

Each month we will be focusing on a different safeguarding theme to raise awareness and signpost to resources.

The Four Ps of
Self-Neglect in Swindon

- PEOPLE**
Always work with and alongside people who self-neglect.
- PREVENTION**
Always work to reduce the risk of serious self-neglect.
- PARTNERSHIP**
Always bring partners together to support those who self-neglect.
- PRACTICE**
Always developing and supporting best practice for Swindon.

For July, our theme is
Self Neglect

#selfneglect4Ps

#peoplepreventionpartnershippractice

#recogniseandrespond



Follow us on:



Or via email:

safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk



Voices of people who self-neglect:

Whilst everyone makes decisions that others may consider to be unwise, practitioners and services must never dismiss self-neglect as a 'lifestyle choice'.

Is it really a choice when:

- You didn't choose to live this way, but adapted gradually to circumstances
- You don't see how things could be different
- You don't think you're worth anything different
- Your mental ill-health makes self-motivation difficult
- Impairment of your executive brain function makes your decisions difficult to implement

Contents

The hyperlinks will assist you to navigate this document and to identify what information is most relevant for you/your agency /service

- ✓ [Context](#)
- ✓ [SSP Self Neglect Strategy](#)
- ✓ [What is self-neglect and hoarding?](#)
- ✓ [What to look for?](#)
- ✓ [Knowing, Being and Doing](#)
- ✓ [Learning from Reviews and Audits](#)
- ✓ [Resources for Professionals including briefings and SSP training](#)
- ✓ [Email signature](#)
- ✓ [Feedback](#)
- ✓ [Circulation list](#)

Self Neglect is a Strategic Priority for Swindon Safeguarding Partnership

- We know that people who self-neglect can find it difficult to allow practitioners and services into their lives. They may feel they are being judged or not understood.
- Professionals need to be mindful that, some behaviours whilst harmful, may have also helped them to manage stress and trauma.
- We also know the challenges for practitioners and services in engaging and supporting people, who for various reasons, find it difficult to accept that help.
- This month we want to raise awareness about self-neglect and have provided some information and useful resources.
- Please note this is not an exhaustive list.

Swindon Safeguarding Partnership Self-Neglect Strategy

- The Self-Neglect Strategy was developed alongside the adult scrutineer group and those with lived experience of self-neglect and/or hoarding behaviour.
- It outlines the partnership approach we are taking and is aimed at professionals who are working to reduce self-neglect in Swindon.
- It is essential that all partners working with children, adults and the wider public understand what self-neglect is, how it differs from other forms of abuse, and when and how to respond to concerns.
- Swindon Safeguarding Partnership's ambition is to work collaboratively across Swindon to prevent self-neglect.

Four overarching strategic outcomes, the **four Ps**:

- **People:** Always work with and alongside people who self-neglect.
- **Prevention:** Always work to reduce the risk of serious self-neglect.
- **Partnership:** Always bring partners together to support those who self-neglect.
- **Practice:** Always developing and supporting best practice for Swindon.

This useful one-page poster is available for you to download and explains what the self neglect strategy means in practice.

Click on [this link](#) to download.

WHAT IS THIS STRATEGY ABOUT?

This strategy sets out how everyone in Swindon works together to support adults who self-neglect.

It is based on:

- What people with lived experience told us
- What practitioners told us
- Learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)
- Compassionate, trauma-informed practice

KEY MESSAGE: Self-neglect is not a lifestyle choice. It is often linked to trauma, mental ill-health, addiction, and loss of confidence or self-worth.

THE FOUR PRIORITIES

1. PEOPLE - ALWAYS WORK WITH PEOPLE

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN PRACTICE

- Build trust and relationships over time
- Listen to what matters to the person
- Take small steps at the adult's pace
- Do not dismiss risks as a 'choice'

WHAT MANAGERS SHOULD EXPECT

- Clear evidence of engagement and persistence
- Capacity assessments that consider executive functioning
- Person-centred plans and strengths-based approaches

THE FOUR PRIORITIES

3. PARTNERSHIP - WORK AS ONE SYSTEM

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN PRACTICE

- Share information openly and lawfully
- Agree a lead professional
- Hold regular multi-agency discussions for complex cases
- Escalate concerns if risks persist

WHAT MANAGERS SHOULD EXPECT

- Clear roles and shared decision-making
- Recorded rationales for decisions
- Use of multi-agency meetings and escalation routes

WHAT PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE TOLD US

- "Don't judge me"
- "Listen to me – don't rush me"
- "Do what you say you will do"
- "Quick fixes don't work"
- "This did not happen overnight"

KEY MESSAGE: Relationships, time and trust make the biggest difference.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

If you are a practitioner?

- Be curious, patient and persistent
- Record what matters to the person
- Use supervision – you are not expected to manage this alone

Key Takeaway: Always Care. Self-neglect is complex, long-term work. Success is measured not just by risk reduction, but by how safely, respectfully and consistently we walk alongside people. For full guidance, policies and tools, refer to the Swindon Safeguarding Partnership [Self-Neglect resources](#).

