**The stages of a Safeguarding Adults (Section 42) Enquiry**

Agency makes initial enquiries, including finding out the adult’s desired outcomes and taking action to manage immediate risks.

Concern about a person aged over 18, who has care and support needs, being a victim of abuse/neglect or they are at risk of being abused/neglected.

Safeguarding Adults Initial Enquiry form submitted to Local Authority (LA)

LA coordinate more detailed enquiries to decide whether formal investigation/assessment is required.

Formal investigation required e.g. because risks are unclear /unmanaged, or there is an investigative responsibility.

Multi-agency discussion(s)/meeting(s). Investigation/assessment is planned and scope/terms of reference are agreed.

Investigation(s)/assessment(s) undertaken by responsible or best-placed agency(ies). Findings of reported to relevant Safeguarding Adults Manager

Information shared at discussion(s)/ meeting(s) suggests risks are managed as far as possible.

Multi-agency meeting held. Findings of investigation/assessment used to develop and update Safeguarding Adults Plan for victim (and others).

Safeguarding Adults Plan for victim (or others) not clear. Some or all risks remain unmanaged.

Safeguarding Adults Plan for victim (or others) is clear. Risks are managed as far as possible.

Safeguarding Adults Plan needs to be formally monitored under safeguarding adults procedures.

Review meeting held to review risks and actions in place to manage risk.

Safeguarding Adults Plan is likely to succeed and can be monitored via other processes.

Core Group Meetings

Enquiries provide assurance that all risks are being managed and the adult’s desired outcomes have been met as far as possible.

**Safeguarding Adults Enquiry ends. Safeguarding Adults Plan and outcomes recorded.**

**Safeguarding enquiries are:**

* **Driven by the desired outcomes of the adult or their representative;**
* **Multi-agency;**
* **Proportionate to the level of presenting harm/risk**

**1**

**5**

**3**

**2**

**ASAP / within 2 working days**

**ASAP/within 1 working day**

**7 working days**

**1 month**

**Within 4 weeks**

**3-6 months**

**Suggested Timescale**

LA make initial assessment of: appearance of care and support needs and concern re abuse/neglect

Prevention / assessment/signposting

Criteria not met

Concerns not shared on a multi-agency basis if:

* Initial enquiries suggest no abuse/ neglect occurred; OR
* There is no consent and it is not appropriate to override this.

Concern/incident and any actions to manage risk recorded by agency.

**4**

Criteria met

Every 4-6 weeks