

SELF NEGLECT: SOMERSET SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD PRACTITIONER GUIDANCE



What is self neglect?

‘A wide range of behaviour neglecting to care for one’s personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding’ (Department of Health 2016)



There are three distinct areas that are characteristic of self neglect:

- **Lack of self-care:** Personal hygiene, nutrition, hydration or health
- **Lack of care of own environment:** Leading to domestic squalor or elevated levels of risk in the domestic environment
- **Refusal of assistance** that may make these things worse

What can be the consequences of self neglect?

Unsanitary, untidy
living conditions.

Fire/environmental
risk

Non – engagement
with Health and
social care

Poor finance
management

Hoarding



Somerset lesson learnt from Safeguarding Adults Reviews:

[Practice-Briefing-Robert-1.pdf](#)
(somersetsafeguardingadults.org.uk)

[Matthew-one-page-briefing.pdf](#)
(somersetsafeguardingadults.org.uk)

[One-page-briefing-Luke.pdf](#)
(somersetsafeguardingadults.org.uk)



Practice guidance and resources (somersetsafeguardingadults.org.uk)

Working with individuals who are self neglecting can be challenging. Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board have recently updated the self neglect guidance for practitioners.

1. SSAB Self Neglect Tool kit – Working with people who experience self neglect

Nov 23

2. SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit – Flowchart Nov 23

3. SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit – Hoarding guidance Nov 23

4. SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit -MCA and Self Neglect Nov 23

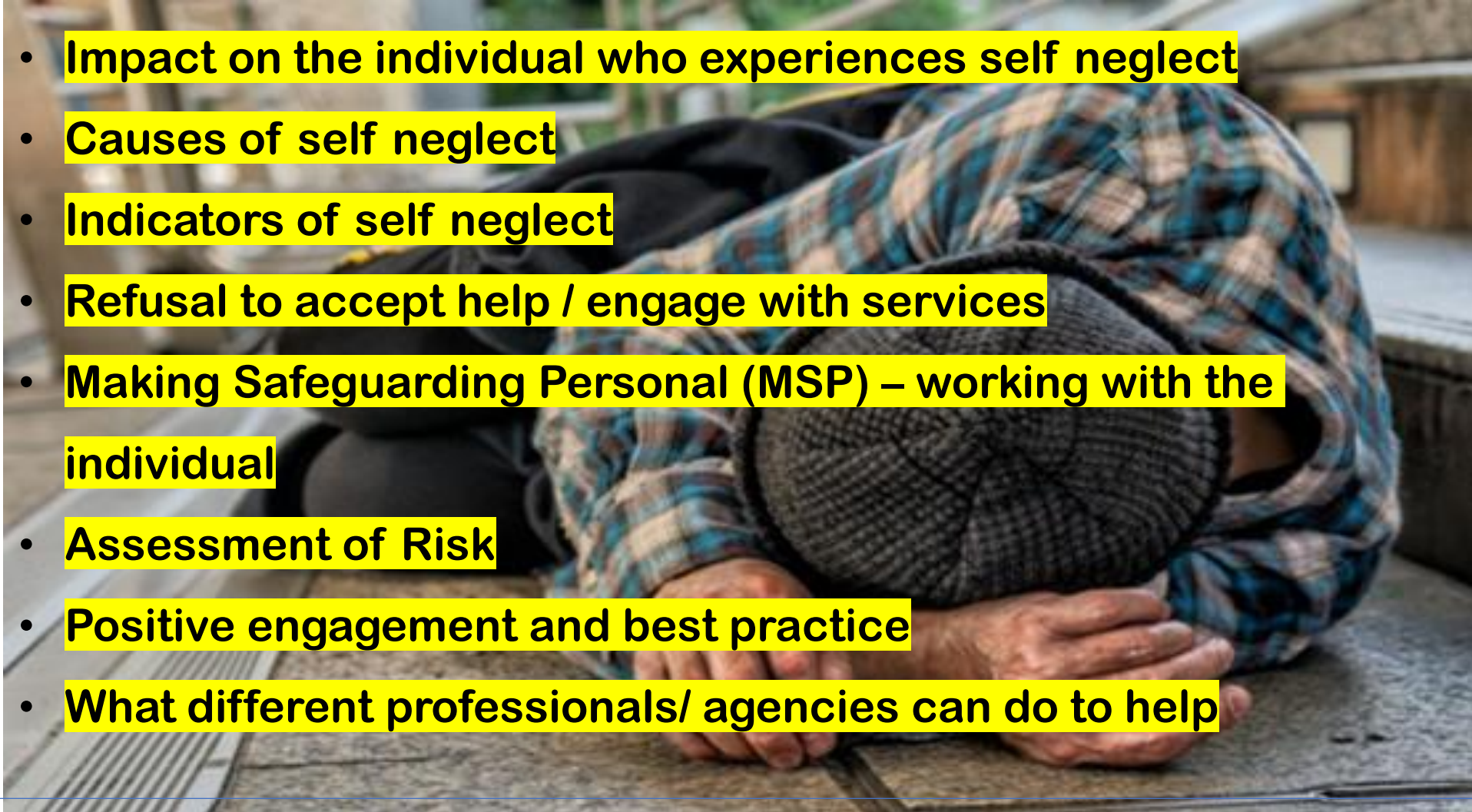
5. SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit- Legal powers and responsibilities Nov 23

6. SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit- Directory of Services in Somerset Nov 23



SSAB Self Neglect Tool kit – Working with people who experience self neglect Nov 23

- **Impact on the individual who experiences self neglect**
- **Causes of self neglect**
- **Indicators of self neglect**
- **Refusal to accept help / engage with services**
- **Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) – working with the individual**
- **Assessment of Risk**
- **Positive engagement and best practice**
- **What different professionals/ agencies can do to help**





SSAB-Self-Neglect-Toolkit-Flowchart-Nov-23.docx (live.com)



The Care Act
2014 –
Safeguarding
referral

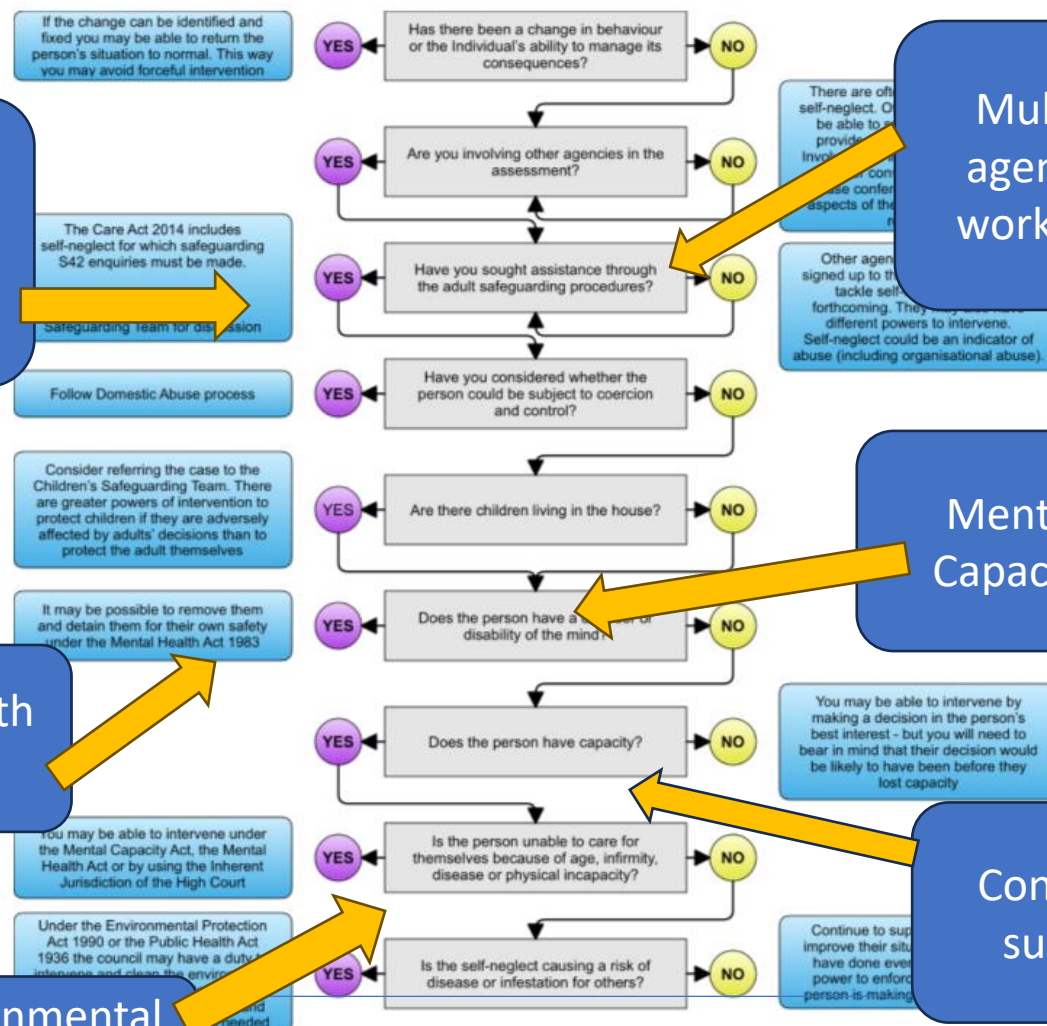
Mental Health
Act 1983

Environmental
considerations

