



Safeguarding threshold document training

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Martyna Kluska - Training and Development Officer

Introduction

- Developed by the NLSAB in response to findings from case audits and following consultation with partners, in September 2022.
- Aims to create consistency across organisations in North Lincolnshire in relation to what is being reported to the Safeguarding Adults Team.
- This guidance is not a substitute for professional judgement - it should be used as a framework for decision making and to support and aid your professional judgement.
- Concerns should not be looked at in isolation - it is imperative that you look at the bigger picture!
- If, at the point of referral, there is insufficient information to apply the safeguarding thresholds, then further enquiries should be made to gather this information.

North Lincolnshire
Safeguarding Adults Board
**Safeguarding Adults
Threshold Document**
2022



SAFEGUARDING THRESHOLDS			
TYPE OF ABUSE: PHYSICAL	NON - REPORTABLE, NO HARM OR ABUSE, LOW RISK / NO IMPACT	REPORTABLE, SOME HARM OR RISK OF HARM, MEDIUM RISK	REPORTABLE, SIGNIFICANT HARM OR RISK OF HARM, HIGH RISK
<p>The act of causing physical harm to someone else.</p> <p>Can include, but not exhaustive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hitting - Spitting - Pushing - Restraint - Intentional or reckless injury including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) 	<p>Lower level concern where threshold for a safeguarding enquiry is unlikely to be met.</p> <p>Agencies should keep a written internal record of what happened and what action was taken (based on internal processes and procedures).</p> <p>Where there are a number of low - level concerns, consider whether the threshold is met for a safeguarding enquiry due to increased risk.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Isolated incident, simply resolved - Minor events that still meet the criteria for 'incident reporting' - No harm or abuse intended - Appropriate moving and handling procedures not followed on one occasion - not resulting in harm - Error by staff causing little / no harm - Robust recording - Risk assessments / action plans in place - Incident not caused by a Person in Position of Trust (PIPoT) 	<p>Incidents should be reported to the Safeguarding Adults Team within the council, where a decision whether to progress the concern to a S42 enquiry will be made.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unexplained minor marking or lesions, cuts or grip marks found on a number of occasions, or on a number of adults with care and support needs cared for by the same team / carer - Inappropriate restraint that caused marks but no external medical treatment / consultation required - Repeated incidents / patterns of similar concerns - Incident not caused by a Person in Position of Trust (PIPoT) 	<p>Incidents at this level must be reported to the Safeguarding Adults Team within the council, where a decision whether to progress the concern to a S42 enquiry will be made.</p> <p>You may need to contact the police / emergency services.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unexplained significant injuries - Intended harm towards an adult with care and support needs - Deliberately withholding food, drinks or aids to independence - Physical actions that result in significant harm or where there is ongoing distress for the adult with care and support needs - Predictable and preventable incident between adults with care and support needs, where injuries have been sustained or emotional distress caused - Inappropriate restraint that requires medical treatment - Assault or act resulting in serious injury / death (covers manslaughter where there was a reckless element rather than deliberate) - Incident caused by a Person in Position of Trust (PIPoT)
ACTIONS / OUTCOMES TO CONSIDER AT EVERY STAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advice and information - Review of care plans - Risk management planning - Staff training - Review of needs / services - Signposting - Complaints - Disciplinary process - Provider performance review form (PPR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise a safeguarding concern - Safeguarding plan - Care Act Assessment - GP appointment re unexplained bruising / marks - Referral to Occupational Therapy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise a safeguarding concern - If there is an indication a criminal act has occurred, the police must be informed and consulted - Immediate safeguarding plans must be implemented - Follow your organisation's PIPoT policy

Threshold document - categories of abuse

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological abuse
- Financial or material abuse
- Organisational abuse
- Discriminatory abuse
- Modern slavery
- Domestic abuse
- Self - neglect
- Neglect and acts of omission

The enhanced safeguarding threshold document also covers concerns relating to:

- Pressure ulcers
- Falls
- Maladministration of medication

Risks matrix

- The enhanced threshold document is to be used alongside the existing risk assessment matrix.
- The risk assessment matrix can be found in the multi-agency policy and procedures:

[North-Lincolnshire-MA-PP-FINAL.pdf \(northlincssab.co.uk\)](http://northlincssab.co.uk/North-Lincolnshire-MA-PP-FINAL.pdf)

Risk Assessment Matrix

LIKELIHOOD	V High	5	10	15	20	25
	High	4	8	12	16	20
	Mod	3	6	9	12	15
	Low	2	4	6	8	10
	V Low	1	2	3	4	5
			Min.	Mod.	Sig.	V Sig.
	HARM					

- 1-3 Minor impact – unlikely to reoccur – could be addressed via agency internal process/procedures e.g. disciplinary, care management or consider referral to Safeguarding Adults Team to be made. It is not a 'given' that concerns falling into this section would be dealt with internally
- 4-6 Moderate Harm – low risk or reoccurrence – Could be addressed via agency internal process/ procedures e.g. disciplinary, care management or consider referral to Safeguarding Adults Team to be made. It is not a 'given' that any concerns falling into this section would be dealt with internally.
- 8-9 Significant harm – moderate risk of reoccurrence – Addressed under safeguarding procedures – referral to Safeguarding Adult Team
- 10-12 Very Significant harm – high risk of reoccurrence – Addressed under safeguarding procedures – referral to Safeguarding Adult Team to be made
- 15-20 Critical level of harm – Addressed as potential criminal matter – contact police and/or emergency services – consider MAPPA, MARAC etc.

Risk matrix and threshold document can be accessed via the link below:

[Risk-Matrix-and-Thresholds-2022.pdf \(northlincssab.co.uk\)](#)

To report a safeguarding concern in North Lincolnshire, please visit:

[North Lincs SAB | Reporting a Concern - North Lincs SAB](#)

Questions...