WHAT DOES SELF-NEGLECT MEAN?

Self-neglect is when an adult:

- Struggles to look after their personal care, health or home
- Lives in unsafe or unhealthy conditions (including hoarding)
- Finds it hard to avoid harm
- Declines support that could reduce risk

People may have capacity but still struggle to make changes because of trauma, addiction or difficulties with executive functioning

THE FOUR PRIORITIES

2. PREVENTION - ACT EARLY TO REDUCE RISK

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN PRACTICE

- Spot early signs of self-neglect
- Respond before crisis point
- Use early intervention and prevention tools
- Include home fire risk awareness where relevant

WHAT MANAGERS SHOULD EXPECT

- Early conversations and referrals
- Use of Welfare and Safety Plans
- Prevention recorded in casework and supervision

THE FOUR PRIORITIES

4. PRACTICE - SUPPORT GOOD PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN PRACTICE

- Be professionally curious
- Balance rights, risks and duties
- Use policies, guidance and learning from SARs
- Keep trying – don't walk away from difficulty

WHAT MANAGERS SHOULD EXPECT

- Reflective supervision that challenges drift
- Clear oversight of high-risk cases
- Learning from audits, reviews and data

OUR AMBITION FOR SWINDON

We want Swindon to be a place where:

- People who self-neglect feel supported, not judged
- People are at the centre of decisions about their lives
- Services work together, not in silos
- Practitioners are supported and supervised to do this complex work well

What is self neglect and hoarding?

- Self-neglect is when someone may not be looking after themselves or do not let someone support them when they need help.
- Self-neglect can mean that the person becomes very unwell or ends up in danger of being harmed.
- [The Care Act \(2014\)](#) guidance advises that ‘self-neglect’ covers a wide range of behaviour including neglecting to care for one’s personal hygiene, health or surroundings, and includes behaviour such as hoarding.
- Think broadly on what may constitute self-neglect and what pathways may be available to address concerns.
- ‘Hoarding’ is only one of the behaviours that fall into this category, but it is often used almost as a synonym for self-neglect.

What to look for?

Self-neglect can mean that the person becomes very unwell or end up in danger of being harmed. Some examples are;

- Living in a cluttered house, which can put the person at risk of a fall, or a fire among other concerns
- Not eating or drinking enough or eating or drinking too much (including alcohol)
- Living without hot water or heating
- Not asking for medical help when needed, among other things
- Lack of self-care to an extent that it threatens personal health and safety
- Neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings
- Inability to avoid harm as a result of self-neglect
- Failure Inability or unwillingness to manage one's personal affairs.
- Lack of self-care to an extent that it threatens personal health and safety
- Neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings
- Inability to avoid harm as a result of self-neglect
- Failure to seek help or access services to meet health and social care needs
- When families go through a tough time (e.g. experiencing relationship problems, financial hardship, poverty, mental health issues, addiction or bereavement), people may struggle to maintain the standards of care for themselves.
- It is important to have a conversation with them and to work with them and build up trust to ensure they are getting the support they need.

Safeguarding Children

Be Curious! Think Family!

- Are there children living within the household and being cared by a parent who self-neglects.
- Consider use of the neglect screening tool to assess the impact on the child's lived experience and any safeguarding action which may need to be taken.

Further information can be found:

- [Neglect](#)
- [Request for help and support guidelines and contact information](#)
- **Concerns about self-neglect - parents/carers** - The [resources for professionals](#) section in this document has detailed guidance for professionals when working with individuals where there are self-neglect concerns – this includes the [SSP Multi-agency policy and guidance on responding to self-neglect](#) and the [Welfare and Safety Plan](#)

Knowing, Being and Doing

At the heart of self-neglect practice is a complex balance of knowing, being and doing:

- **Knowing**, in the sense of understanding the person, their history and the significance of their self-neglect, along with all the knowledge and resources that underpin professional practice
- **Being**, in the sense of showing personal and professional qualities of respect, empathy, honesty, reliability, care, being present, staying alongside and keeping company
- **Doing**, in the sense of balancing hands-on and hands-off approaches, seeking the tiny opportunity for agreement, doing things that will make a small difference while negotiating for the bigger things, and deciding with others when the risks are so great that some intervention must take place.



