

Overall Process for safeguarding concerns including timeframes received by Northumberland Local Authority (LA)/Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

Safeguarding concern is received by the LA/MASH (referrer believes Section 42 (1) (a) & (b) are met)

Initial information collated from the adult at risk and partner agencies involved.

- Consent given by the adult at risk
- The adult at risk lacks capacity and a best interest decision has been made to report
- Concerns override public interest to protect others from harm including children and other adults at risk or to prevent a crime from occurring

 Safeguarding Decision to be made within 24 hours of receipt of referral

MASH process to be initiated as reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect.

Detailed information requested from partner agencies

Views of the adult or their advocate clarified

S42 recorded

Information requested from partner agencies

Safety plan identified.

Views of the adult or their advocate clarified


Evidence of low-level abuse or neglect or MASH considered if appropriate

S42 recorded.


Inappropriate Safeguarding Referral

as per Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Threshold Tool.


Signposting where appropriate

 Safeguarding Decision Maker will set time frame for information to be returned from partner agencies depending on the risk identified. **This should be returned with sufficient time for the decision maker to review:**

- Red – within 2 hours
- Amber – within 4 hours
- Green – within 8 hours

 Strategy Discussion/Meeting to be held within 5 working days

Initial Safety Plan established including recommended actions

 Chair allocated and further Safeguarding Meeting arranged within 2 weeks dependant on level of risk and Making Safeguarding Personal.
Safety plans reviewed at each meeting. Adults' views obtained at each meeting.

NOTE – If a person dies during the MASH process, consideration will be given to a S44 referral and/or organisational procedures as a S42 only applies to those adults who continue to be identified as an adult at risk