



Shropshire Safeguarding
Community Partnership

Safeguarding Adults Board Strategy 2025–2028

Working together so adults with care
and support needs are safer, heard and
supported.



What adult safeguarding means

Protecting rights, dignity and wellbeing while keeping the person at the centre.



Adult safeguarding duties apply when an adult:

- has care and support needs
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
- is unable to protect themselves because of those needs

Our approach

We listen to what matters to people, support informed choices and work together to prevent abuse and neglect.

Our purpose and vision

A clear direction for safeguarding adults across Shropshire.

Our purpose

To help and safeguard adults with care and support needs by making sure local arrangements are effective, practice is person-centred and organisations work together.

Our vision

To tackle abuse and neglect and increase the safety and resilience of the most vulnerable members of our communities.

People are safer • People are heard • Practice improves

Who we are

The Board brings statutory partners together with the wider safeguarding system.

Three statutory partners

West Mercia Police

Shropshire Council

**NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin ICB
NHS Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB**

Working with a wider partnership

Health services, GPs, housing providers, probation, fire and rescue services, and community and voluntary organisations.



Six principles guide our work

Making Safeguarding Personal means starting with the person and the outcomes they want.

1 Empowerment

Support informed choices

2 Prevention

Act before harm occurs

3 Proportionality

Use the least intrusive response

4 Protection

Know what to do when abuse happens

5 Partnership

Work with communities and each other

6 Accountability

Take responsibility for actions

Shropshire: our local context

A large, predominantly rural county creates distinct opportunities and challenges.



327,200

estimated population in 2022

97.5%

of the land mass is rural

Why this matters

Distance can make access to services more time-consuming and costly.

Why these priorities?

The strategy draws on local need, review learning and national analysis.

Learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews highlighted recurring patterns:

50%

self-neglect

33%

**substance abuse, including
alcohol**

18%

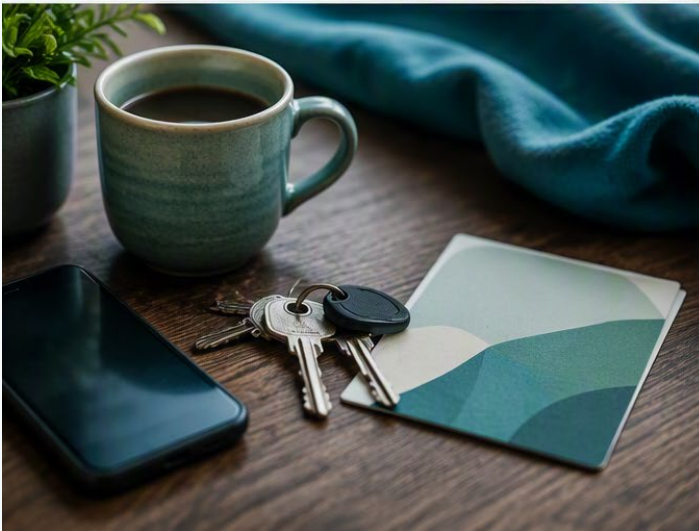
**transitional safeguarding,
modern slavery and
exploitation**

The Board also identified rough sleeping and multiple exclusion as noticeable themes.

These findings informed four strategic priorities for 2025–2028.

Our four strategic priorities

Focused action on issues where stronger partnership working can reduce harm.



1 **Rough sleeping**
Improve coordinated support

2 **Self-neglect**
Recognise and respond effectively

3 **Domestic abuse**
Strengthen identification and support

4 **Exploitation**
Prevent harm through partnership working

What we will do

Each priority combines better intelligence, clearer practice and stronger assurance.

1

Understand

Use shared data, case learning and lived experience.

2

Equip

Develop pathways, guidance, briefings and toolkits.

3

Improve

Use audits, performance information and feedback.

Transitions into adulthood and Making Safeguarding Personal will run through this work.

How we will know we are making a difference

Progress will be informed by evidence from different sources.

1

Quarterly work plan

Actions and milestones

2

Practice assurance

Audits and quality assurance

3

Performance information

Measures and trends

4

People's experience

Feedback on safeguarding

This helps identify what is working, what needs to change and whether improvements are sustained.

Working with communities to deliver change

Community, voluntary and faith organisations are integral to planning and delivery.



Our commitments

- build strong delivery plans
- use data effectively
- equip practitioners
- apply learning from reviews
- listen to people who use services

**Safeguarding is everyone's
responsibility**