

# Safeguarding vs safeguarding

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Wokingham Borough Council

Safeguarding Adults Week 2023



# Safeguarding vs. safeguarding

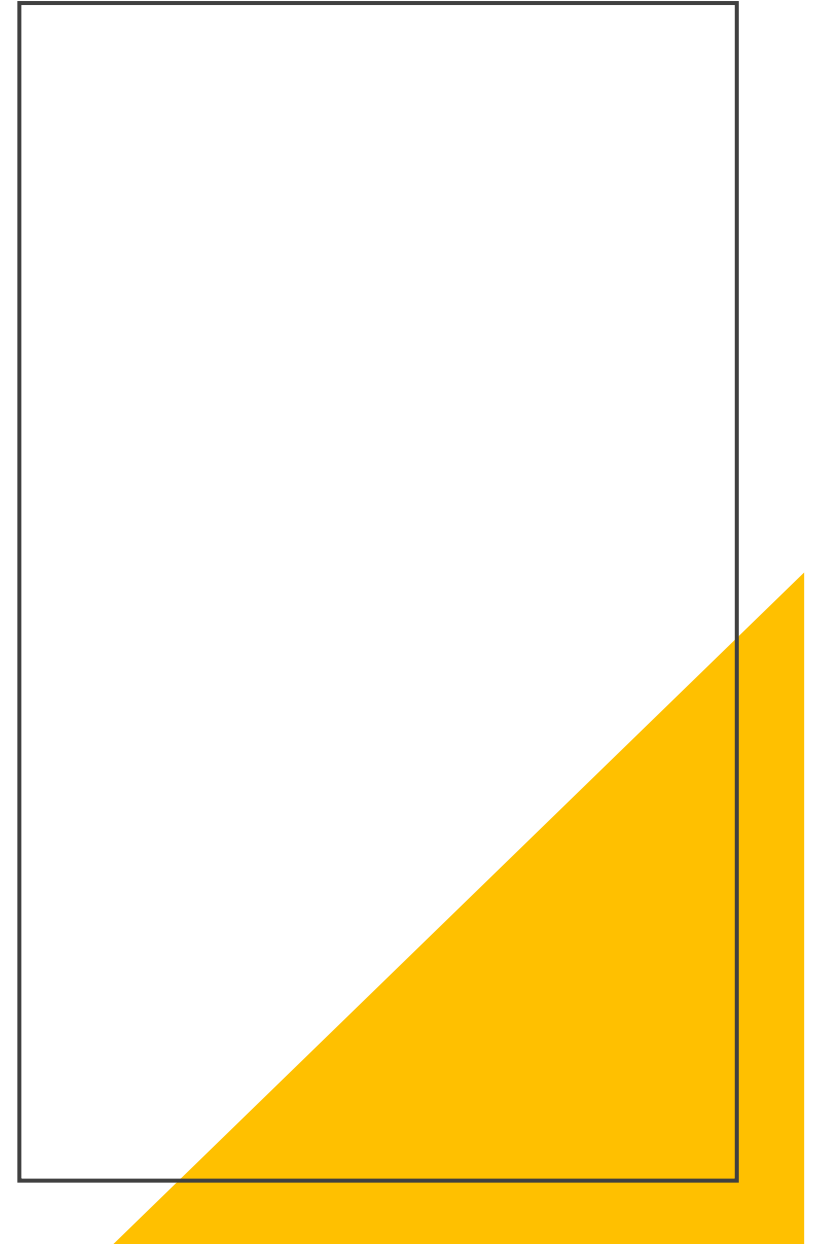
The word 'safeguarding' can be interpreted in different ways and this can create some confusion for professionals when deciding what course of action to take when they have encountered a person who needs support.

'safeguarding' be used to describe different things; a formal Safeguarding response under the law, or a general response to keep someone *safe* and to ensure their needs are met.

These two types of safeguarding are sometimes referred to as *Safeguarding with a capital 'S'* to identify the formal Safeguarding response and *safeguarding with a small 's'* to identify the more general response to keep someone safe.

Perhaps a more helpful way to think about safeguarding with a little "s" is a concern for wellbeing or welfare.

What do we  
mean by Little “s”  
safeguarding?





“I am worried about their safety.”

“I am concerned that they are getting unwell.”

“There is nobody looking after them.”

“Someone needs to act to keep them safe.”

“They are not getting the support they need.”

“They are a danger to themselves.”

“They need social services”

“They should be in a care home.”

“They have really gone downhill”



# “Wellbeing” definition in s1 Care Act 2014

“Wellbeing” means that individual’s well-being so far as relating to any of the following

- personal dignity (including treatment of the individual with respect);
- physical and mental health and emotional well-being;
- **protection from abuse and neglect;**
- control by the individual over day-to-day life (including over care and support, or support, provided to the individual and the way in which it is provided);
- participation in work, education, training or recreation;
- social and economic well-being;
- domestic, family and personal relationships;
- suitability of living accommodation;
- the individual’s contribution to society.

