of alleged perpetrators. Residential carers and family members each accounted for in excess of 20%.

Only 5% of referrals accused friends or neighbours of the victim.

Referrals by alleged perpetrator type



## Partnership Working

Once again during 2008/09 ESAB joined together with boards from Southend and Thurrock along with key representatives from each of the boards' partners as a working group to take forward a number of projects of mutual interest to the three areas.

Three key projects undertaken by the group during 2008/09 were:

## Adult Safeguarding Guidelines

In April 2008 the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Adult Safeguarding Guidelines were launched. The guidelines for the first time will mean that organisations working across the boundaries of the three boards will be able to operate under a single set of guidelines (and associated forms). The guidelines represent a true multi agency policy - comprehensive in its approach to procedures and compliant with both legislation and best practice.

## Training Strategy

To ensure that the SET safeguarding guidelines are operated consistently across the three areas a joint training strategy has been implemented.

## Annual Conference 2008

Southend, Essex and Thurrock held their first combined conference on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Not only was this the first safeguarding conference across the three areas, but was also the largest adult safeguarding conference in the UK with more than 300 people in attendance.

In addition to launching the 'Adult Safeguarding Guidelines', the conference heard from a wide range of nationally recognised speakers covering subjects including domestic abuse, Independent Safeguarding Authority and the abuse of older people. In addition to the above, the group has also undertaken work in other areas including data collection, serious case review protocols and information sharing.

Aidan Thomas, chair of the Essex Safeguarding Adult Board, said: "This was the first conference the board has held jointly with our colleagues in Southend and Thurrock."



"We were thrilled with the overwhelming interest that the conference had provoked, and were grateful to be able to use the conference for the launch of our new guidelines which demonstrate an excellent example of partnership working between three local authorities and their partner agencies."

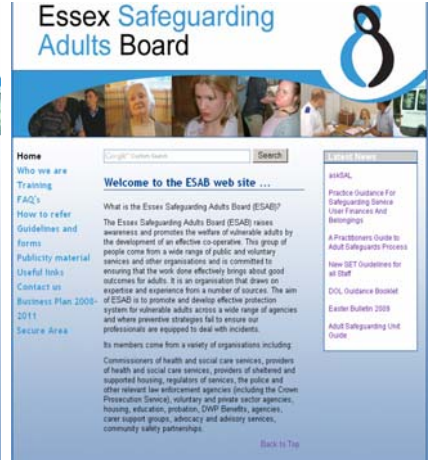
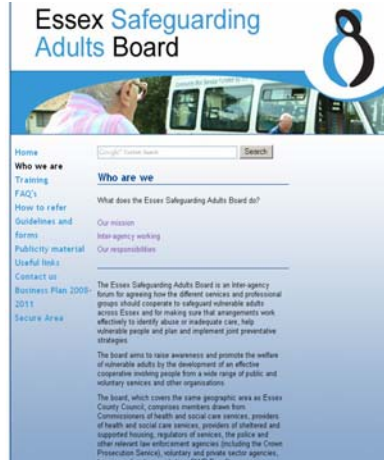
Those present at the conference were drawn from various relevant organisations across Essex. Many attended from: Essex Police, care providers, healthcare providers and Essex Social Care as well as representatives in district councils and other key players in the protection of vulnerable adults. Across the vast majority of evaluation feedback from the event was extremely positive which in itself pays tribute to what was a very productive, informative and generally successful day with a strong line-up of well informed speakers.

# Communications

Website – [www.essexsab.org](http://www.essexsab.org)



ESAB provides a wealth of information, and at least one version of all ESAB dedicated communications material via its own website. The site is regularly updated and contains information on available training dates and venues as well as any other events which may be of interest.



## Quarterly Bulletins

ESAB has continued to provide quarterly bulletins intended to keep partner agencies informed about relevant safeguarding information in Essex and nationally. To receive copies of the latest bulletins on a regular basis please email [ESAB@essex.gov.uk](mailto:ESAB@essex.gov.uk) with your request or visit [www.essexsab.org](http://www.essexsab.org) where bulletins will be made available.



### Welcome

Welcome to our first Essex Safeguarding Adults Board Bulletin. As with its predecessor EVAPC bulletins this edition is packed full of information about a wide range of adult safeguarding issues in Essex and nationally.

#### This issue includes:

- EVAPC has changed its name!
- New SET guidelines
- SET conference report
- The Essex Relatives and Residents Association
- Essex Police Intermediaries Scheme Update in Independent Safeguarding Authority Implementation
- No Secrets Review

#### Training

- Adult Safeguarding E-learning now available
- Training dates for Adult Protection, Basic Awareness, Provider Manager, Training for Trainer and Training for Trainers Refresher Courses
- MCA Training

If you would like to write an article for inclusion in this bulletin contact Paul Bedwell ([paul.bedwell@essex.gov.uk](mailto:paul.bedwell@essex.gov.uk))

### EVAPC has changed its name

EVAPC at its meeting in November agreed that it should change its name from April 2009 to become the **Essex Safeguarding Adults Board** to bring its name in line with current adult safeguarding terminology.