Image by Freepik

Learning from Reviews and Audits

Image by Freepik



***“Don’t judge me by the chapter you
have walked in on.
I have a past and a future, I am not
defined by my current situation”***

This is a quote from
Swindon Experts by Experience

Swindon Safeguarding Adult Reviews since 2024

Ferdynand (August 2025)

- [SAR Ferdynand full report](#) (PDF)
- [SAR Ferdynand 7 minute briefing](#) (PDF)
- [SAR Ferdynand 7 minute briefing recording](#) (YouTube)
- [SAR Ferdynand recording with the author, 8 August 2025](#) (YouTube)

Robert

- [SAR Robert Full Report](#)
- [SAR Robert Executive Summary](#)
- [SAR Robert 7 minute briefing](#)

Wendy

- [SAR Wendy Brief Findings Report](#)
- [SAR Wendy 7 minute briefing](#)

Richard

- [SAR Richard Brief Findings Report](#)
- [SAR Richard 7 Minute Briefing](#)

Ethan

- [SAR Ethan Brief Findings Report](#)
- [SAR Ethan 7 Minute Briefing](#)

Sally

- [SAR Sally Full Report](#)
- [SAR Sally Executive Summary](#)
- [SAR Sally 7 Minute Briefing](#)
- [Learning from SAR Sally 240924](#) (recording)

Recurring Themes Identified in Safeguarding Adult Reviews

These include the following:

- ✓ Ineffective Multi-Agency Working where the multi-agency response to self-neglect is a major point of concern.
- ✓ Understanding of the Mental Capacity Act in practice, particularly relating to executive functioning, fluctuating capacity and reviewing capacity.
- ✓ Lack of Professional curiosity – *no 'professional nosiness'*
- ✓ Inconsistency of a trauma informed approach.
- ✓ Lack of:
 - ✓ Clarity around professional decision making, rationales and record keeping
 - ✓ risk assessment (welfare and safety plan) and information sharing.
 - ✓ understanding and use of the SSP Self-neglect policy and guidance.
- ✓ Making reasonable adjustments
- ✓ Working with complex individuals
- ✓ Recognising and understanding alcohol dependency in relation to self-neglect



Further information regarding learning from reviews/related resources can be found on this webpage [Safeguarding Adult Reviews \(SAR's\)](#)



Learning from Audits

In January - March 2026, a review of multi-agency practice relating to adults experiencing self-neglect and alcohol dependency.

9 individuals were audited across 17 partner agencies using a structured tool and reflective sessions.

Key Findings

Risk Reduction and Outcomes

- Risk reduced in only a minority of cases; in most, it remained unchanged or increased.
- Limited improvement compared to previous audits, partly due to short-term, crisis-led interventions.

Leadership and Coordination

- Lack of a clear lead professional in most cases resulted in fragmented responses and unclear accountability.
- Strong leadership correlated with better coordination and outcomes.

Complexity of Needs

- High prevalence of:
 - Alcohol-related brain injury
 - Physical health issues (e.g. COPD, mobility)
 - Cognitive impairment and trauma
- Lack of specialist service pathways for this cohort was identified.

Multi-Agency Working (MDT)

- Inconsistent MDT use, with poor attendance and exclusion of key partners (e.g. health, police, fire).
- Evidence of silo working and weak information sharing, leading to ineffective outcomes.
- Where MDT working was strong, risk reduction improved.

Making Safeguarding Personal

- Improved recording of individual voice and wishes across agencies.
- However, safeguarding plans often lacked:
 - SMART actions
 - Clear accountability
 - Timely progression

Strengths Identified

- Dedicated and persistent workforce.
- Examples of effective multi-agency collaboration leading to improved outcomes.
- Growing use of person-centred and relationship-based approaches.

Trauma-Informed Practice

- Good understanding exists, but inconsistent application.
- System-wide embedding of trauma-informed approaches is not yet achieved.

Mental Capacity Act (MCA)

- Inconsistent and sometimes absent MCA assessments, especially in complex cases.
- Ongoing challenges around:
 - Executive functioning
 - Impact of trauma and alcohol use
 - Conflicting assessments between agencies
 - Fluctuating capacity

Key Challenges

- Fragmented, non-systematic multi-agency working.
- Persistent silo practice and poor coordination.
- Over-reliance on individual practitioner effort rather than system processes.
- Limited progress on recommendations from previous audits.

The full document can be found the [SSP Policies and Publications webpage](#).

National Picture

Analysis of Safeguarding
Adult Reviews: April 2019 -
March 2023 (executive
summary)

01 May 2024

- This study analysed the findings of 652 SARs completed over the 4-year period (April 2019- March 2023) drawing out common learning themes.
- Self-neglect was the type of abuse most commonly reviewed, featuring in 60 % of reviews, followed by neglect/omission (46%), domestic abuse (16 %), physical abuse (14 %) and financial abuse (13 %).
- To find out more read the: [Briefing for practitioners: Second National Analysis of Safeguarding Adult Reviews | Local Government Association](#)

The Four Ps of Self-Neglect in Swindon



PEOPLE

Always work with and alongside people who self-neglect.



PREVENTION

Always work to reduce the risk of serious self-neglect.



PARTNERSHIP

Always bring partners together to support those who self-neglect.