# Universal Services

Police

Victim Support

Domestic Abuse Outreach

General Practitioner

Accident and Emergency

Housing support

Homelessness services

Fire and Rescue

Ambulance Service

Trading Standards



# Care and Support Statutory Guidance

## Appendix F - Glossary

### “Care and Support”

The mixture of **practical, financial and emotional support** for **adults who need extra help to manage their lives and be independent** – including older people, people with a disability or long-term illness, people with mental health problems, and carers. **Care and support** includes **assessment of people’s needs, provision of services and the allocation of funds** to enable a person to purchase their own care and support. It could include care home, home care, personal assistants, day services, or the provision of aids and adaptations.

# Who is more likely to have Care and Support Needs

Older people

People with a physical disability

People with a learning disability / difficulty

People with a sensory impairment

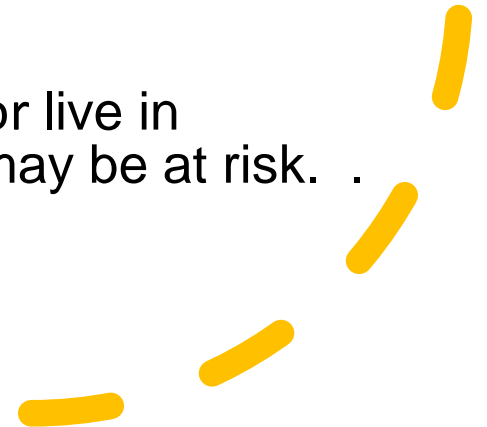
People with mental health needs, including dementia or a personality disorder.

People who are Neurodiverse

People with a long-term health condition

Someone who misuses substances or alcohol to the extent that it affects their ability to manage day-to-day living.'

May have needs for care and support and/or live in complex circumstances where their safety may be at risk. .







## Wellbeing or Welfare

They may need support to keep safe, to manage the risks of day-to-day life and may need coordinated responses from a variety of health, social care, housing, or other professionals.

# Section 9 Care Act (2014)

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## Assessment of an adult's needs for care and support

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(1) Where it appears to a local authority that an adult may have needs for care and support, the authority must assess—

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(a) whether the adult does have needs for care and support, and

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(b) if the adult does, what those needs are.

# Care and Support (Eligibility Criteria) Regulations

Care and support needs have an impact on the following outcomes:

- Managing and maintaining nutrition
- Maintaining personal hygiene
- Managing toilet needs
- Being appropriately clothed
- Being able to make use of the home safely
- Maintaining a habitable home environment
- Developing and maintaining family or other personal relationships
- Accessing and engaging in work, training, education or volunteering
- Making use of necessary facilities or services in the local community including public transport and recreational facilities or services
- Carrying out any caring responsibilities the adult has for a child”

The Care and Support (Eligibility Criteria) Regulations 2014 say that an eligible need is one that arises from or is related to a physical or mental impairment or illness and results in the adult being unable to achieve two or more outcomes which is likely to have, a significant impact on their wellbeing.

# Section 10 Care Act (2014)

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## Assessment of a carer's needs for support

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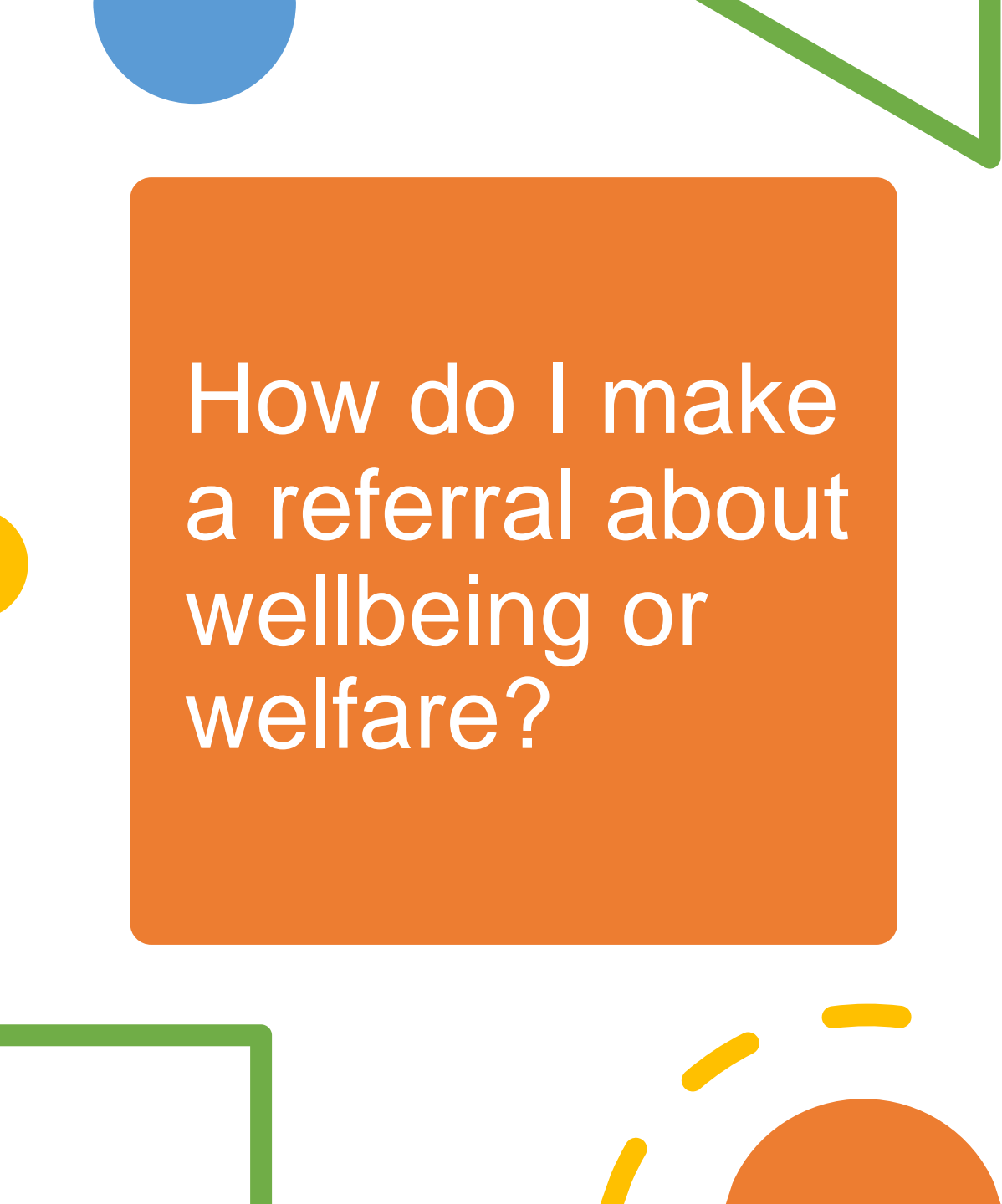
(1) Where it appears to a local authority that a carer may have needs for support (whether currently or in the future), the authority must assess—

