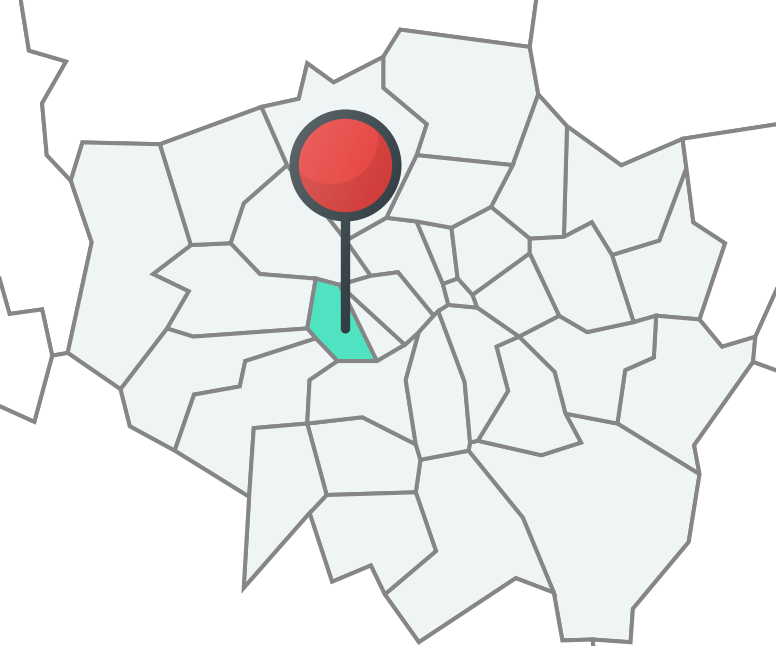


H&F SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

THE NUMBERS

Statistics showing the numbers and types of people living in the borough, safeguarding enquiries, and the person-centred approach in action.





OUR BOROUGH

Hammersmith & Fulham (H&F) is the third smallest London borough with 183,157 residents -it is among the top 2% most densely populated English local authority areas. Data from the 2021 census has shown changes to our borough demographics.



46% of the population are born outside of the UK - an increase from 43% in 2011. There are more resident born in the EU, primarily from Italy, followed by France, US, and Spain. In 2011, this was France, followed by Ireland, then Australia.



27.5% of households in H&F have an annual income below £25k (based on 2019 income data) compared to 37% nationally. The proportion of working age adults claiming universal credit or unemployment benefits has risen since the pandemic.



Hammersmith & Fulham also ranks in the top twenty in England in terms of proportion of LGBT+ population to total population, with 5.3% of residents identifying with an LGBT+ orientations.



Those identifying as being from a Black or Minority ethnic group accounted for nearly 62% of H&F's population, compared to 55% in 2011.

Hammersmith & Fulham also ranks as the 5th highest in England in terms of proportion of Other White, and Arab population to total population.



In terms of impact on social care delivery, the census has also shown that the elderly population in the borough has increased by 15.7%. Furthermore, 12.5% of H&F residents reported to have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities, and around 6.2% residents aged over five provide some unpaid care every week.

ADULT SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

When the local authority receives an adult safeguarding concern, it is required to make enquiries, or cause others to do so, if it believes that an adult with care or support needs is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect (Section 42, Care Act 2014). The enquiry process (Section 42.2) aims to determine whether abuse or neglect has happened and put plans in place to protect the adult from future harm.

If there is concern about an adult at immediate risk of harm, actions will be taken very quickly to protect the adult at risk of abuse or neglect and anyone else who may also be at risk. The process is a supportive one which seeks to work with the person at risk of harm to achieve personalised outcomes.



2515 adult safeguarding concerns were received by H&F ASC in 2023/24 – a 2% decrease from 2022/23.

8% of concerns proceeded to a Section 42.2 enquiry, with a further 28% of concerns being considered and responded to under 'Other' enquiries.

The largest proportion of referrals came from health staff and police staff, with 2023–24 seeing a 53% increase in number of referrals from police colleagues.

