

Recognising Adult Self-Neglect in Dudley

Self-neglect is a general term used to describe a vulnerable adult living in a way that puts his or her health, safety, or well-being at risk. Self-Neglect covers a wide range of behaviour, but is mainly when an adult neglects to care for their own personal health, hygiene or surroundings. It can also involve a refusal to seek medical assistance.

Many things cause self-neglect. Someone might make a conscious choice to neglect their personal needs. Or they might have a mental or physical illness that causes lapses in concentration, leading to self-neglect.

Examples of self-neglect

- A refusal or inability to cater for basic needs, including food, hygiene and appropriate clothing
- Not seeking assistance for medical issues
- Not attending to living conditions; letting rubbish accumulate in the house or garden
- Excessive collecting of items and storing these in the house or garden

Support is available

- Speak to the person to help them get support:
 - help them contact their GP or other professionals involved
 - contact WMFS to arrange a safe and well visit on 08003895525
 - contact local charities for support such as Age UK (01384 354508) or Dudley CVS (01384 573381)

If you believe an adult is self-neglecting and this is causing them significant harm call 0300 555 0055 or use the Dudley Adults Portal: <https://adultsocialcare.dudley.gov.uk/>

For more information visit: <https://dudleysafeguarding.org.uk>