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(a) whether the carer does have needs for support (or is likely to do so in the future), and

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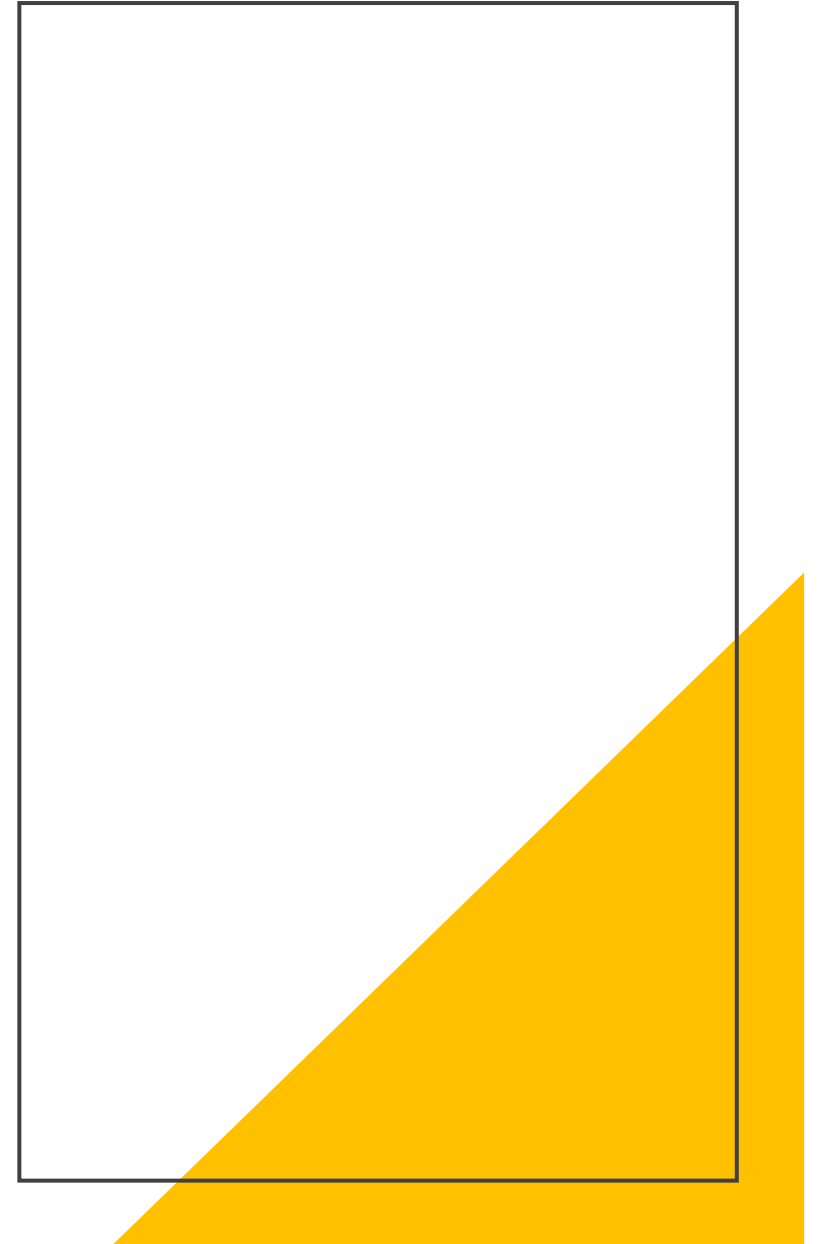
(b) if the carer does, what those needs are (or are likely to be in the future).




How do I make  
a referral about  
wellbeing or  
welfare?

