

Multi Agency Quality Assurance Audit: Self Neglect February 2022



The adults reviewed for this multi agency audit are aged between 21 and 81. Three of them are male and three are female. Four of the adults live in their own home, one lives with their parents and one in a care home.

The adults in the audit have a range of needs including Learning Disability, depression and anxiety, suicidal ideation, brain injury, alcohol and substance misuse

What we are worried about?

The audit group saw concerns in terms of:

- Lack of referral for advocacy
- Practitioners not knowing who else is working with an adult, check so that multi agency meetings have the right participants
- This led to Information not being shared will all practitioners involved
- Professional confidence in calling a multi agency meeting
- Use of category of self-neglect not always applied correctly. Audit saw it being used for a neighbour dispute, and a fall in a care home
- Being able to see child and adult records when young person transitions to adulthood

Organisations that audited their involvement with the six adults were: Adult Social Care, Sirona, AWP, NBT, Police, Next Link, Bromford Housing, SWAN Advocacy



Reluctance to engage and self-neglect

What should you do when there are worries about self neglect but the adult says they don't want help – or they don't want things to change?

- Use the risk assessment in the multi agency self neglect guidance (link in the circle below)
- Don't dismiss self neglect as a 'lifestyle choice'
- Try to build a trusting relationship with the adult
- Communicate with other professionals who work with the adult, work together
- Consider whether the adult has capacity to access help for their self-neglect



45% of National Safeguarding Adults Reviews are for self-neglect

Self Neglect is not a lifestyle choice



When you visit an adult – ask who else has been supporting them



Always consider a referral to advocacy, and record that this has been considered whatever the outcome

What Good Practice did we see?

- Hearing the voice of the adult is clear in the records
- Good multi agency working between GP and housing
- Professional awareness of children and taking appropriate action

Click these circles for more information

Self-Neglect Training available here

Self Neglect Guidance is available here

SWAN Advocacy click here for details

Avon Fire and Rescue Clutter Rating Tool