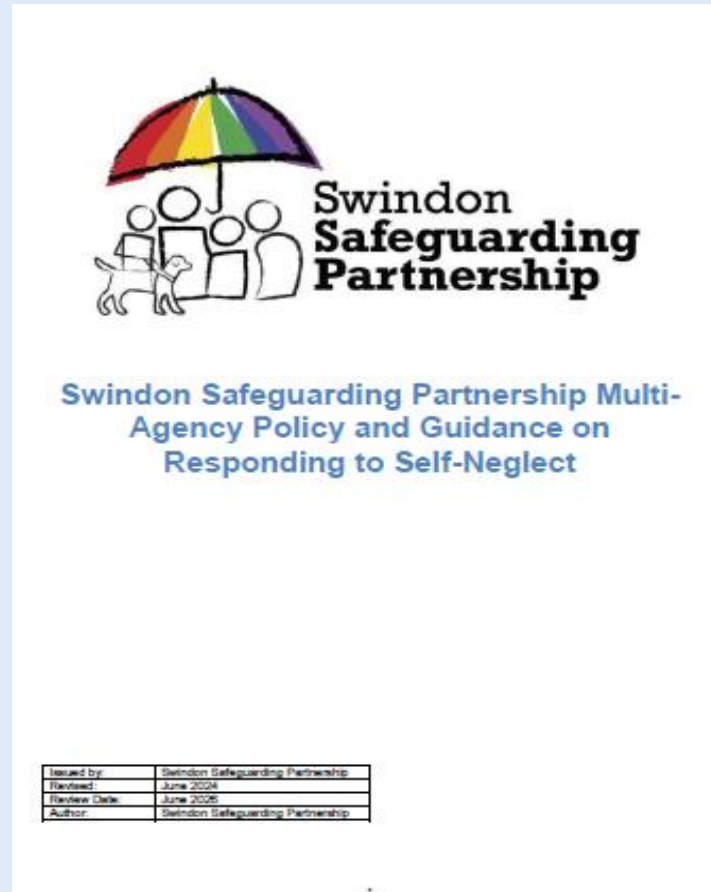


PRACTICE

Always developing and supporting best practice for Swindon.

Resources for Professionals

SSP Multi-agency Policy and Guidance on Responding to Self-Neglect



The SSP [Multi-agency policy and guidance on responding to self-neglect](#) have been updated (June 2024) please ensure you are familiar with the updated document and additional resources.

This includes the following:

- [Quick guide to self-neglect procedures](#)

Welfare and Safety Plan and Practitioner Guidance

Welfare and Safety Plan and Practitioner Guidance:

- [Appendix 1A - Welfare and Safety Plan](#)
- [Appendix 1B - Welfare and Safety Plan Practitioner Guidance](#)
- [Example of completion of a Welfare and Safety Plan](#)
- Recording: [Session 5 Welfare and Safety Plan BSW Self Neglect Conference 261124](#) (duration 25 minutes)



Welfare and Safety Plan

"Don't judge me by the chapter you have walked in on. I have a past and a future, I am not defined by my current situation" –
Experts by experience

Top Tips on using this tool from experts with experience:



Welfare and Safety Plan Practitioner Guidance

Guidance on using the Welfare and Safety Plan tool:

Self neglect

"Don't judge me by the chapter you have walked in on. I have a past and a future and not defined by my current situation". Quote from Swindon Experts by Experience.

The [Self-Neglect Strategy](#) outlines the partnership approach we are taking, and is aimed at professionals who are working to reduce self-neglect in Swindon.

It is essential that all partners working with children, adults and the wider public understand what self-neglect is, how it differs from other forms of abuse, and when and how to respond to concerns.

Swindon Safeguarding Partnership's ambition is to work collaboratively across Swindon to prevent self-neglect.

We aim to achieve four overarching strategic outcomes, the four Ps:

- People: Always work with and alongside people who self-neglect
- Prevention: Always work to reduce the risk of serious self-neglect
- Partnership: Always bring partners together to support those who self-neglect
- Practice: Always developing and supporting best practice for Swindon

Definitions of self neglect and of hoarding

What to look for

Why is this important?

What the research tells us

Reasons for self-neglect and the impact on adult life

A person-centred and trauma informed approach

The cycle of change

Courageous conversations with adults

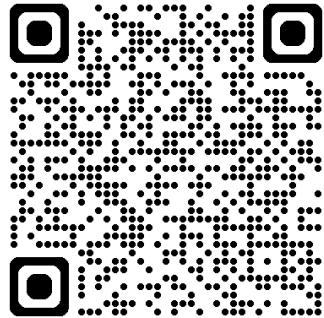
Guidance for professionals when responding to self-neglect

Useful resources

Professional response to self-neglect in Swindon

Self – Neglect Webpage and Resources

- It is essential that all partners working with children, adults and the wider public understand what self-neglect is, how it differs from other forms of abuse, and when and how to respond to concerns.
- Further information and resources are available on the SSP webpage – you can click on this link [Self neglect](#) or using the QR code to find out more.



Child Neglect Webpage and Resources



Swindon Safeguarding Partnership

Home About Adults Children and young people Policies and publications Learning Hub Subscribe to our newsletter

You are here: Home | Children and young people | Neglect

Neglect

The experience of neglect during childhood can have significant, long lasting and pervasive consequences, affecting all aspects of a child's development. These effects include cognitive and other physical development, educational achievement, children and young people's emotional wellbeing, and behavioural difficulties.