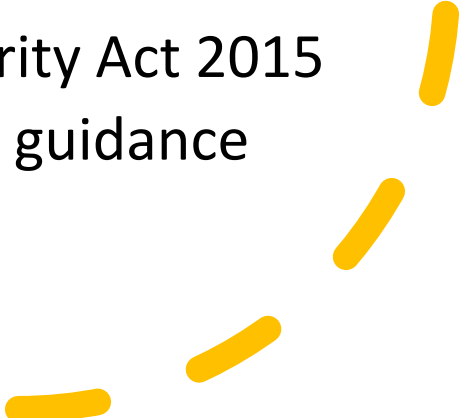
- **Reading** – tel. no 0118 937 3747. or [complete form](#)
- **Berkshire** – tel. no 01635 503050 or email [adultcare@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:adultcare@westberks.gov.uk)
- **Wokingham** – tel. no 0330 365 1234 or [online tool](#)


What do we  
mean by Big “S”  
Safeguarding?




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## Three meanings of “Safeguarding”

- **Safeguarding adults**
    - S42 Care Act 2014
    - Chapter 14 Care and Support statutory guidance
  - **Safeguarding children**
    - S47 Children Act 1989
    - “Working together to safeguard children” statutory guidance
  - **Safeguarding from radicalisation**
    - Part 5 Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
    - “Prevent” and “Channel” statutory guidance
- 
- A decorative yellow dashed line in the bottom right corner, consisting of several curved segments.



# Definition of “Safeguarding” in Care and Support Statutory Guidance

- “Safeguarding means protecting an adult’s right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to **prevent** and **stop** both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult’s wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action. This must recognise that adults sometimes have complex interpersonal relationships and may be ambivalent, unclear or unrealistic about their personal circumstances.”
  - “Experiencing abuse or neglect” = “stop”
  - “At risk of abuse or neglect” = “prevent”
- 





“I think her daughter is spending her money.”

“They are covered in bruises.”

“The care worker didn’t turn up”

“She didn’t want to have sex, he made her .”

“He is left in that pad all day.”

“They just drug them up, keep them quiet.”

“They never answer the call bell”

“They tell him is disgusting and smelly”

“He said he is a nonce because he is gay.”

“They won’t use his hoist to move him”

“She only lets him eat once a day”





What does S42 Care Act  
(2014) say?

# S42 Care Act 2014

- Where a local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that **an adult in its area** (whether or not ordinarily resident there)
  - has **needs for care and support** (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs),
  - is **experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and**
  - **as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.**
- The local authority **must** make (or cause to be made) **whatever enquiries it thinks necessary** to enable it to **decide whether any action should be taken** in the adult's case (whether under this Part or otherwise) and, **if so, what and by whom**

# Categories of abuse in the Care and Support guidance

Physical

Sexual

Domestic Violence

Psychological

Financial or material

Modern slavery

Discriminatory

Organisational

Neglect and acts of omission

Self-neglect

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Neglect
- Financial abuse
- Forced marriage
- Sexual abuse

## Family and private life



- Hate crime
- Mate crime
- Anti-social behaviour
- Gang related activity
- Radicalisation risk
- Scams
- Child Sexual Exploitation

## Community or context



- Neglect
- Organisational abuse
- Ill treatment and wilful neglect

## Service provision



## Four different meanings

If I use “Safeguarding” as a stand-alone noun, you don’t know which one of these I mean



Is there a worry about safety or wellbeing?

Is there an adult safeguarding concern?

Has the duty to have an adult safeguarding enquiry been met?

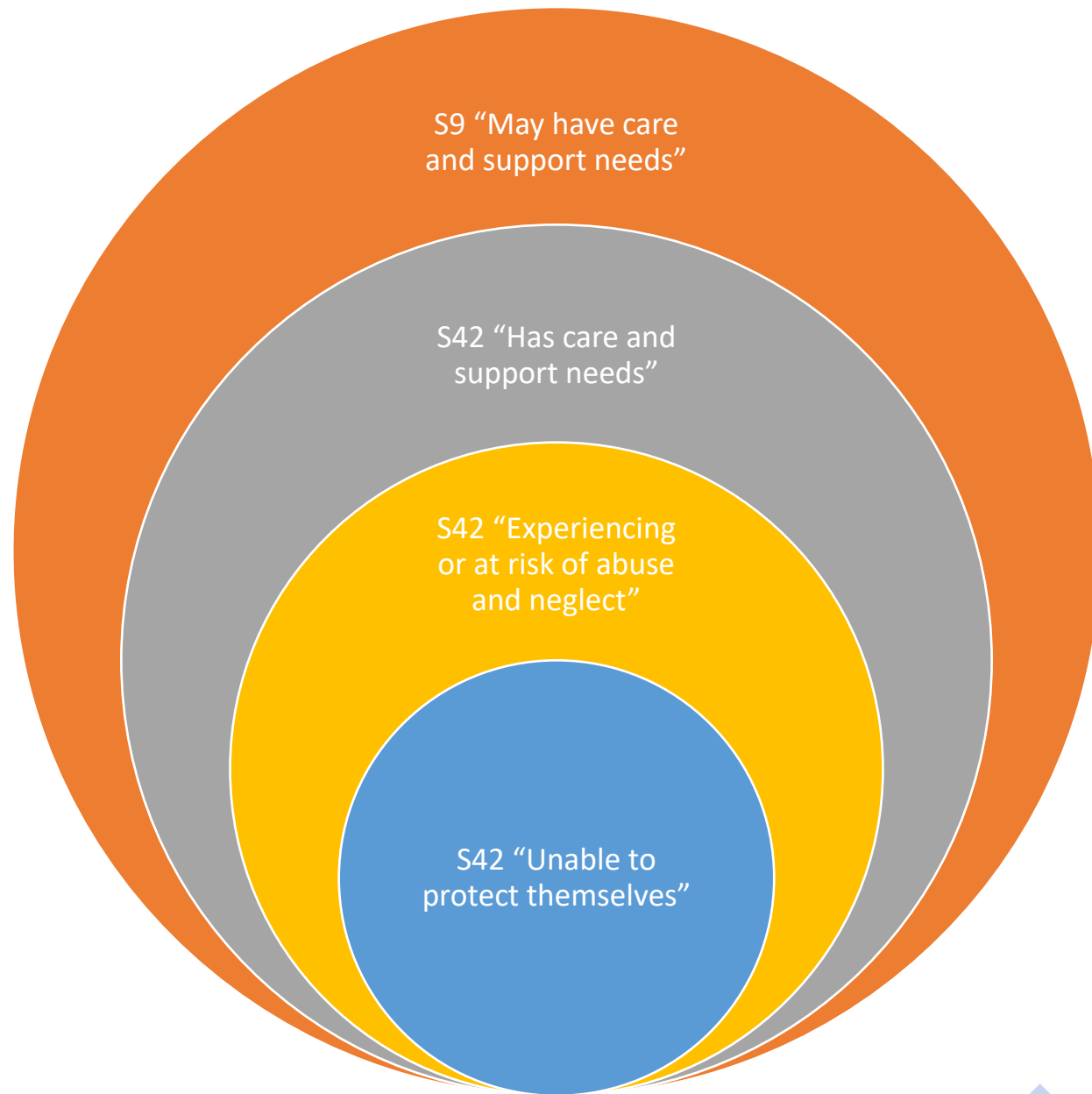
Has the person experienced or been at risk of abuse or neglect?

