

All-Age Neglect Awareness Tool – Guidance document



- ❖ Child neglect is the most common reason for a child to be subject of a child protection plan.
- ❖ Adult self-neglect is the most common reason a statutory Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) is carried out.

Therefore, MSP have made tackling neglect one of their top priorities and the all-age neglect awareness tool is part of the **neglect toolkit** and suite of documents which MSP have developed to support frontline practitioners who care for citizens, both children and adults, who are experiencing neglect and self-neglect.

The MSP neglect toolkit is available at: <https://www.manchestersafeguardingpartnership.co.uk/> and includes the following:

1. The all-age neglect awareness tool (for use by all professionals)
2. GCP2 childrens neglect tool (for use by frontline childrens practitioners who have received specialist training)
3. Adult self-neglect and hoarding guidance (for use by all professionals)

The all-age neglect tool is for use by **all** professionals to help capture and identify early signs of neglect and self-neglect and help practitioners to risk assess the situation and have awareness of when to refer onto other agencies. The RAG rating within the document helps practitioners to consider relevant outcomes for the individual and whether referral for further assessment as part of the neglect toolkit and response is required. The RAG rating looks at the 'impact' on the individual and does not involve a 'scoring system'. This is so that the focus remains on the citizens situation and impact, rather than a number.

The all-age neglect awareness tool provides flexibility for use in different situations such as, an assessment tool with the citizen to help risk assess the situation (with consent/transparent conversation), used by practitioners in case supervision and reflection, or it may also support a referral into the early help teams by providing a way of identifying concerns and the level of impact on the citizen.

If this tool highlights that there are concerns with neglect requiring further assessment for 'children' then referral to a relevant agency will be required for completion of the more in-depth GCP2 tool. Additionally, if you are 'already aware' that the child is suffering neglect then it is recommended to refer onto childrens services for completion of a GCP2 without first completing the all-age neglect tool.

If this tool highlights that there are concerns with neglect and/or self-neglect requiring further assessment for 'adults' then referral to other agencies including Adult Social Care and Adult Early Help etc will be required.

Children Safeguarding concerns – Follow the Childrens Act 1989 legislation to help identify level of risk to the child and appropriate statutory response of a section 47 safeguarding enquiry <https://greatermanchesterscp.trixonline.co.uk/chapter/child-protection-enquiries-section-47-children-act-1989>

Adult Safeguarding concerns – Follow the Care Act 2014 guidance and consider the three-stage test to support identification of an 'adult at risk' of abuse and neglect and requiring a section 42 safeguarding enquiry <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/section/42/enacted>

Signed off by Manchester Safeguarding Partnership Adult Executive sub-group in March 2025.

If significant concerns for safety of child or adult then complete referral into Manchester contact centre.

If immediate concerns for life or safety then call 999.

