

The table below provides an example of vulnerable and supported communities in Sefton and the associated organisations and agencies which are aligned as providing support.

Identifying vulnerability and provision of support, coordinated through relevant organisations

| Potentially Vulnerable Individual/Group | Examples | Potentially Targeted through the following organisations/agencies |
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| Children and Young People | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYP who may be at higher risk for clinical reasons • Higher risk and have statutory entitlement for care and support • Higher risk due to wider determinants Children and Young People who are identified as vulnerable have a greater risk of harm and of not reaching their potential. COVID-19 has exacerbated some of these vulnerabilities. | <p>Health Visiting Service (Enhanced Children’s Team) Early Help Team Parenting 2000 Alder. YKidz</p> |
| Older People | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain sections of the elderly community including those of ill health requiring regular medication and/or medical support equipment • Those aged 80 or over are more likely to be widowed and living alone | <p>Ability Plus Forum – Sefton Partnership for Older Citizens (SPOC), Southport Sefton Carers Centre</p> |
| People with a physical disability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased social isolation, especially if no existing support from services. • Reduced access to/support from services e.g. peer support networks, leading to an impact on mental and physical wellbeing. | <p>Ability Plus Forum – Sefton Partnership for Older Citizens (SPOC), Southport Galloways Visually Impaired Group - Galloways, Southport Talking Newspaper, Sefton CVS -</p> |
| People with a learning disability and or/autism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional stresses and mental health impact of changes in routine and care. • Increased social isolation, especially if no existing support from services. • Reduced access to/support from services leading to an impact on mental and physical wellbeing. | <p>People First Merseyside – Advocacy for adults with learning disabilities Sefton CVS</p> |

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| <p>People living with dementia</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical and emotional impact of increased social isolation for those living in their own home or for those living in care homes with relatives and friends not being allowed to see a person. | <p>Sefton Carers Centre Sefton Older Persons Forum -</p> |
| <p>Carers including unpaid and informal carers including kinship carers</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced access to support such as respite care leading and/or social support networks meaning additional caring responsibilities and stress. • Additional caring responsibilities. • Disruption of sense of control and autonomy. | <p>Sefton Carers Centre - Community Connectors</p> |
| <p>People using drugs and alcohol</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced access to/support from drug and alcohol services, including mutual aid, leading to an impact on mental and physical wellbeing. • Greater predisposition to infection due to higher rate of chronic health problems and/or other comorbidities. | <p>We Are With You in Sefton for Young People Hope Centre – Residential Detoxification Centre Light for Life, Housing Support and Rough Sleeper Project</p> |
| <p>People with poor mental health</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced access to/support from mental health services due to changes in service provision and pressures on the service. • Relapse in severe mental illness may increase risk to Covid-19 e.g. inability to practice social distancing or delay in seeking medical attention. | <p>Mersey Care Life Rooms - The Venus Centre</p> |
| <p>Gypsy, Traveller/ communities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and financial barriers e.g. informal work. • Barriers to accessing government financial support e.g. cultural and technical. • Greater predisposition to infection due to higher rate of chronic health problems and/or other comorbidities. | <p>Gypsy and Traveller Steering Group for Sefton Irish Community Care (ICC) – Supporting Irish, Irish Traveller and Gypsy communities across Merseyside</p> |
| <p>People at risk of abuse (including neglect and domestic abuse)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased social isolation due to lockdown measures meaning that evidence of abuse is less visible and protective factors are reduced. • Reduced access to support services for survivors of abuse | <p>Hate Crime Network MARAC The Venus Centre RASA Merseyside</p> |

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| | <p>e.g. health and social care, justice sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased household tension due to new stresses e.g. forced coexistence and economic stress. | |
| Individuals working in the informal sector and precarious workers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schemes for statutory sick pay and support for workers with health conditions who need to self-isolate do not cover some categories of workers e.g. job switchers, and seasonal workers. Increased vulnerability to labour exploitation and need to accept dangerous working conditions due to financial and economic pressures. | <p>Sefton Community Action Group – Merseyside Policy, members of the public, Sefton Council and other agencies. Citizen’s Advice Bureau (CAB)</p> |
| Vulnerable Migrants, including people seeking asylum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial hardship, as support from charities (provision of food, clothing etc) is reduced. Poor quality housing & limited access to facilities. Barriers to accessing adequate healthcare and treatment – misconception about asylum seekers’ rights to healthcare, fear of detention and deportation, upfront charging for NHS services. | <p>Sefton Council SERCO Asylum Link Merseyside Refugee Programme Liverpool City Region</p> |
| People with no fixed accommodation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing situation means that people may be unable to adhere to health advice and/or maintain necessary hygiene requirements. Greater predisposition to infection due to higher rate of chronic health problems and/or other comorbidities and/or life-style related risk factors Increased social isolation due to closure of day centres and street encampments. | <p>Housing and Investment Services, Sefton Council Housing Options Team Hostels and Rough Sleeper’s Network Light for Life, Housing Support and Rough Sleeper Project =</p> |
| People recently released from prison | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial/economic hardship and reduced opportunity for stable employment. Reduction in services and support available due to additional pressures local authorities. | <p>HM Prisons and Probation Service Merseyside Police Welfare reform and anti-poverty (WRAP) Partnership Group -</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social challenges e.g. increased social tensions due to forced lockdown and social isolation. | |
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