What we need  
to have, in  
order to have  
an adult  
Safeguarding  
concern?

Someone who is concerned

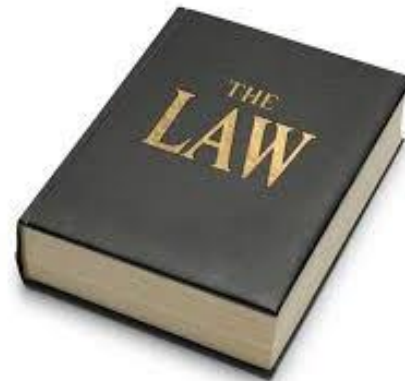
They are concerned that there  
might be abuse or neglect of  
someone who might be an adult  
with care and support needs


# Duty to have an adult safeguarding enquiry






Local Authorities “must” undertake enquiries if S42 is met





# How do I raise a Safeguarding Concern?

- **Reading** – tel. no 01189 376 550 or email  
Safeguarding.adults@reading.gov.uk
  - **West Berkshire** – tel. no 01635  
519056 or email  
safeguardingadults@westberks.gov.uk
  - **Wokingham** – tel. no 0118 974 6371  
or email  
adultsafeguardinghub@wokingham.gov.uk
- 

Quiz Time

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Vote

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Big “S” – Safeguarding  
Concern

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Little “s” – Concern for  
wellbeing or welfare



Big “S” –  
Safeguarding  
Concern

Little “s” –  
Concern for  
wellbeing or  
welfare

Mrs Khan has started to struggle with her mobility, she has had a few falls when she is out with her daughter. She is losing confidence and is not going out on her own as much, this is impacting her mental health.

Big “S” –  
Safeguarding  
Concern

Little “s” –  
Concern for  
wellbeing or  
welfare

Mr Harris lives in a residential home, his care plan states that he needs support from a member of staff whenever he walks to reduce the risk of falls. He has a sensor mat by his bed and a door alarm to alert staff when he gets out of bed. One night the sensors were not switched on. Mr Harris was able to get out of bed and walk along the corridor where he fell and hit his head.

Big “S” –  
Safeguarding  
Concern

Little “s” –  
Concern for  
wellbeing or  
welfare

Peter is alcohol dependent and had recently separated from his wife and was severely depressed. He had since been drinking more than usual and not looking after himself.



Big “S” –  
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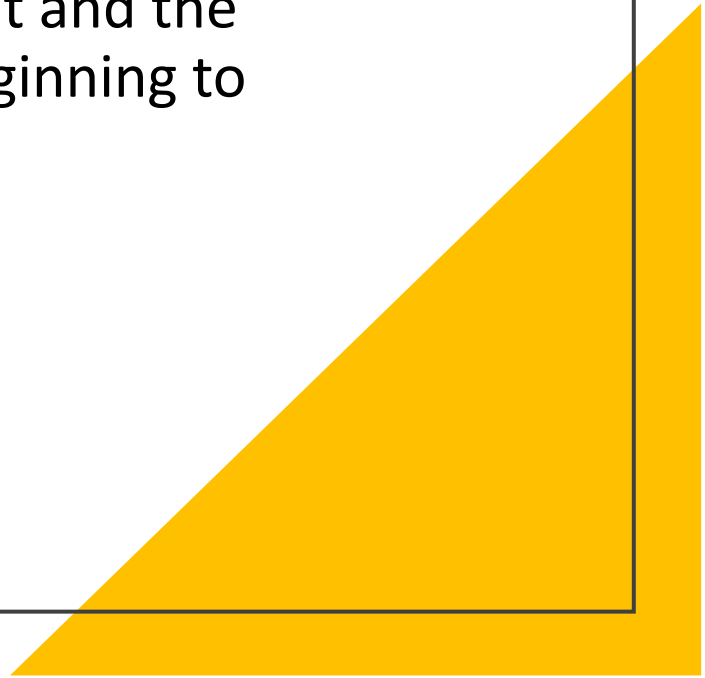
You visit Peter, the home environment has dirty clothes around the house, mouldy food left on the side, and blood on the walls possibly from falls. His bedding was unwashed and soiled. Clothes and rubbish were strewn across the floor. There were vomit stains outside the front door.