Location of abuse

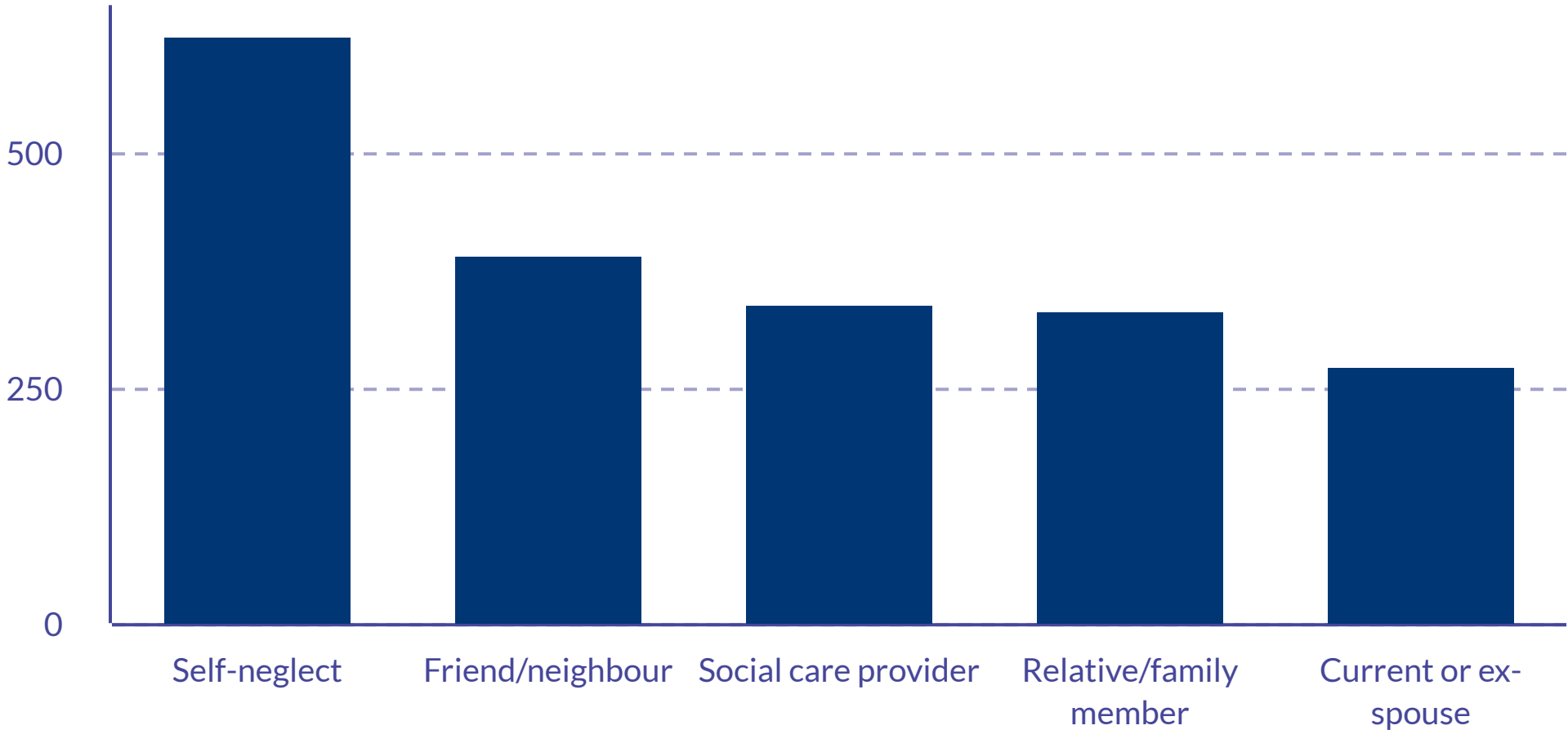


Abuse and neglect can happen anywhere including at home, in care homes, in day care centres, or hospitals.

75% of adult safeguarding concerns raised in H&F in 2023/24 related to abuse and neglect in person's own home.

