

Adult Protection Committee Newsletter

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Welcome to the fifth quarterly newsletter for Shetland Adult Protection Committee. We aim to provide you with some recent research and information about adult support and protection that you can share with colleagues, please feel free to forward this newsletter to your colleagues.

Self Neglect

The focus for this newsletter is to share information about situations where adults may be neglecting themselves to such an extent that they place themselves at risk.

Self neglect is the inability (intentional or unintentional) to maintain a socially and culturally accepted standard of self-care with the potential for serious consequences to the health and wellbeing of the adult. Self neglect can include neglect of bodily needs for food, cleanliness, warmth and medical care. Self-neglect can include neglecting to care for one's home and surroundings.

Hoarding can result in self neglect. Hoarding is the excessive collection and retention of any materials to the extent that it impedes day to day functioning. It can include "hoarding" animals.

It is characterised by:

- Acquiring and failing to throw out a large number of items
- Severe cluttering of the adult's home so that it is no longer able to function as a viable living space
- Significant distress or impairment of worth around life

Consultation with Shetland Islands Council Environmental Health Service can assist when assessing serious situation where hoarding or serious self neglect are an issue.

Please see below for the link to our website to access recent SCIE advice and guidance for practitioners in supporting people with self neglect and recognising when this may be an adult support and protection issue.

Websites

[http://www.safershetland.com/assets/files/self-neglect_general_briefing-\(1\).pdf](http://www.safershetland.com/assets/files/self-neglect_general_briefing-(1).pdf)

http://www.safershetland.com/assets/files/self-neglect_managers_briefing.pdf

http://www.safershetland.com/assets/files/self-neglect_practitioners_briefing.pdf

If you would like any further information or have any specific topics you would like information about, please contact Kate Gabb, Lead Officer by e mail on kate.gabb@shetland.gov.uk or by telephone on (01595) 744435.

<http://www.safershetland.com/adult-protection>

Link to Shetland Interagency Adult Protection Procedures

<http://www.safershetland.com/assets/files/ASPPcedures-Nov-2011.pdf>