**Hoarding threshold tool**

|  |
| --- |
| **1 The vulnerability of the person** |
| Questions: |
| Does the person have capacity to make decisions with regard to care provision/housing etc?Does the person have a diagnosed mental illness?Does the person have support from family or friends?Does the person accept care and treatment?Does the person have insight into the problems they face? |
| Assessment: |
| Less vulnerable | More vulnerable |

|  |
| --- |
| **2 Level of hoarding** |
| Considerations: |
| Determine if the hoarding is:* A fire risk.
* Impacting on the person’s wellbeing ([Care Act 2014 definition](http://adults.ccinform.co.uk/legislation/care-act-2014/section-1-promoting-individual-well/)).
* Preventing access to emergency services.
* Affecting the person’s ability to cook, clean and be hygienic.
* Creating limited access to main areas of the house.
* Putting the person at increased risk of falls.

(See clutter image rating scale for hoarding) |
| Assessment: |
| Low risk | Moderate risk | High risk |

|  |
| --- |
| **3 Background to hoarding** |
| Considerations: |
| * Does the person have a disability that means they cannot care for themselves?
* Does the person have mental health issues and to what extent?
* Has this been a long-standing problem?
* Does the person engage with services, support and guidance offered?
* Are there social isolation issues?
 |
| Assessment: |  |
| Low impact | Seriously affected |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **4 Impact on others** |
| Considerations: |
| Others may be affected by the hoarding. Determine whether:* There are other vulnerable people (children or adults) in the house who are affected by their hoarding.
* The hoarding prevents the person from seeing family and friends.
* There are animals within the property that are not being appropriately cared for.
 |
| Assessment: |
| No one else affected | Others indirectly affected | Others directly affected |

|  |
| --- |
| **5 Reasonable suspicion of abuse** |
| Considerations: |
| Determine if there is reason to suspect:* That the hoarding is an indicator that the person may be being abused.
* The person may be targeted for abuse by local people.
* That a crime may be taking place.
* That the person is being neglected by someone else.
* That safeguarding is required.
 |
| Assessment: |
| No suspicion | Indicators present | Reasonable suspicion |

|  |
| --- |
| **6 Legal frameworks** |
| Considerations: |
| Try to determine whether:* The person is at risk of eviction, fines, or non-payment issues.
* There is an environmental risk that requires action – public health issues.
* There are safeguarding and animal welfare issues.
* Fire risks that are a danger to others.
 |
| Assessment: |
| No current legal issues | Some minor legal issues not currently impacting | Serious legal issues |