This is in keeping with previous years and national trends, and these concerns may relate to domestic abuse as well as concerns about domiciliary care providers.

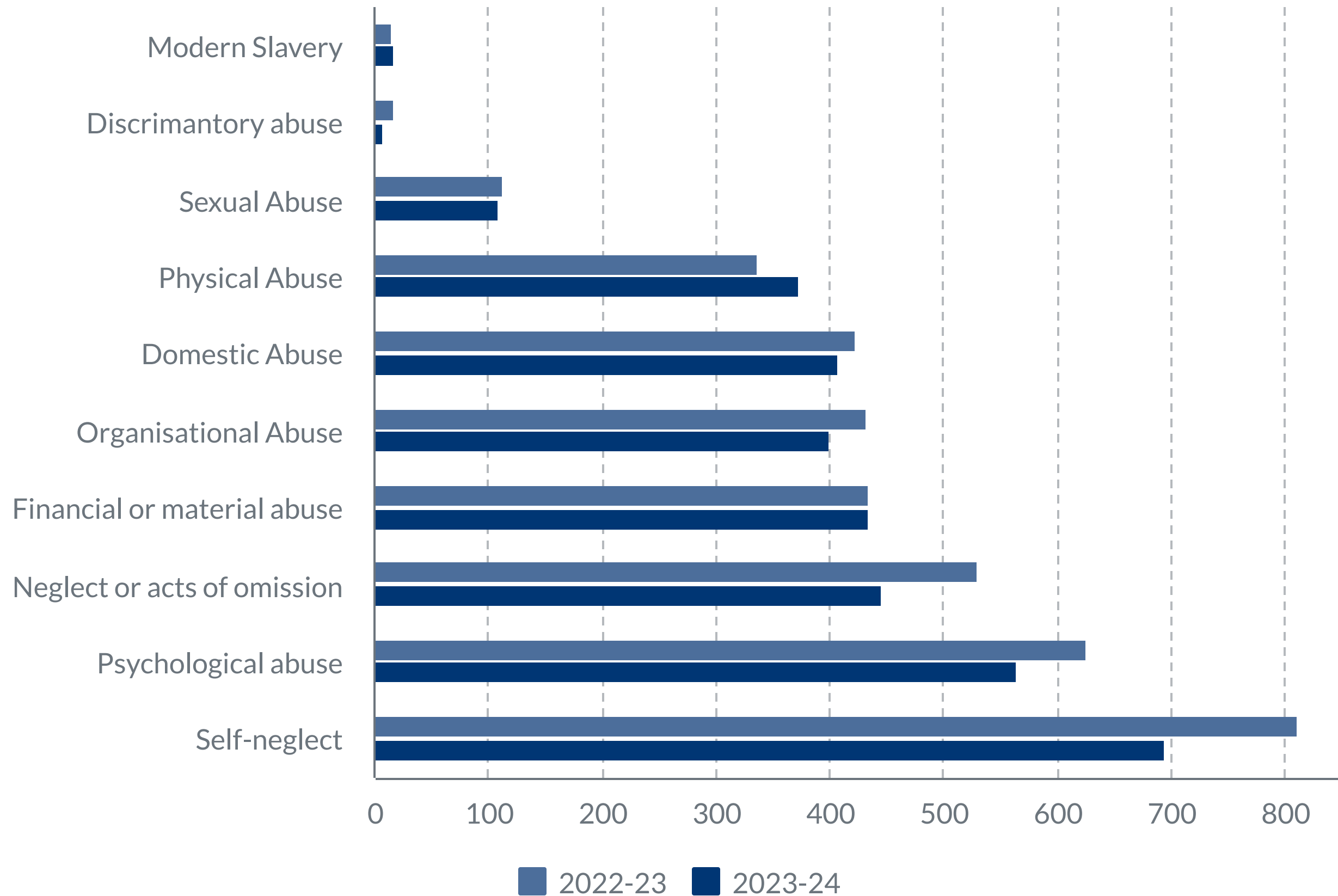
Source of risk



Abuse and neglect of adults at risk is often perpetrated by someone known to the individual.

