

Sussex Multi-Agency Procedures to Support Support People who Self-Neglect

Meeting Agenda

Statement about the Self-Neglect Procedures

The Care Act 2014 formally recognises self-neglect as a category of abuse and places a duty of cooperation on all agencies for collaborative working to support adults who are self-neglecting. Not all concerns about self-neglect will prompt a safeguarding enquiry under section 42 of the Care Act and decisions should be made on a case by case basis as to how best to respond.

In all cases, whether a concern raised regarding self-neglect falls within the scope of a Section 42 enquiry or not, all agencies should consider the Sussex Multi-Agency Procedures for supporting any individuals who are self-neglecting.

Any professional can request and convene a multi-agency meeting under these procedures. Where a safeguarding enquiry is being undertaken, the local authority will be the lead agency. In other cases, discussions will be held by the agencies involved as to who is best placed to coordinate and convene a multi-agency meeting and response.

Agenda items

1	Welcome, introductions and apologies; to include statements on the self-neglect procedures, confidentiality and equal opportunities
2	Purpose of the meeting, including confirmation of lead agency
3	Pen picture of the adult and their views (if they are not able to be present to discuss themselves)
4	Considerations regarding mental capacity
5	Background to current concern(s) / situation -What has been tried before?
6	Discussion of risks (to include current measures in place)
7	Review of risk assessment
8	Action Plan with agreed timescales
9	Feedback to adult / other parties
10	Any other issues (including planning of further meetings if required)
11	Close

Statement of confidentiality

All information discussed in this multi-agency meeting is confidential. Organisations and individuals will aim to maintain the balance between the need for confidentiality and the sharing of information necessary to promote the protection and welfare to the adult who is self-neglecting. Information will only be shared on a 'need to know' basis when it is in the best interests of the adult. Informed consent will be obtained, wherever and whenever possible. If it is not possible and other adults are at risk and/or a crime has been committed, it may then be necessary to override this. In certain circumstances it may also be necessary to make information from the meeting available to third parties such as other professionals involved in the welfare of the adult and this will be recorded.

Equal opportunities statement

It is expected that all participants in the meeting will treat each other with respect and that sensitivity to aspects of difference such as gender, disability, cultural, ethnicity and religious background is observed.

Any comments that contribute to discrimination are not acceptable and will be challenged by the Chair and other members of the meeting.