

Self-neglecting adult identified by an agency/service

The identifying agency:

- Considers whether any immediate actions are required – for example, to contact emergency services or any other actions to minimise risk to the adult or others, and;
- Considered the need to contact Adult Social Care to raise a safeguarding concern (consider the 3 key tests under Section 42 of the Care Act) or to request a social care assessment, and/or;
- Considers whether to convene a multi-agency meeting.

Identify lead agency

The local authority will be the lead agency if a safeguarding enquiry under Section 42 of the Care Act is undertaken (but the local authority may cause another agency to lead this enquiry if the agency is better placed to do so). In other cases, the lead agency will be the agency best placed to coordinate the process at this point. This could be because:

- The agency is already involved with the adult;
- The agency has a duty of care towards the adult because of their needs;
- The agency holds significant information relating to the adult;
- The adult has shown a likelihood to engage best with this agency in the past, and/or;
- The adult's main needs appear to relate to the service provided by the agency.

Lead agency coordinates information gathering

Including consideration of the most appropriate actions to address the concerns raised, and initial considerations about the adult's mental capacity.

Multi-agency meeting

The lead agency convenes a meeting under the self-neglect procedures to:

- Consider risks and issues of mental capacity;
- Share information between agencies;
- Devise a shared action plan.

The lead agency will make arrangements to involve the adult concerned as much as possible and/or their representative/advocate.

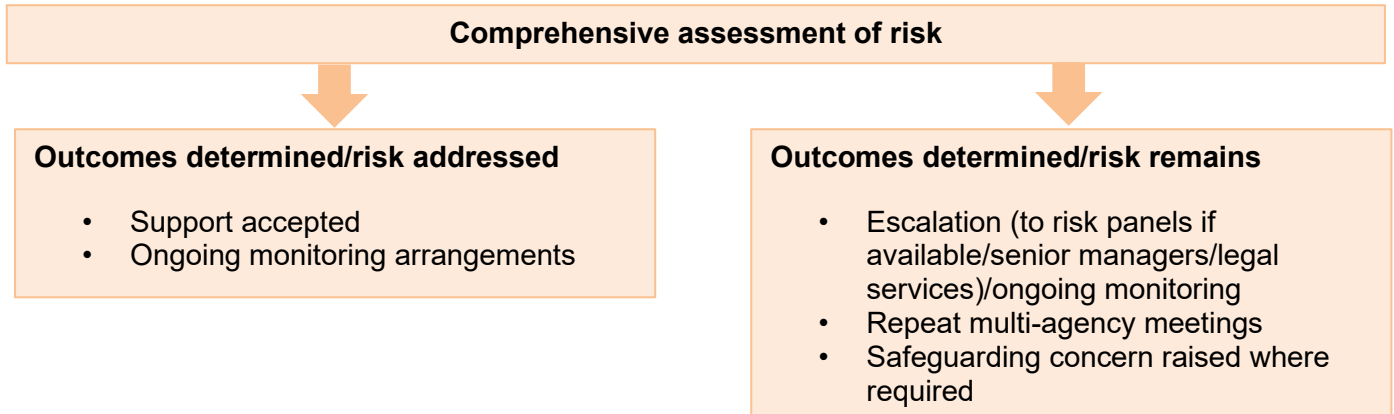


Figure 2: Overview of the self-neglect process in Sussex