Some adults also self-neglect – for example not eating properly, not taking their medication, or neglecting their personal hygiene or living conditions. 25% of safeguarding concerns raised in H&F in 2023/24 related to concerns about self-neglect or self-harm.

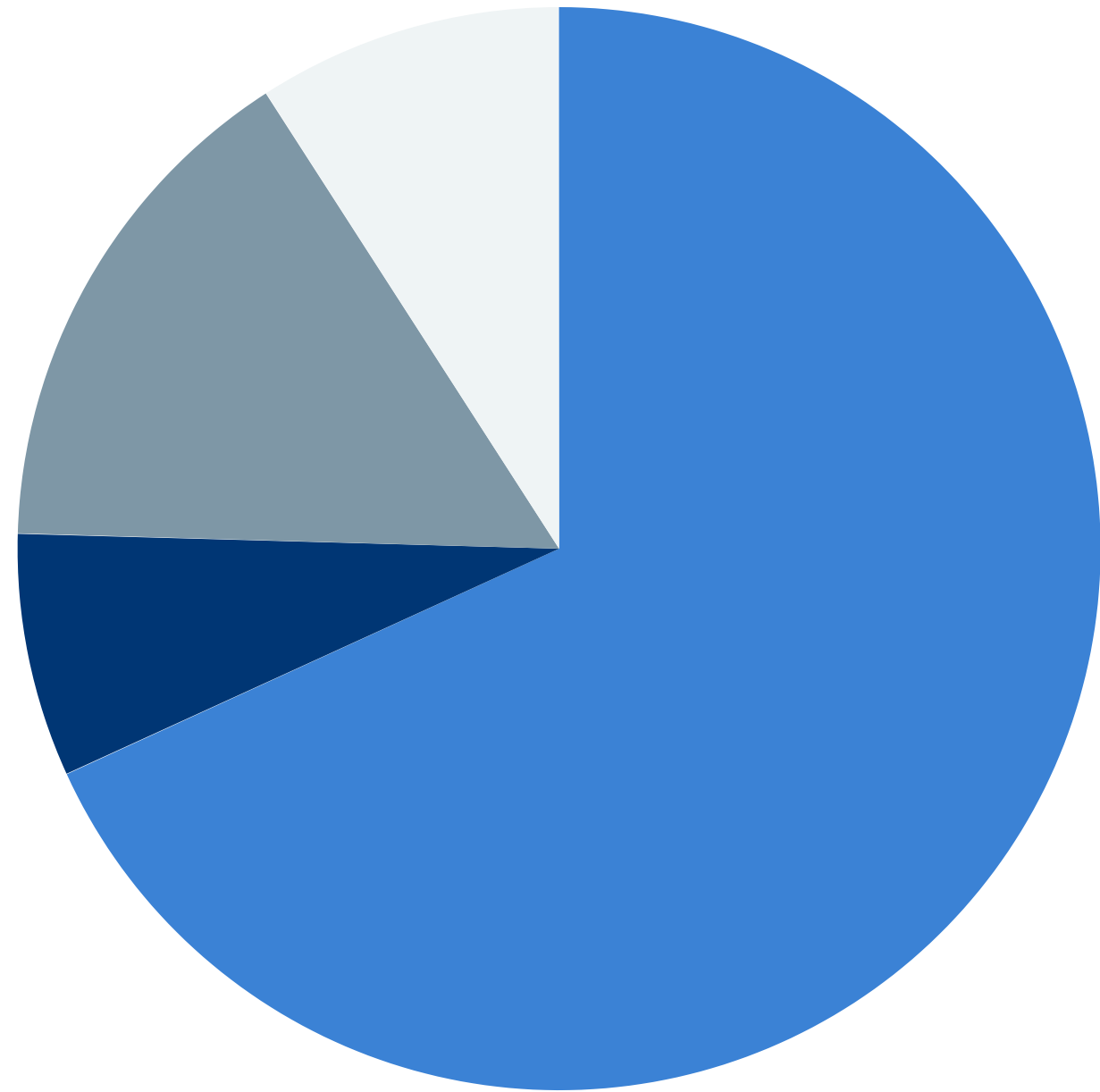
TYPES OF ABUSE



The volume of concerns relating to self-neglect has decreased in 2023/24, but remains as the most prominent category of abuse in local adult safeguarding data. Other categories of abuse have seen slight increases in total volume of concerns received, such as physical abuse (11% increase)

Self-neglect cases are less likely to proceed to full Section 42.2 enquiry, and this is a reflection of the nature of self-neglect which may be more appropriately addressed via other routes.