Multi-
agency
working

Mental
Capacity

Continued
support



Working in partnership to enable adults in Somerset to live a life free from fear, harm or abuse



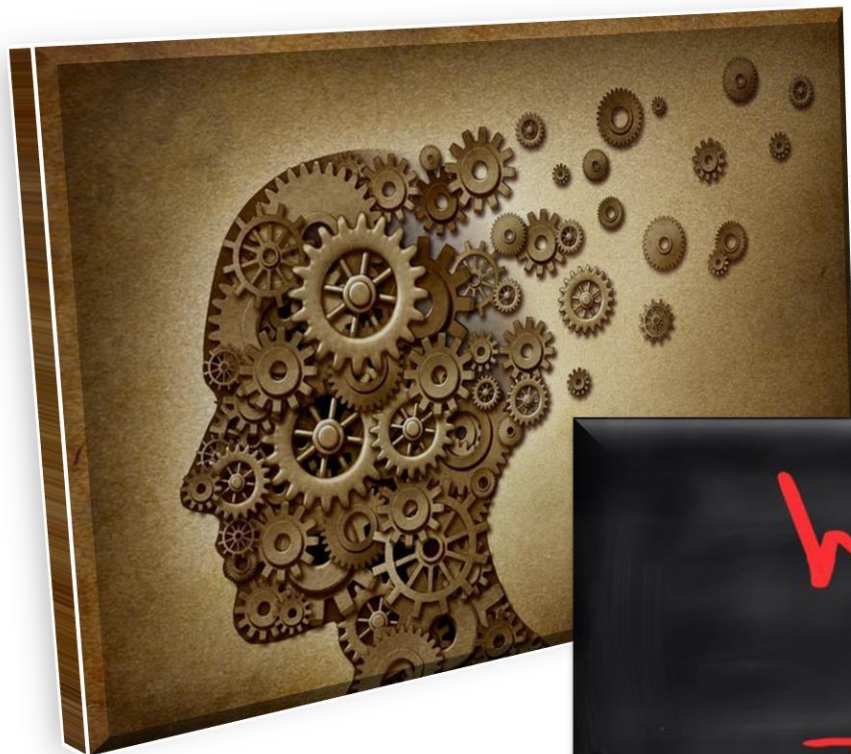
SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit – Hoarding guidance Nov 23



[Home safety visits \(currently paused\) | Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service \(dsfire.gov.uk\)](#)



SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit -MCA and Self Neglect Nov 23



Mental Capacity Act 2005

Walk
the
Talk

How to use legal powers to safeguard highly vulnerable dependent drinkers in England and Wales - [Safeguarding-guide-final-August-2021.pdf](#)



SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit- Legal powers and responsibilities Nov 23