Peter tells you he has friends staying with him and he has lent them money. He tells you they have been staying with him for a while now and they get angry with him if he asks them for the money back.

Big “S” –  
Safeguarding  
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Little “s” –  
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Connor lives in a residential home and is supported to move between his bed and chair using a hoist, he has recently gained weight and the sling is too tight and is beginning to chafe causing a red mark.

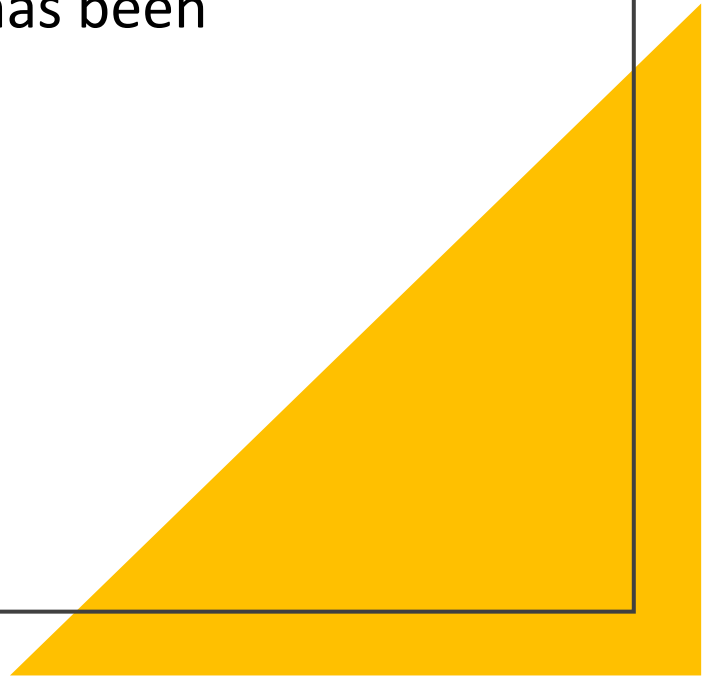




Big “S” –  
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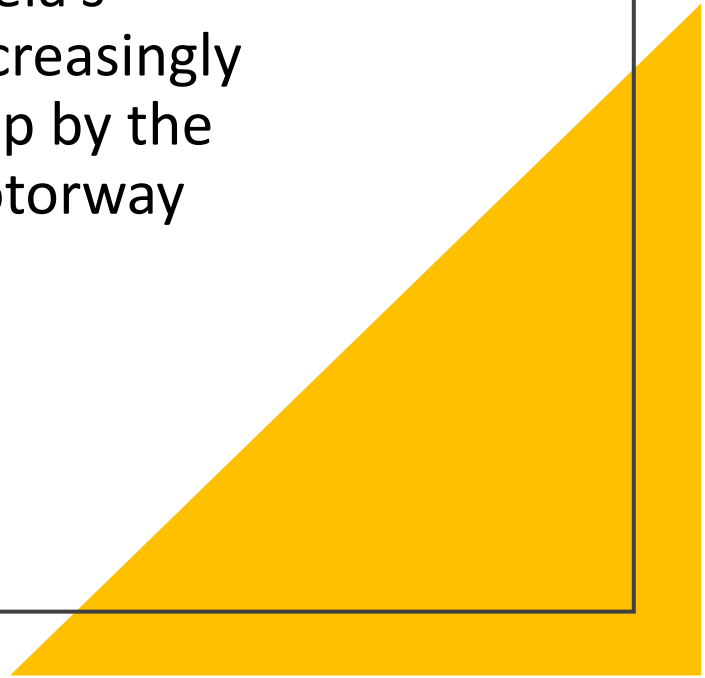
It is two months later, Connor now has a pressure sore which has become infected and he has been admitted to hospital.