OUTCOMES



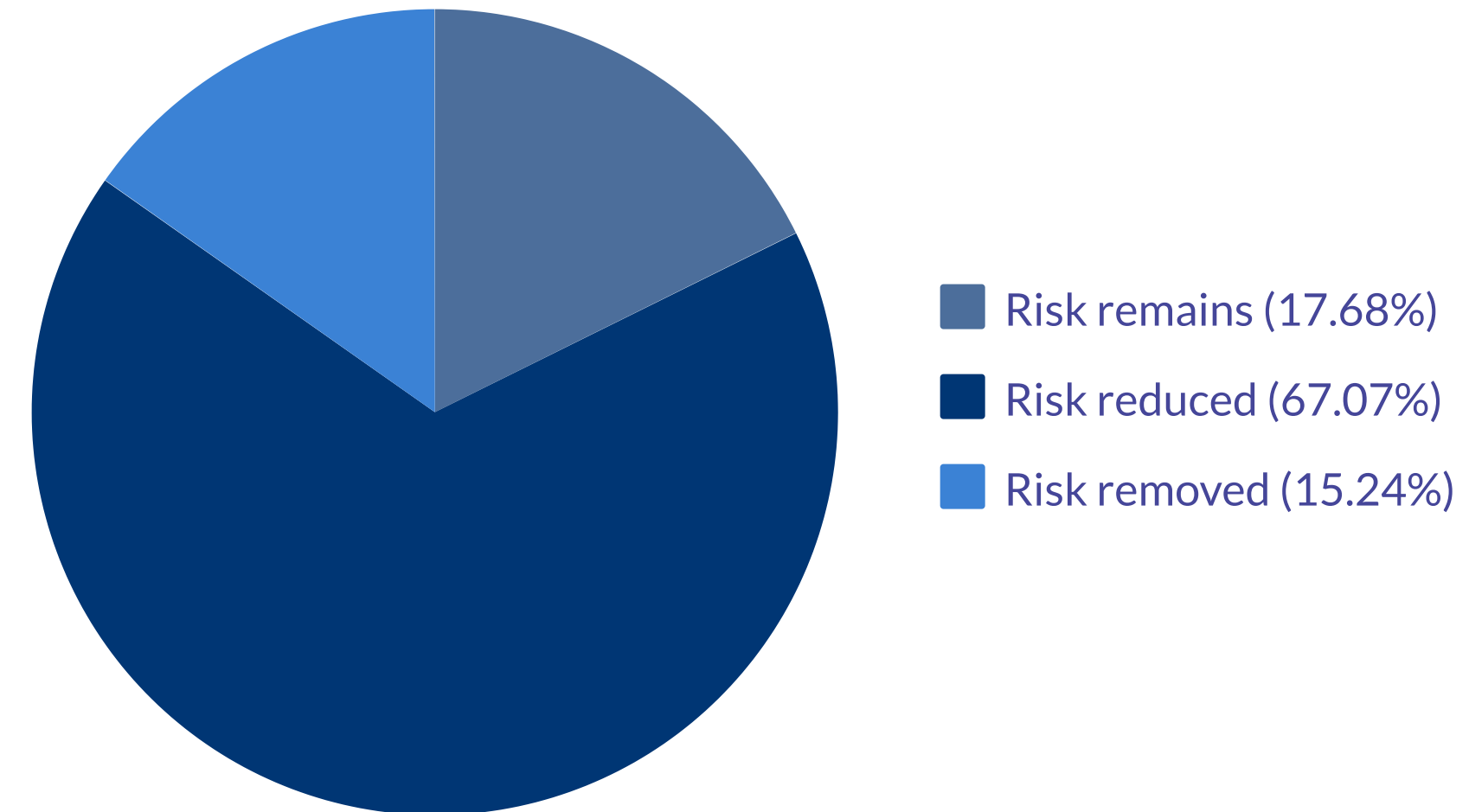
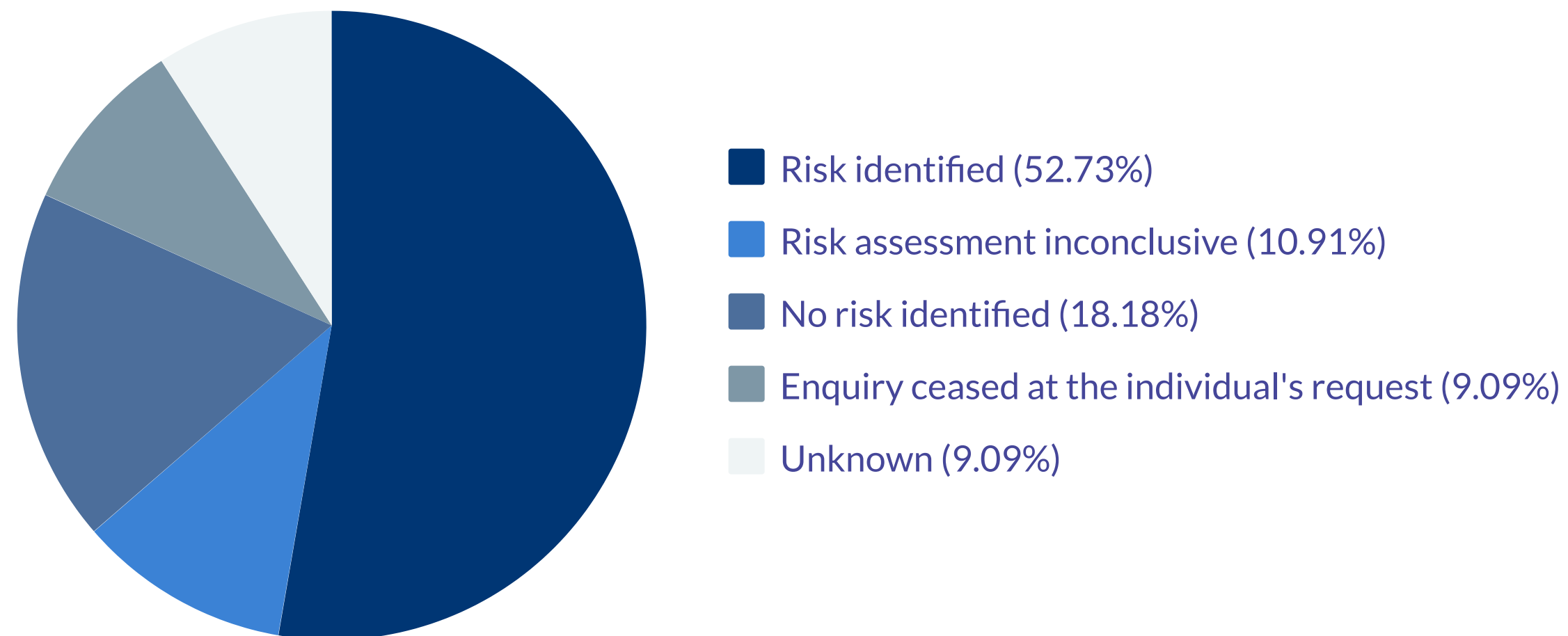
- Yes they were asked and outcomes were expressed (68.18%)
- Yes they were asked but no outcomes were expressed (7.27%)
- No they were not asked (15.45%) ■ Unknown (9.09%)

The adult or their representative was asked about their desired outcomes in 68% of adult safeguarding enquiries (S42.2) concluded in 2023/24.

