

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

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

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
- 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
- Live Well Hull website

Section 11 of the Care Act 2014 Section 11 Care Act (2014) sets out circumstances where, even in the face of a refusal of assessment by the adult, there is a continuing duty under S9 Care Act (2014). This enables practitioners to pro-actively work together to understand a person's care and support needs and how this might impact on their ability to protect themselves. This is potentially helpful if a person is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect but refuses a needs assessment. The individual should be kept informed and as involved as possible. This ability to carry out a S9 assessment (which the person cannot decline where S11(2)(b) applies) may support a 'way in' for offering support and for identifying need and risk alongside the person.

Key Provisions of Section 11

Refusal of Needs Assessment: If an adult refuses a needs assessment the local authority is not obligated to conduct the assessment. This means that if an individual clearly states they do not want an assessment, the local authority does not have to proceed with it.

Exemptions to refusal:

- The adult lacks the capacity to refuse the assessment, and it is determined that conducting an assessment would be in their best interest.
- The adult is experiencing or is at risk of abuse and neglect, regardless of their refusal.

Change in Circumstances: If the Local Authority believes that the needs or circumstances of the adult have changed since their refusal they are required to reassess the situation.

Implications: Section 11 emphasizes the importance of safeguarding individuals who may be at risk, even if they refuse assistance. It balances the right of individuals to refuse assessments with the responsibility of Local Authorities to protect vulnerable adults from harm. [For further details, you can view the full text of Section 11 on the official legislation website here.](#)