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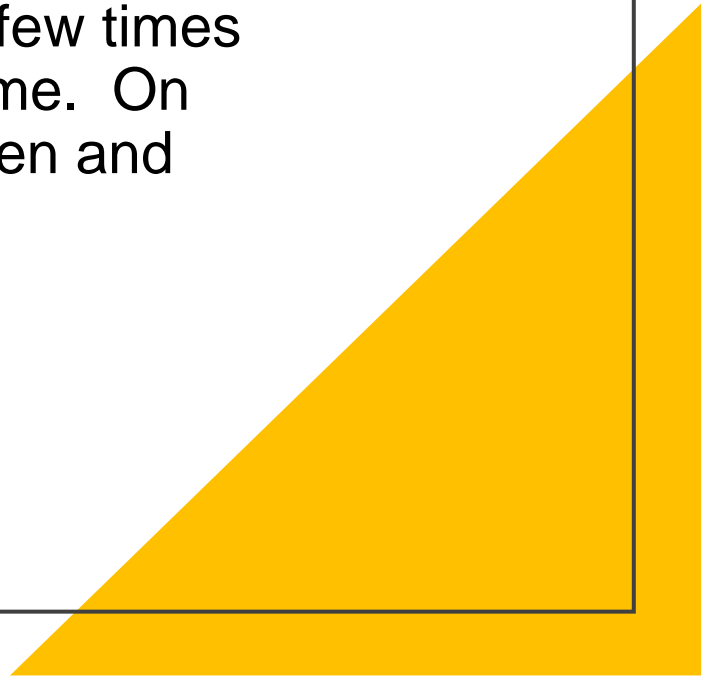
Angela has been supported by Mental Health Services for many years and lives independently in her own home. Recently Angela’s behaviour has become increasingly erratic and she is picked up by the police walking down a motorway without shoes on.



Big “S” –  
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Jean lives alone, she has a diagnosis of dementia. She sometimes gets mixed up between night and day. Jean often leaves her home in the night and cannot find her way home. She has been picked up by the police a few times who have brought her home. On one occasion she had fallen and broken her wrist.



Big “S” –  
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It is a year later, Jean now lives in a residential care home. Jean is under a DOLs (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards).

One night Jean is able to leave the building as the door had been propped open to receive a delivery. Jean keeps walking to try to find her way home, she is found after 4 hours and has fallen and her head is bleeding.

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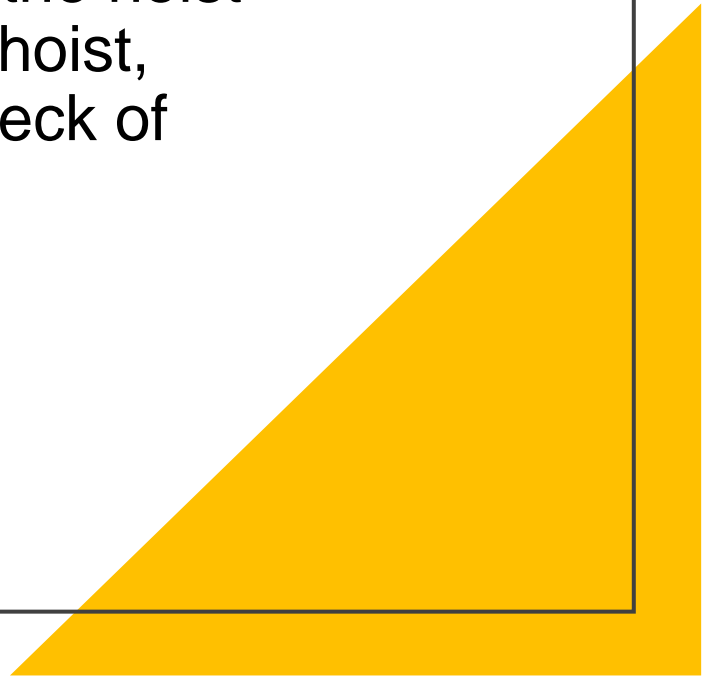
Mrs Morton is being cared for at home by her husband. She uses a hoist for transfers, supported by two care workers and has four double-up home care visits a day. Her skin is very fragile.

Her husband is struggling to manage the complexities of her care and is worried he will get something wrong and hurt her.

Big “S” –  
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One of Mrs Morton’s care workers is running late and to save time the other care worker tried to move her using the hoist alone, she fell from the hoist, sustaining a fractured neck of femur.



# Why it matters to recognise Safeguarding Concerns

It may change the conversation we have with the adult

It may change the conversation we have with the person or organisation who may be abusing the adult

It changes our multi-agency working

We can be better held to account for the work

It changes how we think about the work

How can we spot a pattern if we don't count the first instance?

Understanding what constitutes a safeguarding concern and how to support effective outcomes