It can also result in children and young people having difficulties making and keeping relationships, which can affect how they parent their own children and can perpetuate inter-generational cycles of neglect. Consideration needs to be taken into individual development and context, including social and economic factors such as poverty and deprivation, family, environment and community resources. In addition, practitioners should be aware that neglect is an area which can be open to personal and moral judgements.

Neglect is the most common type of abuse experienced by children and young people in England.

Neglect is a serious form of harm. Both families and professionals can become overwhelmed and demoralised by issues of neglect. Children may experience repeated attempts by professionals to try and improve the situation.

Published case reviews highlight that professionals face a big challenge in identifying and taking timely action on neglect.

Source: [Neglect: learning from case reviews](#) | NSPCC Learning (December 2022)

The [Swindon Neglect Strategy 2025-2029](#) sets out the strategic aims and objectives of Swindon's approach to reducing the number of children who are experiencing neglect.

The information and resources included below will assist you in identifying, assessing and responding to neglect.

- What is neglect?
- What to look for?
- Why is this important?
- What to do?
- Responding to Neglect
- The cycle of change
- Courageous conversations with parents/carers
- Adolescent neglect
- Disabled children and neglect
- A day in the life of the child
- Useful resources
- Professional response to child neglect in Swindon

We would really like your feedback on the information and resources on this page and would appreciate you taking a couple of moments to let us know your views via this [feedback form](#).

We have a dedicated [Neglect](#) webpage with a range of resources for practitioners. This includes information such as:

- ✓ Identifying and responding to neglect including the [SSP neglect framework and practice guidance](#) and [Neglect screening tool](#)
- ✓ Cycles of change
- ✓ Courageous conversations with parents/carers
- ✓ Adolescent neglect
- ✓ Disabled children and neglect
- ✓ A day in the life resources
- ✓ [SSP chronology documents](#)

Supervision and management oversight

- [Defensible decision-making in children's social care - resource pack for practice supervisors: Frontline Briefing \(2022\)](#) – includes a link to download a resource pack which may be useful to partner agencies.
- [Neglect supervision guide](#)
- [Neglect strategy - Appendices 2 and 6](#)
- [Supervision management oversight - Learning from audits](#)

Other relevant useful resources such as:

- ✓ National and local resources, guidance and recordings
- ✓ affluent neglect and the relationship between poverty and neglect
- ✓ Professional response to child neglect in Swindon



SSP Learning Hub

Visit our [Learning Hub](#) to find out more about our learning resources including [7 minute and practice briefs](#) and [recorded webinars](#).

Information about our training offer can be found on this link [Training](#)

We offer the following courses:

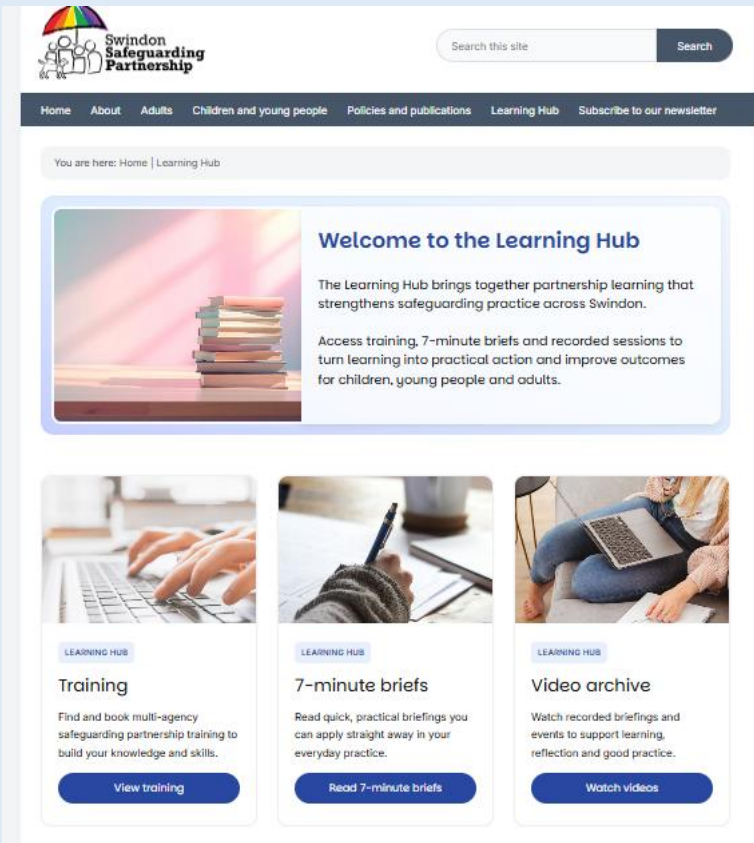
- [Safeguarding and self-neglect/hoarding behaviours \(core module\)](#)
- [Safeguarding and self-neglect/hoarding behaviours \(specialist module\)](#)

The below course is open to professionals from across the safeguarding partnership and delivered by local professionals:

- [Motivational interviewing and communication skills](#)

Free eLearning:

- [Being professionally curious](#)



Swindon Safeguarding Partnership

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Welcome to the Learning Hub

The Learning Hub brings together partnership learning that strengthens safeguarding practice across Swindon.

