Adult Safeguarding - Decision Making Guidance

Are you concerned that an adult is at risk is experiencing abuse or neglect?
Are there any immediate risks to the adult or to others (including children?) If so call the Police.
Have you had a conversation with the adult about the concerns and sought their wishes?

In line with the Care Act 2014 Safeguarding (Section 42 Criteria) – (i) Does the adult have care and support needs?
(ii) Is the adult experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect?
(iii) Does the adult's care and support needs mean that they are unable to protect themselves from abuse or neglect?

Yes

If yes, Raise a Safeguarding Concern, using the link below:

How to raise an adult safeguarding concern about yourself or someone else.

Where appropriate discuss your concerns with the adult about raising a safeguarding concern.

Whilst we do not require the person's consent to undertake the enquiry, we must take steps to facilitate the person's involvement at the beginning of the enquiry and throughout the safeguarding adults process (Care and support statutory guidance, paragraph 14.80).

Unsure

If unsure, have you discussed with your agency's safeguarding lead? Can you seek advice from others outside of your organisation. Did the outcomes of these discussions give you cause to believe all three criteria set out under the Care Act 2014 are met?

Have you read the **Kent and Medway Adult Safeguarding Threshold Decision Making guidance** to aid your decision making. If you have enough reasonable cause to suspect (ii) but you are are still unsure about (i), raise an adult safeguarding concern, using the online safeguarding form for Kent - **How to raise an adult safeguarding concern about yourself or someone else.**
The local authority will review your concern and will apply the Care Act (2014) Section 42 criteria to determine next steps.

No

If no, the concern does not meet the criteria set out under the Care Act 2014; what further support, advice, information or signposting can you offer the adult? You may wish to consider raising a Notification form in relation to a low-level incident, using this link:

KCC - Low-Level Incident Notification Form

If you would like to make a referral for a person with care and support needs which does not meet the Safeguarding criteria you can complete our online form for a Care Needs Assessment using this link:

Care needs assessments