This means they were asked about what they would like to see happen as a result of the safeguarding process. This could include changes to care provision or help better accessing the local community.

Of those who did express their desired outcomes, 93% saw desired outcomes partially or fully achieved.

OUTCOMES



Risk was identified in more than half of the Section 42.2 safeguarding enquiries concluded last year, and no risk was identified in a further 18% of cases.

Risk was reduced following safeguarding interventions in 67% of concluded Section 42.2 enquiries, and removed in 15%.

A key objective for the H&F SAB in the next year is to find out more about people's experiences of the adult safeguarding process and whether this made them feel safer.

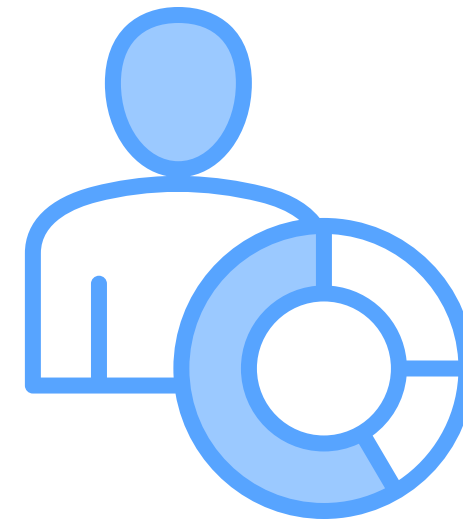
ADULT PROFILES



The largest proportion of adult safeguarding concerns received in 2023/24 related to adults aged 65 and over.

Younger age groups are less likely to see concerns move to Section 42.2 (enquiry stage), though 2023–24 has seen an increase in the proportion of concerns moving to Section 42.2 for those aged 18–25.

Self-neglect is more likely to appear in concerns relating to older adults (56 and over), compared to younger adults who see a greater proportion of concerns relating to psychological abuse.

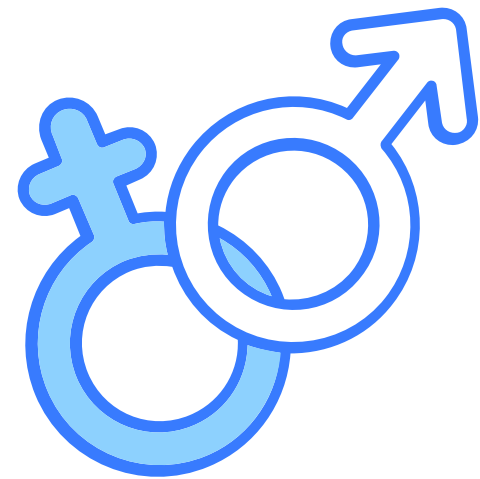


The largest proportion of adult safeguarding concerns received relate to adults from a white background.

Figures suggest that it is more likely for concerns relating to adults from Asian background to move beyond concern stage (42% conversion including both 'Other' enquiry and Section 42.2 in 2023–24). Concerns relating to individuals from mixed or multiple background are slightly less likely to progress (25% in 2023–24).

In 2022–23, self-neglect featured more prominently in concerns relating to individuals from White or Other ethnic backgrounds, however these differences have reduced in 2023–24.

ADULT PROFILES



Concerns relating to female adults account for more than half of all concerns received, in line with national trends.

Concerns that feature self-neglect are more prominent in concerns for male adults, accounting for 31% of concerns received in 2023-24 compared to 23% for female adults.

Concerns that feature domestic abuse are more prominent in concerns for female adults, accounting for 23% of concerns received in 2023-24 compared to 7% for male adults.



Conversion to Section 42.2 enquiry is higher for adults whose primary support need is learning disability, with a conversion rate of 26% compared to 7% across all groups. Concerns relating to adults with social support needs are much less likely to proceed to Section 42.2, with a conversion rate of just 1% (though 24% for 'Other enquiries').

Across all support categories, self-neglect is the most prominent category of abuse recorded, with the exception of Learning Disability where neglect and acts of omission accounts for largest proportion of concerns received (40%).