#### New Guidelines

ESAB have worked with Southend and Thurrock to develop new guidelines to replace the current set of five booklets. The new guidelines, published on 24<sup>th</sup> April will mean that for the first time the same guidelines will be used across the three local authority areas. This will remove the difficulties experienced by those working on the border of the three authorities who have until now struggled with three different sets of guidelines covering the same issue.



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#### Staffing changes

Over the summer Essex Safeguarding Adults Board and the Essex Safeguarding Children's Board have reviewed their staffing structures. As a result of the review a few changes have been made to simplify

arrangement for how ESAB is supported from August the ESAB team will be:

**Paul Bedwell**  
Business Manager  
Strategically manages and plans all Board activity including the delivery of the Business plan.

**Michaela Jay**  
Project Officer  
Provides support to all members and officers. Centrally administers training activity coordinates the board, publications and maintains databases.

**World Elder Abuse Awareness day.**  
Essex and Thurrock University Hospitals Trust once again this year staged a spectacular day of events to mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Beginning with a sponsored walk around a range of care settings in Basildon and Thurrock the day raised approximately £1,200. At a reception in the afternoon attended by senior management from across the south west, Daniel Blake from Action on Elder Abuse accepted a donation of £250 for the organisation.

## Posters/Leaflets

ESAB produced regularly updated posters and leaflets in order to promote the practice of the board whilst providing the reader with any relevant adult safeguarding news. Once again these have been made available through the website; however hard copies can be obtained on request by emailing [ESAB@essex.gov.uk](mailto:ESAB@essex.gov.uk).

**Who abuses and where does it happen?**  
Anyone can be an abuser. Abuse can happen anywhere e.g. in someone's own home, a residential or nursing home, day centres or hospitals.

**What can you do?**  
Report it. If you see, hear or suspect that a vulnerable adult is being abused call:  
Essex County Council's Social Care 0945 6037634  
Out of office hours 0945 6061212  
[www.essexsab.org](http://www.essexsab.org)  
Essex Police  
In an emergency dial 999  
Non emergency 0300 333 4444

**What is abuse?**  
Abuse may be:  
• Neglect  
• Physical abuse  
• Financial abuse  
• Sexual abuse  
• Psychological/Emotional abuse  
• Discriminatory abuse  
• Institutional abuse

**A vulnerable adult is someone who may be...**  
In need of help because of a disability, illness or age and is unable to take care of themselves or stop someone else from harming or exploiting them.

**If you would like this bulletin in an alternative format such as another language, large print or Braille, please email [esab@essex.gov.uk](mailto:esab@essex.gov.uk) or phone 0300 333 4444.**

**If you suspect abuse...**

- Report it immediately
- Do not confront the alleged abuser
- If serious violence or sexual assault, do not touch or clean anything (including the victim) as this could destroy or taint evidence that may be required for any future criminal proceedings

**What happens next?**  
Whatever you tell us will be treated with sensitivity. You will be asked for details about the person you think is at risk or is being abused and about the person you think is the abuser.  
It is very important that we protect the person you are worried about and that they are safe.  
Upon receipt of the concern we will look very carefully at the situation and following an investigation any outcome would depend on the individual circumstance and the wishes of the victimised person.

**To find out more**

Action on Elder Abuse  
0800 808 8141  
MowTel: 1020am - 4.30pm  
Web : [www.elderabuse.org.uk](http://www.elderabuse.org.uk)

Voice UK  
0845 122 8695 (Hd@pne)  
[www.voiceuk.org.uk](http://www.voiceuk.org.uk)

Mind  
0845 766 0163  
[www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

Women's Aid  
0800 2000247  
[www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk)

Made advice and enquiry line  
0845 0646800  
[www.madeadvice.org.uk](http://www.madeadvice.org.uk)

These organisations also give details of local offices (where applicable) that may be able to help.

# Plans for 2009-10

## New Staff Posts

The two new posts to be filled by Paula Ward and Wesley Jarvis will provide the staffing needed to generate a much improved awareness of safeguarding across Essex.

As Training and Development Manager; Paula will provide much of the training previously provided by external providers as well as looking to enhance the training material currently offered.

As Communications and Partnership Manager; Wesley's primary work will involve working closely with each of the locality groups across Essex to provide a greater awareness of the safeguarding agenda, as well as looking to promote services available to anyone who is concerned about somebody who may be at risk of abuse.

## Adult safeguarding 'information helpline' to be launched – Ask SAL.

As part of a partnership between Southend, Essex and Thurrock safeguarding adult boards, as well as Voice UK and Action on Elder Abuse (AEA) a new advice and information helpline is planned for June 2009. The aim of the helpline will be to provide assistance to anybody who may be concerned about an adult who is at risk of abuse.

The helpline will be controlled by trained helpline operatives alongside an existing helpline at AEA offices. Up to date information on the service as it develops will be made available on the ESAB website.



## Are you concerned about a vulnerable adult?

If you are worried that you or someone you know could be abused it is important to tell someone. Vulnerable people are very often unable to report the abuse themselves and rely on others to voice their concerns. You can contact social care direct on **0845 603 7634** (out of hours **0845 606 1212**). They will take your concerns seriously and will work with you or others to ensure that action is taken to ensure the person's safety.

**Remember IGNORING ABUSE IS NOT AN OPTION**