Suggested multi-agency framework to support practice, recording and reporting

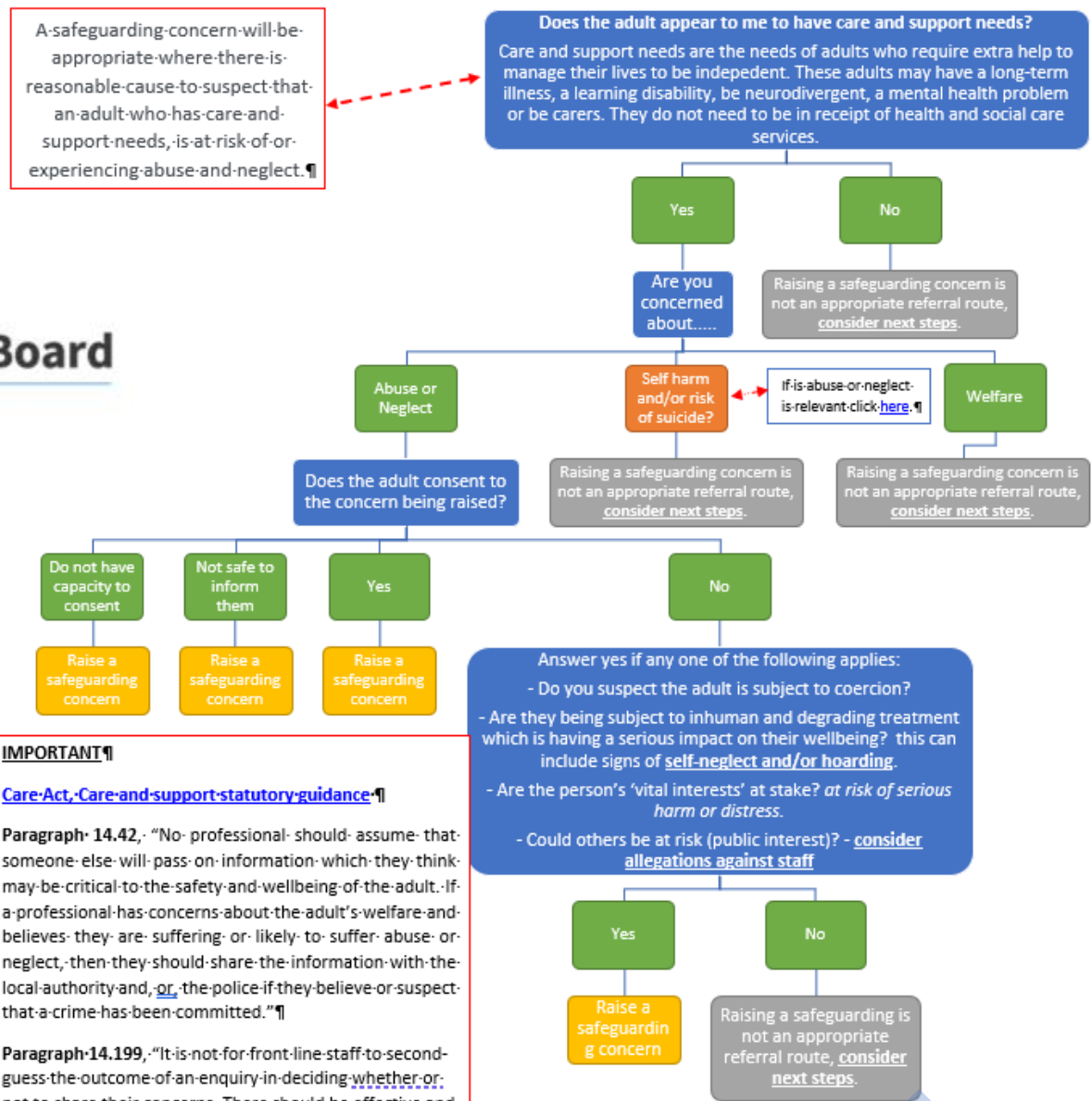


# LGA / ADASS Guidance

- “Where it appears that criteria **a and b** of s42(1) are met; and
- the **referring worker / organisation believes** that the circumstances amount to a safeguarding concern
- a referral is made to the local authority.”



▲ In an emergency call 999. If you think there has been a crime but it is not an emergency, call the Police on 101. Before raising a safeguarding adult concern, please work through the following flow chart to ensure that this is the correct referral route. If after working through the flowchart you are not sure, speak to your line manager for support or the relevant Local Authority for advice and support. If a report is made to the Police and safeguarding criteria is met a safeguarding concern must also be raised.



**IMPORTANT¶**

**Care Act: Care and support statutory guidance¶**

**Paragraph 14.42.** "No professional should assume that someone else will pass on information which they think may be critical to the safety and wellbeing of the adult. If a professional has concerns about the adult's welfare and believes they are suffering or likely to suffer abuse or neglect, then they should share the information with the local authority and, or, the police if they believe or suspect that a crime has been committed."¶

**Paragraph 14.199.** "It is not for front-line staff to second-guess the outcome of an enquiry in deciding whether or not to share their concerns. There should be effective and well-publicised ways of escalating concerns where immediate line managers do not take action in response.



[Home | West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board \(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](https://sabberkshirewest.co.uk)

**Adult Safeguarding Pathway Decision Making Tool** has been developed by Reading Borough Council, West Berkshire Council and Wokingham Borough Council to support a shared understanding of decision making for adult safeguarding.

[adult-safeguarding-pathway-decision-making-tool-november-2022-v20.pdf \(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](https://sabberkshirewest.co.uk/adult-safeguarding-pathway-decision-making-tool-november-2022-v20.pdf)

**Self Neglect and Hoarding Safeguarding Pathway Toolkit** has been created to support professionals across the West of Berkshire in their decision making when considering if a safeguarding concern should be raised in response to concerns in regard to vulnerable adults that are or are at risk of self-neglecting and/or hoarding. On completion of the toolkit a total risk score will be obtained and advice on what action should be taken in regard to the total score is provided. There are two example toolkits based on fictitious cases [Mr. Brown](#) and [Mrs. Red](#), please refer to for best practice examples of completed toolkits.

[Self-Neglect-and-Hoarding-Safeguarding-Pathway-Toolkit-V.1.2.pdf \(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](https://sabberkshirewest.co.uk/Self-Neglect-and-Hoarding-Safeguarding-Pathway-Toolkit-V.1.2.pdf)



Questions