Access training, 7-minute briefs and recorded sessions to turn learning into practical action and improve outcomes for children, young people and adults.




LEARNING HUB

Training

Find and book multi-agency safeguarding partnership training to build your knowledge and skills.

[View training](#)




LEARNING HUB

7-minute briefs

Read quick, practical briefings you can apply straight away in your everyday practice.

[Read 7-minute briefs](#)



LEARNING HUB

Video archive

Watch recorded briefings and events to support learning, reflection and good practice.

[Watch videos](#)



New Courageous & Challenging Conversations Resources

This resource may also be helpful for practitioners working within adult safeguarding.

Access the resources via the links below:

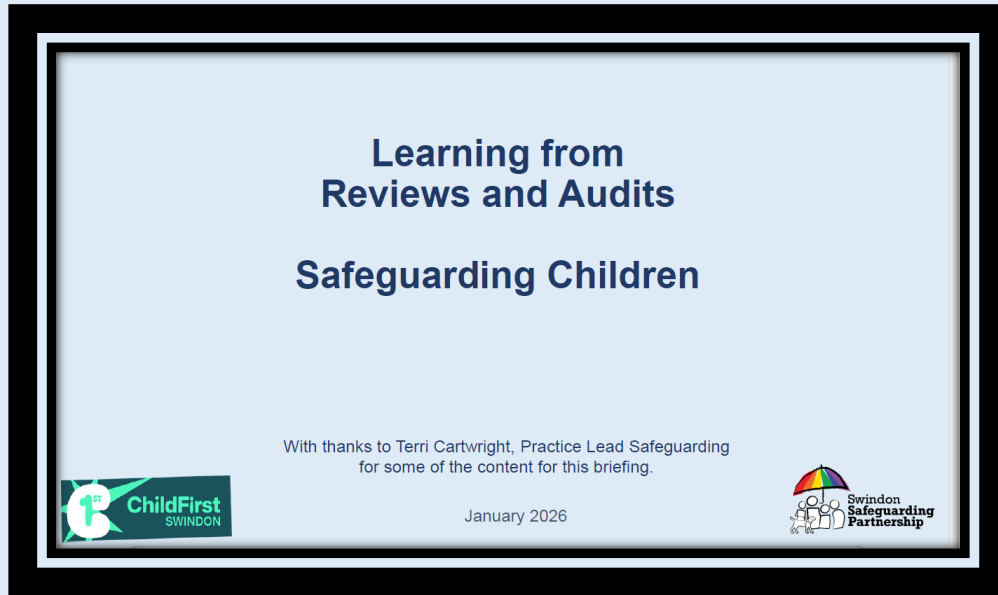
- [Courageous & challenging conversations guidance](#).
- [Courageous and challenging conversations tool](#)

These can also be found on the [SSP Neglect webpage](#) under *courageous conversations with parent/carers*.

- Courageous and challenging conversations are an important feature of safeguarding. Honest discussions about concerns can be uncomfortable and sometimes difficult to manage.
- Professionals' own worries or uncertainties about holding these conversations can lead to delay in concerns being discussed or raised and issues being understood or resolved.
- Sometimes it can also mean that information is taken at face value or assumptions are made, which do not safeguard the well-being and safety of children/adults.
- A frequent issue identified in practice reviews has been the lack of effective or sufficient challenge by professionals, including not questioning parent/carers accounts of events, being reluctant to discuss child welfare concerns, and not making use of escalation procedures to explore multi-agency disputes and challenges with other professionals

Recurring learning themes identified in safeguarding reviews and audits

- In Swindon, over the past year, several recurring learning themes have been identified in child safeguarding reviews and audits.
- Some of the learning themes are also relevant to safeguarding adults.
- Themes have been outlined in learning resource Learning from reviews and audits (published January 2026) and includes signposting to relevant resources.
- A webinar was delivered in February 2026, and the recording can be accessed via this [link](#)



Professional Curiosity

Useful Resources:

SSP Webpage: Professional curiosity includes a range of information, resources and video clips.

eLearning: Being professionally curious

Practice Briefs

- **SSP:** Professional Curiosity Resource Pack
- **SSP:** Working with resistance or disguised compliance
- Professional Curiosity Learning Resource SABN
- Posters for professionals
- **New!** Being Professionally Curious aide memoir

Be curious...



Spotlight on Learning from Reviews

Child Neglect and Self Neglect

- On 30th June 2026 we hosted a webinar for practitioners to find out more about learning identified within Swindon Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and highlighted the impact of adult self-neglect upon parenting capacity.
- The learning highlighted the importance of a 'Think Family' approach.
- The following themes were identified:
 - Recognition and understanding of some types of abuse and the intersectionality of abuse and the risk/impact to the child
 - Lack of professional curiosity
 - Voice of the child and their lived experience.
 - Implications for practitioners
 - Signposting to resources available for practitioners to support professional development

The recording of this session will be available shortly in the [Learning Hub](#).