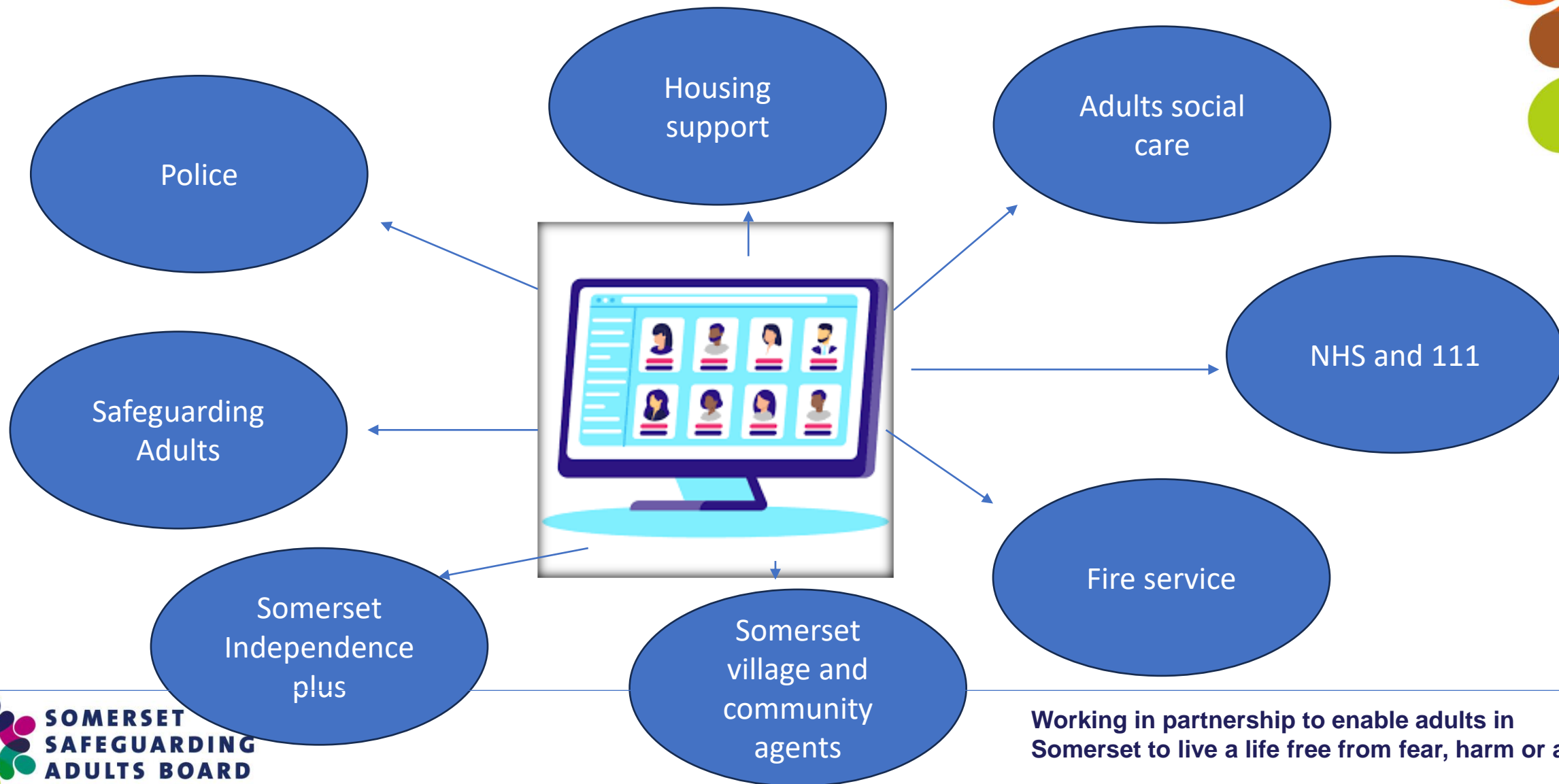


Mental Health Act 1983





SSAB Self Neglect Toolkit- Directory of Services in Somerset Nov 23



Additional Resources



[Multiagency Risk management Guide - SSAB-MARM-v1-2023-1.docx \(live.com\)](#)

[Resolving-Professional-Differences-Sep-2023.docx \(live.com\)](#)

[SSAB-Risk-Decision-Making-Tool.docx \(live.com\)](#)

[Safeguarding-adults-protocol -pressure-ulcers-and-raising-a-safeguarding-concern-GOV.UK .pdf \(somersetsafeguardingadults.org.uk\)](#)

[20220224-Professional-Curiosity-Guidance-v1.01.pdf \(somersetsafeguardingadults.org.uk\)](#)

[Self-neglect | SCIE](#)

Feedback: For any comments/feedback on any of the resources from the Somerset Safeguarding adults board web pages please email - ssab@somerset.gov.uk

Time for any questions on today's session and future dates and topics.

Future dates and topics...

March 7th - Multiple Agency Risk Management Process & Resolving Professional Differences

April 4th - Information Sharing within adult safeguarding & the Risk Decision Making Tool

May 2nd - Drop in – come along and ask us any safeguarding adult related questions and the panel will try and help

June 6th - Mental Capacity & Adult Safeguarding

July 4th - Cuckooing & County Lines

August 1st - Topic to be confirmed

September 5th - Drop in – come along and ask us any safeguarding adult related questions and the panel will try and help

October 3rd, November 7th & December 5th - Topic to be confirmed

[Click here to join the meeting](#) – where we will be sharing new and emerging learning, tools, new policies, practice guidance, review outcomes and matters of interest within adult safeguarding.