

Type of Abuse	Non-Reportable	Requires Consideration	Reportable
SELF-NEGLECT	Low Risk No Impact	Medium Risk Some harm or risk of harm	High Risk Significant harm or risk of harm
A person living in a way that puts their health, safety, or wellbeing at risk. Self-neglect does not always require a Section 42 safeguarding enquiry; however, where there is evidence of escalating risk, significant harm, or an inability to engage with support, a safeguarding response may be required.	Where there are repeated low-level concerns, or deterioration in the individual's circumstances, consideration should be given to whether the threshold is met for a safeguarding enquiry due to cumulative or increasing risk. Where there are a number of low-level concerns consideration should be given as to whether the threshold is met for a safeguarding enquiry due to increased risk.	Incidents at this level should be recorded and managed in line with internal procedures. Consideration should be given to consultation with Adult Social Care and relevant partners, particularly where risks are increasing or difficult to manage. Particular consideration should be given where the individual is unable or unwilling to engage, where there may be issues of mental capacity, or where risks cannot be mitigated through single-agency intervention. After the conversation, they may request you formally report the concern as a safeguarding.	Incidents at this level should be formally raised as a safeguarding concern with Adult Social Care for consideration under safeguarding procedures. This is likely to include situations where there is significant risk to health or life, or where all efforts to engage the individual and reduce risk have been unsuccessful. Consideration should also be given as to whether the police or other emergency services need to be contacted. Ensure whole family approaches if children or other adults may be impacted.
	Examples: • Poor self-care causing some concern, but no signs of impact or distress • Property neglected but all essential services/appliances work • Risks can be managed by current professional oversight or universal services • The person is not at risk of losing their home, tenancy, or placement within the community • Evidence of low-level hoarding – low level impact on health/safety • No access to social care support • Occasional non-attendance at meetings, such as health appointments.	Examples: • Failing to engage with health and social care professionals • Indication of lack of insight into self-neglect • Lack of essential amenities/food provision • Refusing medical treatment, care or equipment that will impact health and wellbeing • Property or environment shows signs of neglect with evidence of unsanitary conditions, clutter, hoarding that are potentially damaging to health and wellbeing as well as creating a fire risk • Where animals in property are impacting on the environment with a risk to health.	Examples: • Living in squalid or unsanitary conditions • There is extensive structural deterioration / damage in the property causing risk to life • Refusal of health/medical treatment that will have a significant impact on health/wellbeing. • High level of clutter/hoarding impacting on health and wellbeing, including fire hazard • Behaviour poses risk to self and others • Life is in danger without intervention • Appearance of malnourishment • The individual is not accepting any support or any plans to improve the situation

The following actions apply across all categories and should be considered alongside the threshold guidance above:			
Actions/Outcomes to consider at every stage	• Engagement with the person to consider options (e.g., domestic support/deep-clean) and/or any support network to consider alternative approaches • Referral to Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service for a home safety visit • Referral to Adult Social Care for an assessment or review	• Consideration for advocacy services • Consideration for whether a Mental Capacity Act assessment is required • Referral for multi-agency processes to support complex and multiple needs (e.g., Multi Agency Risk Management meetings) • Referral to Environmental Health services	RAISE SAFEGUARDING CONCERN Where there is an indication that a criminal act has occurred, the police should be considered and contacted in line with local procedures. Immediate safety planning must be undertaken where required.