

# Safeguarding adults Advice for Coronavirus volunteers

*Thank you for volunteering, and offering fantastic support  
for our local community*

We want to raise your awareness of safeguarding, for children and vulnerable adults, so:

## **“IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING”**

**Safeguarding** is about protecting children and vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect

This might be **physical, emotional, sexual, financial abuse**

At this time, it is even harder for children and vulnerable adults to tell anyone about what is happening to them.

We know that other countries in ‘lockdown’ have reported increases in:

- Domestic abuse
- Self-neglect
- Alcohol and drug use
- Scams



As a volunteer you also now have a role in safeguarding:

- Be curious
- Be the eyes and ears
- Come back and tell your coordinator if you see anything that concerns you
- Safeguarding professionals can take things from there; so do not investigate or enquire



**Pay attention to how people look or behave – for example:**

- Delivering a food parcel, you notice children at home on their own.
- On the phone or in person, someone appears scared or fearful of someone else in the same household
- You just have a sense something isn't quite right

Unfortunately, we know some people, who want to exploit or abuse others, may use this opportunity to become a volunteer – this is only a very small number of people, but we need to be alert to the possibility.

If you see something that doesn't feel right, such as a volunteer being given money or inappropriate gifts, or crossing boundaries, then say something.

For your own safety – if a resident is offensive or abusive, to you or another volunteer, then say something.

Talk to your coordinator if you are worried about anyone or want to check out something you

have seen or heard. If you can not speak to your coordinator you can also call Adult Social Services on **0344 800 8020**.

**Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

You have the opportunity to keep local people safe from abuse in this very difficult time.

**So please, Say Something if you See Something.**

This advice is issued by  
Norfolk Safeguarding  
Adults Board

