

# Safeguarding concern 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)

Information gathering under S42 (1) to consider:

Whether there is reasonable cause to suspect:

- (a) the adult has needs for care AND support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs)  
AND
- (b) the adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect  
AND
- (c) as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

Ascertain the views of the adult on the nature, level and type of risk, and the support they may need to mitigate the risk and their early views, wishes and outcomes.

**DECISION:** Is the S42 (2) duty to make enquiries and/or to take action triggered?

1

S42(1) (a), (b) and (c) criteria are met so S42 (2) is triggered

(2) The LA must make (or cause to be made) whatever enquiries it thinks necessary to enable it to decide whether any action should be taken in the adult's case and if so what and by whom

2

S42(1) criteria is not met so S42(2) not triggered, but the LA feels it is necessary to use its powers to make enquiries, on similar lines to S42 (2) e.g., where the concerns involve a carer

3

Not progressing to a S42(2) enquiry. Alternative responses e.g., Care Act Assessment, Carers Assessment, Complaint, Police, referral to Professional Body or NFA

Section 44 Care Act 2014 Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR): When an adult at risk dies or suffers serious harm a SAR is conducted to identify how local professionals and organisations can improve the way they work together. A Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) makes the decision to instigate a SAR.

[Safeguarding Adult Reviews](#)

Diagram Source: [ADASS & LGA - Understanding what constitutes a safeguarding concern and how to support effective outcomes.](#)