Swindon Safeguarding Partnership Adult and Children Resolution Policy (Escalation Process)

- Resolution of professional disagreements is a theme frequently identified in local child and adult safeguarding reviews and audits.
- The updated Policy sets out a **five-stage escalation process** to resolve professional disagreements in decision making between practitioners in a structured, respectful and productive way.
- Its core purpose is to ensure that disputes never delay or compromise the safety of adults, children, or families, and that disagreements are handled **quickly, respectfully, and at the lowest appropriate level.**
- **Please familiarise yourself with the updated Policy which can be accessed via [this link](#)**
- There is also a short ebrief which will take approximately 5 minutes to complete and can be accessed via [this link](#). You will need to register your name and email address to access the content.



Guide to Alcohol Use Disorders and Self-Neglect



A guide to alcohol use disorders & self-neglect

Abstract
This guide has been developed following the learning from the Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) Robert. This document aims to increase the knowledge of those working with people who may have an alcohol use disorder and be experiencing self-neglect. This document is only intended as a brief guide and is not all encompassing, further training and resources are referenced throughout and at the end of the document.

#becurious&thinkfamily

New on the SSP website -

- [A guide to alcohol use disorders and self-neglect](#)
- Access the recorded webinar via [this link](#).

Bridging The Gap Report

- Too many people who use drugs or alcohol leave hospital feeling unsupported, unheard and unsafe.
- People from across Swindon told us that the current discharge process often does not meet the needs of those dealing with substance use, withdrawal, trauma, or difficult social circumstances.
- Gaps in communication, stigma, and rigid clinical processes can lead to avoidable harm, people leaving hospital early, and repeated crisis admissions. Staff accounts closely matched what service users described.
- Our goal for this project is reflected in the recommendations we have made to local services: to make hospital discharge safer and more supportive for patients.
- Read [the report](#)



Recorded webinars

We have a range of recordings in our learning hub relating to this theme including:

- Self-neglect: Virtual conference hosted by B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) (November 2024)
- Welfare and safety plan and practitioner guidance (November 2024)
- Spotlight on self-neglect: Policy into practice (July 2024)
- Mental Capacity Act learning events recordings
- Alcohol Use and the Mental Capacity Act
- Caused enquiries webinar
- Practitioner Forum – Self – Neglect (November 2025)

SSP Webpages and Resources

There are a range of practice briefs/resources [you can access the full list on the 7 minute briefs and practice briefs webpage](#)

Mental Capacity:

- [Mental capacity - Guidance for clinicians and social care professionals on the assessment of capacity](#)
- [Mental capacity toolkit](#)
- [Mental capacity act](#) –updated June 2024
- [Mental capacity act - 16 to 17 year olds: learning from reviews - July 2023](#)
- [Mental Capacity Act learning events recordings](#)

Information Sharing

- [Information sharing - 7-minute briefing](#)
- [Information sharing - seven golden rules](#)
- [Information sharing - consent and information sharing briefing](#)
- [Information sharing and consent \(child focused\)](#)

SSP Webpages and Resources continued

- [Self-neglect - 7-minute brief](#)
- [Trauma-informed practice](#)
- [Working with resistance](#)
- [Domestic abuse within families: learning from reviews - July 2023](#)
- [Safeguarding is for everyone - Know your role](#)
- [Making Safeguarding Personal](#)

SSP Adults Policies and Guidance

Some relevant documents are included below; however you can access the full list of Adult policies and guidance via the webpage [Adults policies and guidance](#) or use the QR code below.

- ✓ [Multi-agency policy and guidance on responding to self-neglect](#)
- ✓ [Multi agency meeting guidance working with adults](#)
- ✓ [Causing enquiries guidance - April 2024](#)
- ✓ [Adult safeguarding policy and procedures](#)
- ✓ [Deciding if you need to raise a safeguarding concern](#)
- ✓ [Threshold E-guidance | Swindon Borough Council](#)
- ✓ [South West Position of Trust Framework](#)
- ✓ [SSP chronology guidance and template documents](#)
- ✓ [DASH risk checklist](#) (used to inform [MARAC referral](#))
- ✓ [Think Family' Practice Guidance](#)



Posters



Self-Neglect

A strategic priority for Swindon Safeguarding Partnership

We know that people who self-neglect can find it difficult to allow practitioners and services into their lives. They may feel they are being judged or not understood.

Remember, some behaviours whilst harmful, may have also helped the person to manage stress and trauma.
We also know the challenges for practitioners and services in engaging and supporting people, who for various reasons, find it difficult to accept that help.

Whilst everyone makes decisions that others may consider to be unwise, practitioners and services must never dismiss self-neglect as a 'lifestyle choice'.

- Is it really a choice when:
- You didn't choose to live this way, but adapted gradually to circumstances
- You don't see how things could be different
- You don't think you're worth anything different
- Your mental ill-health makes self-motivation difficult
- Impairment of your executive brain function makes your decisions difficult to implement.

