North East Lincolnshire Antenatal Neglect Screening Tool 

This Screening Tool should be used where concerns have been identified in the antenatal period and will aid practitioners in deciding whether further exploration or assessment should be completed. The screening tool will not definitively predict abuse or neglect and should be used alongside other assessments and professional judgement. The tool is intended for practitioners working with expectant parents to help identify risk factors for neglect and target families who may need additional support.

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| **1. What are you observing that indicates neglect?**  ☐ The baby’s mother booking in late in pregnancy or missing antenatal appointments  ☐ Conditions in the home (are they unhygienic/ cluttered/ overcrowded/ lacking basic amenities?)  ☐ Lack of understanding of the baby’s future needs (physical/ emotional/ developmental)  ☐ Lack of emotional warmth toward the unborn baby (attachment)  ☐ Parents presentation (physical/behavioural)  ☐ History of abuse or neglect with previous children or parents own childhood ☐ Unplanned pregnancy and negative emotional response to this. ☐ Parental self-neglect- not addressing their own needs  | 2. ☐ ☐ ☐ social i☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ attachment ☐ ☐  | **What are the factors contributing to the neglect of the child/ren? What are the barriers to caring for the child/ren?** Poverty Lack of skills and knowledge Lack of skills, knowledge, and solation Lack of motivation Parenting capacity Domestic abuse Learning disability Substance misuse Mental health issues Physical Health issues Parental separation and divorce Lack of understanding of  Bereavement Parental childhood trauma  | **3. From what you are observing, what do you think is the current impact on the unborn child/ren?** ☐ Potential low birth weight ☐ Premature birth ☐ Mother’s self-neglect of health which may impact on foetal development ☐ Higher risk of SIDS ☐ Impaired cognitive and social functioning. *.Describe, voice of the child, voice of the parent’s, baby brain development etc.*  |

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| **2- Reflection/ supervision** **What do you need to know more about to understand history and persistence of neglect?**  |
| 1. Is there a history or a pattern of neglect behaviour emerging?     |
| 2. What is the evidence of this?     |
| 3. Where has the information come from?    |
| 4. Have efforts to intervene to minimise or prevent neglect had any significant impact in the past?     |
| 5. What do you hypothesise as the barriers for why change has not been sustained?    |
| 6. What is the impact of harm if things do not change?    |

This questionnaire does NOT replace your own safeguarding policy and procedures in cases where you are concerned that a child/young person has been or is at risk of immediate harm. This screening tool will aid you in your reflection of a case and support decision making.

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