

# TAP YOUR PHONE TO GET ME HOME

Do you care for a vulnerable  
person living with dementia  
and worry they might  
go missing?



The Dementia Safeguarding Wristband Scheme is here to help those with dementia and their families and carers. The band holds important information, so if someone gets lost or goes missing it can be used to help reunite them with their family and carers quickly and safely.



# DEMENTIA

# SAFEGUARDING

# SCHEME

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home.**



## WHAT IS THE SCHEME?

The dementia wristband or tag scheme is a community safety initiative designed to support people living with dementia who may become disoriented or lost when out in public. It provides a simple way for individuals to be identified as needing support, while allowing them to maintain their independence and dignity.

The scheme offers reassurance to families and carers by helping ensure that, if assistance is needed, the person can be safely reunited with their loved ones. It also encourages community awareness and involvement, creating a safer and more supportive environment for people living with dementia.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

In the dementia safeguarding scheme, NFC (Near Field Communication) chips are used as a simple and secure way to help identify someone who may need support if they become lost or confused.

Each wristband or tag contains a small NFC chip that stores a secure link to the person's safeguarding information. When the chip is brought close to a smartphone, it triggers the phone to open that link automatically. The information shown is limited and purposeful, typically displaying the person's name and the contact details of their next of kin or carer, rather than sensitive personal or medical data.

The chips do not have GPS tracking, do not require batteries, and do not transmit information unless a phone is placed very close to them. This helps protect privacy while still enabling quick, practical support. The use of NFC allows members of the public or professionals to assist someone safely and discreetly, supporting the overall aim of the scheme: safeguarding people living with dementia while promoting independence and dignity.



## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The scheme is only available to:

- residents of County Durham or Darlington
- an individual living with dementia



## HOW DO I SIGN UP?

The dementia wristband and tag scheme is currently being delivered alongside Herbert Protocol visits. At this time, anyone completing a new Herbert Protocol application will be eligible to receive a wristband or tag as part of the process.

Please contact [Herbert.protocol@durham.police.uk](mailto:Herbert.protocol@durham.police.uk) for further information.

## WHAT DO I DO IF I LOCATE SOMEBODY WEARING A BAND OR TAG?

Members of the public who notice someone wearing a wristband or tag and who appears lost, disoriented, or confused are encouraged to approach them calmly and offer reassurance. The wristband contains important information that can help return the person to safety and is designed to be easy for anyone to use.

The wristband uses Near Field Communication (NFC) technology, which allows a mobile phone to read the information stored on it. To access the details, simply hold your mobile phone close to the wristband. Your screen will then display the name and contact number of the person's next of kin. By calling the next of kin directly, you can help reunite the individual with their family or carers quickly and safely.



# THE HERBERT PROTOCOL

## Safe & Found



**Do you care for, or are you the family of an elderly or vulnerable adult who is at risk of going missing?**

Have you heard of the Herbert Protocol? Sign up and work directly with the police and their partners to ensure their safety.

### **What is it?**

The Herbert Protocol is a scheme which will see family, friends, and care providers working together not only to prevent vulnerable adults going missing but to improve responses for locating them if they do.



### **How will it work?**

The protocol will be running throughout County Durham and Darlington. When you sign up, we will contact you to discuss the process, suggesting steps to prevent particularly vulnerable people going missing, as well as contingencies for a swift response should the individual fail to return.



**Darlington  
Safeguarding Adults  
Partnership Board**



**County Durham  
SAFEGUARDING ADULTS  
INTER-AGENCY PARTNERSHIP**



**County Durham and Darlington  
Fire and Rescue Service**



To sign up contact Tel: 101 or e-mail:  
[Herbertprotocol@durham.police.uk](mailto:Herbertprotocol@durham.police.uk)

