

North Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board Threshold Support Tool



Appendix 1:

Decision matrix and outcome record

The decision-making matrix is intended to assist in decision making in the majority of circumstances. However, if you are considering referring an incident between two or more people using a care service, first consider the seriousness of the incident, then move straight to Appendix Two

The decision matrix vertical axis relates to the vulnerability of the adult at risk: As you progress along this scale the adult becomes increasingly unable to act to protect themselves. Think about being able to describe someone's vulnerabilities and how they may impact on their experience of risk and ability to protect themselves.

The horizontal axis relates to the 'seriousness' of the alleged abusive act. Assessments must be made on a case-by-case basis, supported by the tables above which provide examples of how the levels of seriousness are assessed against the various types of abuse.



Ability to protect themselves with seriousness of the act	Low	Significant	Critical
Unable even with support	Consider a referral	Raise a concern	Raise a concern
Requires practical support	Manage through internal/universal processes	Raise a concern	Raise a concern
With advice	Manage through internal/universal processes	Consider a referral	Raise a concern
Independent	Manage through internal/universal processes	Manage through internal/universal processes	Manage through internal/universal processes

Red: Raise a concern

Amber: Consider a referral

Green: Manage through internal/universal processes (HR/Police/Universal public services)



Decision matrix outcome record

Adult at risk

Incident date

Details of incident

Decision maker

Decision date

Use an 'X' to identify the rating given when applying the matrix above:

Vulnerability rating

- ☐ Independent
- ☐ With advice
- ☐ With practical support
- ☐ Unable even with support

Seriousness rating

- ☐ Low
- ☐ Significant
- ☐ Critical



Overall matrix rating

☐ Green

Manage through internal procedures and refer to universal services

☐ Amber

Consider a referral

Apply professional judgement and consider the evidence you are using. What are the views of adult at risk?

Seek advice from organisational safeguarding leads

☐ Red

Raise a concern

Evidence to support this rating:

Evidence to support this rating:

Record whether or not a concern will be raised. Include a summary of your overall rationale:

