# WHAT IF... SELF-NEGLECT

The What if ... series seeks to provide guidance to aid the identification of an adult safeguarding concern and the action to take.

## What is Self-Neglect?

- Lack of self-care to an extent that threatens personal health and safety
- Not managing own personal hygiene
- Not caring for own surroundings/ environment
- Not seeking help or accessing services to meet and health and social care needs
- Inability or unwillingness to manage own personal affairs

## What may cause self neglect?

It is not always possible to determine a cause but some potential reasons could include:

- Brain injury or mental disorders
- OCD or hoarding disorder
- Physical illness that affects function
- Reduced motivation as a side effect from medication
- Addictions or co-dependence
- Domestic abuse
- Trauma
- Bereavement
- Life changes

### Findings from Safeguarding Adult

Reviews include the importance of...

- Early information sharing
- Thorough and robust risk assessment and planning
- Face-to-face reviews
- Effective collaboration between agencies
- Clear interface with safeguarding procedures
- Increased understanding of the legislative options available to intervene

#### Staff are expected to have an awareness of the relevant legislation and existing processes...

- Mental Capacity Act
- Mental Health Act
- Care Act
- Safeguarding Adults Process
- MARM (Multi Agency Risk Management)
- MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements)
- MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference)
- Channel Programme







- Application and understanding of the Mental Capacity Act
- Considering mental capacity
- The supervision process and training
- Robust guidance

## Signposting and Support:

- Falls service
- Telecare
- Environmental Health
- Humber Fire & Rescue
- Carers Assessment
- Welfare Benefits Advice