







## **Complexity Levels Descriptions**

# **Level 5 – Most Complex cases**

Features in the home environment present immediate and significant risk to householders / inhabitants or immediate neighbours

Features in the home environment present immediate or significant risk to workers

Service users mental health issues are too severe to address the hoarding

Service user does not have mental capacity to recognise the dangers that their home environment poses to their own health and safety, their co-inhabitants, neighbouring environment or workers

Service user lacks decisional capacity about their hoarding behaviour

Service user has exhibited hoarding behaviour long term.

Service user has a problematic drug or alcohol dependency affecting daily function

Service user refuses to engage with agencies or support

Service user does not recognise the hoarding as a problem

Service user is at risk of homelessness

Service user is highly isolated

## Level 4

Other vulnerable residents live in the hoarded property

Service user has exhibited hoarding behaviour long term.

Service user has a history of repeating the problem after clearances

Service users mental health issues are complex and entrenched

Service user has consistently not engaged with agencies or support

Service user does recognise the hoarding as a problem but finds it difficult to change

Service user is highly isolated

Service user has a problematic drug or alcohol dependency affecting daily function

#### Level 3

Features in the household present a risk to householder / inhabitants or neighbours if not addressed

Service user is displaying signs of self neglect behaviours including neglecting to care for one's own personal hygiene, health, or surroundings Unsanitary/ dirty living quarters
Not doing basic household chores
Non-functioning utilities
Dangerous living conditions
Home infestation e.g. lice, vermin
Lack of food in the home or signs of poor diet

Service user has previously repeated the problem after clearances but has not had access to ongoing support

Service user has previously worked with a number and range of agencies with low or poor outcomes

Service user recognises the hoarding as a problem

Service user is at risk of losing tenancy if the situation is not addressed

Service user is distressed at their home situation

Service user is isolated

# Level 2

Features in the home present low level risk if not addressed

Service user experiences mental health issues

Service user has functional mobility issues

Client has agreed to initial clearance

Service user has good insight into the hoarding problem and has accepted support

Service user has sensory impairments

#### Level 1

Service user has mental capacity to make choices

Client does not display hoarding behaviours

Service user willing to or already engages with services