

### Levels of Harm chart

To be used in relation to both harm that has occurred and harm that is anticipated.

None	To be used when abuse is disproved, not substantiated or removed.
Low level of harm (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Misuse or theft of small amounts of money or property</li><li>• Lack of care leads to discomfort or inconvenience but no significant injury</li><li>• Occasional harassment, taunts or verbal outbursts</li><li>• Isolated assaults that cause temporary marks, minor injury or no lasting distress</li></ul>
Medium level of harm (B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Injury causing lasting marks, temporary discomfort or incapacity or requiring a period of treatment or care</li><li>• Repeated assaults that cause distress and injury</li><li>• Misuse / misappropriation of benefits, properties and possessions leading to short or medium term difficulties in budgeting or income</li><li>• Continued neglect that has caused a limited period of distress and/or physical harm requiring clinical intervention</li><li>• Controlling behaviours that lead to a significant restriction of independence and the loss of relationships and opportunities</li><li>• People other than the adult (e.g. children, relatives, other adults) are disturbed or distressed by the abuse.</li></ul>
High level of harm (C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Serious physical harm, risk to life or permanent injury</li><li>• Rape or serious sexual assault</li><li>• Life threatening neglect or negligence</li><li>• Harassment and/or threats leading to lasting psychological harm</li><li>• Coercion and/or control that leads to a total loss of autonomy</li><li>• Major financial loss leading to significant changes in lifestyle and autonomy Risk to life or lasting psychological harm to others.</li></ul>

## Assessment of level of risk

Severity Of Impact					
Likelihood		No Impact	Low Impact (A)	Medium Impact (B)	High Impact (C)
	Unlikely	None 0	Low 2	Low 3	Medium 7
	Possible	Low 1	Low 2	Medium 6	High 9
	Likely	Low 1	Medium 4	Medium 7	High 10
	Certain	Low 1	Medium 5	High 8	High 10

Example: X has been raped and a Safeguarding Concern has been raised. The level of harm is *High*. The alleged rapist has not yet been arrested and X continues to be distressed and fearful. Some protective measures are in place and so the likelihood of further harm is *Possible*. On the matrix this shows as:

*High Impact + Possible = score of 9* and the risk of harm continues to be *High*.