

Levels of safeguarding concerns

Safeguarding Emergency. A life-threatening situation where there is imminent danger and harm to a person

Protection concerns. A person is unable to protect themselves and is at current risk of or has experienced abuse, exploitation or neglect.

Complex or serious needs. No-one has been harmed in any way, but person is experiencing a wide range of vulnerable circumstances and personal vulnerabilities and has needs which without intervention would seriously impair their health or development or put them at risk of harm

Vulnerable or emerging needs. No-one has been harmed in any way, but a person shows signs of being in vulnerable circumstances and you have concerns for their health, wellbeing or safety if they do not get help.

WITHIN 7 DAYS

WITHIN 3 DAYS

WITHIN 24 HOURS

IMMEDIATELY

Level 1

Vulnerable or emergency needs.

Shows signs of being in vulnerable circumstances and you have concerns for their health, wellbeing or safety if they do not get help.

Level 2

Complex or serious needs

Experiencing a wide range of circumstances/vulnerabilities and without intervention would seriously impair their health or put them at risk of harm

Level 3

Protection Concerns

A person is unable to protect themselves and is at current risk of or has experienced abuse, exploitation or neglect.

Level 4

Emergency

A life-threatening situation where there is imminent danger and harm to a person

You should speak with the individual, to make sure they have the support they need.

You may need to help the person to access services or give them the information they need to access it themselves.

If the person already has a lead professional you could speak to them about the person's needs.

You will need to help the person to access their local authority services or refer them to another organisation with their consent.

If the individual refuses consent to your referral you should contact the local safeguarding team for advice and inform the individual of your actions. You may need to make a written referral.

You must contact the Local Safeguarding Team (children/adult) or the police directly and make a telephone referral.

This should always be followed up with a written referral.

You must contact the emergency services directly.

Assessing Concerns

1. What is the concern and how has it been received?
2. What do we know about the situation, what don't we know?
3. What are the priorities?
4. What is the risk of harm?
5. Do we have any concerns about the individuals or their vulnerabilities?