

# Legal Aspects of Dementia

## Safeguarding Adults case studies

Please discuss these in your groups and try to agree on the following:

- Does this raise safeguarding concerns?
- If so, what type(s) of abuse may be occurring?
- Does an adult at risk need immediate safeguarding?
- What response(s) should be made to the situation?

### Case study 1

Mr and Mrs Green have been together for over 50 years and live in one of your sheltered housing flats. Mrs Green has dementia; she is confused and can no longer undertake any of the domestic tasks. Mr Green is becoming more and more impatient with her, shouts at her and calls her “stupid” on a regular basis. He controls all the money and tells her what she can and cannot do. Mrs Green presents as unkempt and has started to smell. When Mr Green shouts at her, she cowers and shakes.

### Case study 2

Mrs Fante is a 90 year old woman with dementia who came to the UK from Ghana in the 1960's. Her daughter has recently died and her other family live a considerable distance away. She needs a lot of care but wants to continue to live on her own in one of your properties. Since a new care agency has taken over her care, she has become increasingly distressed. She complains to her neighbour who is also a tenant of yours, that the carers are often late and she has to sit for hours hungry and sometimes has soiled and wet incontinence pads. She also says they shout at her. The neighbour has contacted you, the housing provider.

### Case study 3

Mr Jones is an elderly man with dementia who lives alone in one of your properties. He lost his wife two years ago. Neighbours have called to report that they have not seen him for a few days and they are concerned about the amount of rubbish that is piling up outside the property. When you call around, Mr Jones answers the door but can barely open it. The hallway is blocked with rubbish and old newspapers. Mr Jones does not appear to appreciate the state of the property and asks what the problem is. When you reply that you are concerned at the amount of rubbish piling up, he replies defensively that it is none of your business and to get out of the house.