To find out more about Self Neglect and the resources available to assist you visit our website [Self neglect - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#) or use QR code.



There is Multi Agency Policy and Guidance on responding to self-neglect including welfare and safety plans when responding to self-neglect and hoarding concerns and enquiries.
[Multi-agency policy and guidance on responding to self-neglect - Swindon Safeguarding Partnership](#)

Accessible on this webpage:
[Posters for professionals](#)

We have a range of posters for you to download and display in their workplace:

- [About SSP for professionals poster](#) (PDF)
- [Being professionally curious - top tips poster](#) (PDF)
- [Child neglect poster](#) (PDF)
- [Child neglect - cumulative impact poster](#) (PDF)
- [Child neglect - resources poster](#) (PDF)
- [Child sexual abuse poster](#) (PDF)
- [Professional curiosity poster](#) (PDF)
- [Self neglect poster](#) (PDF)
- [Strategic priorities poster](#) (PDF)
- [Swindon carers together poster](#) (PDF)
- [Swindon carers together poster - young carers](#) (PDF)
- [What is abuse poster?](#) (PDF)

Other Useful Resources

- [What is Self-Neglect? - Ann Craft Trust](#)
- [Self-neglect at a glance – SCIE](#)
- [Self-neglect policy and practice: Key research messages - SCIE](#)
- [LGA Adult social care | Local Government Association](#)

Below are two short clips to aid understanding from other safeguarding partnership that aid understanding, however for local processes please refer to Swindon [Adults policies and guidance](#)

- [What is Self-Neglect? \(youtube.com\) short clip 2:38 minutes](#)
- [Responding to self-neglect \(youtube.com\) short clip 2:55](#)

Other resources:

- Second National Analysis of SARs: [Briefing for practitioners: Second National Analysis of Safeguarding Adult Reviews | Local Government Association](#)
- [Self-neglect policy and practice: Key research messages - SCIE](#)

Previous Monthly Safeguarding Themes Resources

- [Safeguarding theme February - Staying safe online](#)
- [Safeguarding theme March - All age exploitation](#)
- [SSP Safeguarding theme April - Unborn babies and under 2s](#)
- [SSP Safeguarding theme May - Mental Health Awareness](#)
- [SSP Safeguarding theme June - Child neglect](#)



DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE

Prevention Partner Conference 2026

Join us to learn more about keeping the people you support safer from fire

Tuesday 15th September 2026, 10am - 3pm

Doric Park, Trowbridge, BA14 6JB

or

Wednesday 16th September 2026, 10am - 3pm

Dorchester Rugby Club, Dorchester DT1 2HX

Organised by the Prevention Team at Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service, these two free events are designed for our partner agencies to enhance their understanding of fire behaviour, associated risks, and how we can work collaboratively to prevent incidents. The event is being held in two locations to make it easy for you to attend. Please select the most suitable when registering.

The conference sessions will provide valuable insights from experts, including the latest evidence on emollient-related fire risks. Fire Officers will also explain how fires develop and spread, highlight their often volatile nature, and outline practical steps we can all take to reduce risk and keep our communities safe.

Tea/coffee and lunch are provided and there will be networking opportunities.

Emollients: New Evidence and the Science Behind the Risk

Chris Bell - Assistant District Commander Risk Reduction, West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service and NFCC Lead for Emollient Skin Products
Dr Sarah Hall - De Montfort University

Understanding Fire Behaviour, Risk and Real-Life Lessons

Station Manager Dan Joslin - Training Centre, DWFRS

Home Fire Safety and Partnership Working

Sarah Moore - Home Fire Safety Manager, DWFRS



To register use the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/49CywKA>

For more information email natalie.waters@dwfire.org.uk

To register use this link
<https://bit.ly/49CywKA> or
scan the QR code.



Email signature

If appropriate, please add the text below to your email signature

The Four Ps of
Self-Neglect in Swindon

- PEOPLE**
Always work with and alongside people who self-neglect.
- PREVENTION**
Always work to reduce the risk of serious self-neglect.
- PARTNERSHIP**
Always bring partners together to support those who self-neglect.
- PRACTICE**
Always developing and supporting best practice for Swindon.



Safeguarding Theme for July 2026 is **Self-Neglect**

#selfneglect4Ps
#peoplepreventionpartnershippractice
#recogniseandrespond

Visit the SSP events webpage or follow us on  **@SwindonSafegua1**

And finally...

Please let us know if the information and resources have been helpful to you.

You can give us your feedback by clicking on the link below
[Feedback on SSP Monthly Safeguarding Theme 2026](#)
or scanning the QR code.



It will only take you two minutes!

Are you on our circulation list?

Do you want to be kept updated about SSP related matters such as training, learning resources and our newsletter?

You can sign up to our circulation list circulation list by clicking on this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/f7CRNF6Wax>. Or using the QR code.



You can ask to be removed at any time by emailing safeguardingpartnership@swindon.gov.uk