

Teacher

**Ellis
Turner**

**Senior
Environmental
Health Lecturer**

Hoarding behaviour pathways



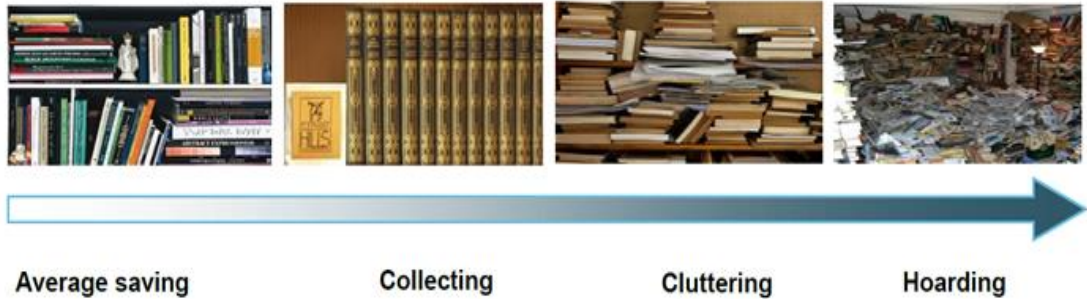
December 2022

**UWE
Bristol**

University
of the
West of
England

What is hoarding behavior

- Are we all hoarders?
- Difficulty in discarding
- Emotional attachments
- Perception of value
- Disrupts use of home



Hoarding fact sheet

ISLINGTON EVIDENCE HUB

A project by: **NHS** |  ISLINGTON

Focus on...

Hoarding Behaviour

April 2016

People with hoarding behaviours have difficulty parting with possessions that may seem to have little value to others. When this is significant the expanding clutter disrupts their ability to appropriately use some or all of the areas of their home. When extreme, hoarding behaviours can result in fire risk, squalor, infestation and/or structural collapse. Concerns impact not only the individual but family, neighbours, and professionals, including fire fighters.

Many of us collect. Some may live chaotically. The images below illustrates the spectrum in which this can occur.



Average saving

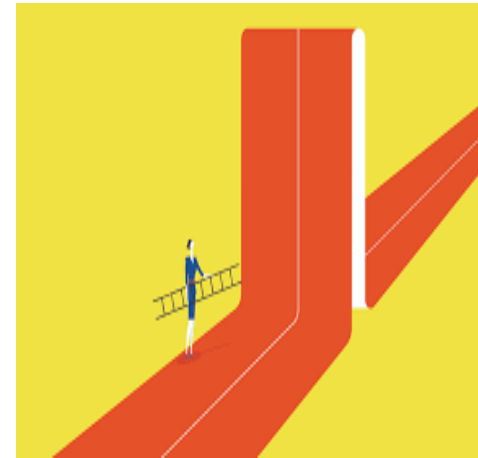
Collecting

Cluttering

Hoarding

Challenges of traditional approach

- No commissioned treatments/clinical pathways or clinical options available for hoarding
- Agencies working disjointedly or in isolation with no clear pathway to integrated support
- Improving advocacy for clients, particularly those considered to have capacity and in good mental health
- Improving referral pathways to services for clients seeking support with hoarding behaviours



Clutter image rating tool



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

Emerging practice - ideology

- Service gaps
- Person centred approach
- Increased safeguarding profile
- Hoarding forums
- Hoarding protocol (s)
- Sharing information – consent vs concern
- Multidisciplinary teams – cross service
- Fact sheets
- Single point of access
- Grants
- Treatments



What works?

- Appropriately skilled and early psychotherapy in conjunction with housing support and engagement of a number of services
- Training for clinicians, mental health professionals and social workers
- Training for other agencies, such as health visitors and other public health professionals
- Commissioned clinical treatments for hoarding
- Joint-working protocol and panel mechanism to encourage early identification
- Enhanced training for individuals, carers and families

Assessment - Diagnosis – Support

DSM 5 2013 – WHO 2017 - ICD11 2019-2022

- Difficulty discarding or parting with possessions, regardless of value
- Perceived need to save the items and distress associated with discarding
- Accumulation of possessions that congest active living areas compromises their intended use
- Causes clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning



Clinical research and practice

- Memories form 'barrier' to letting go of objects for people who hoard
- Treatments
- Menti quiz



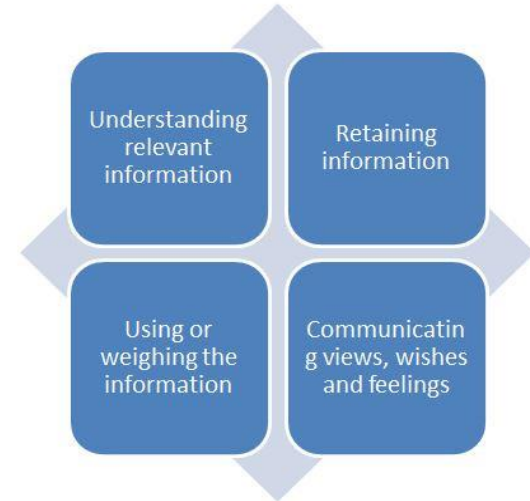
— <https://www.bath.ac.uk/announcements/memories-form-barrier-to-letting-go-of-objects-for-people-who-hoard/>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0005789419300450>

Capacity assessment

- Evolving practice
- Specific decision making
- Aide memoir to inform assessment
- Consent
- Understanding risks – accepting help?

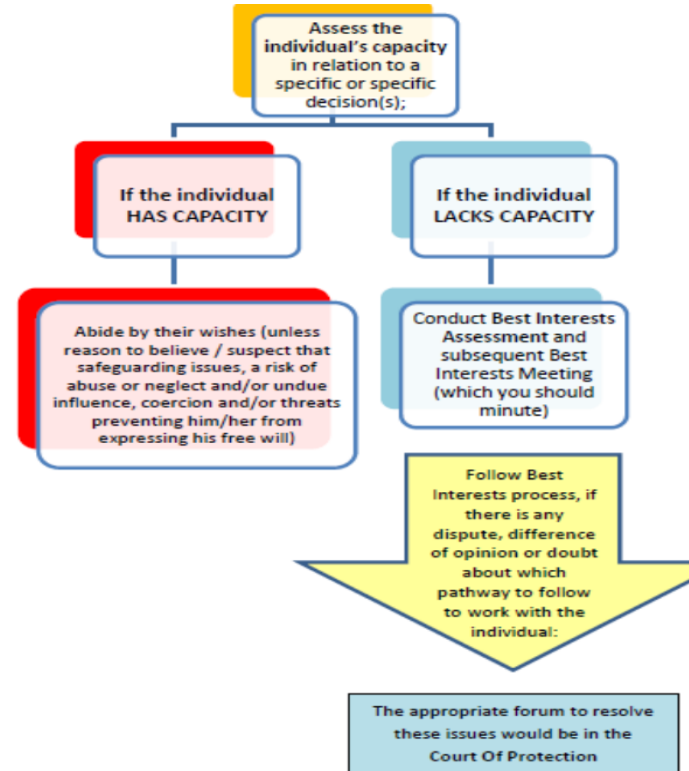
Mental capacity?



Taken from MCA (2005) and AwIA (2000)

The Court of Protection

- Created by the Mental Capacity Act 2005
- make decisions about persons who lack mental capacity to make a specific decision
- presumed to have mental capacity unless capacity assessment concludes otherwise
- A person is allowed to make unwise decisions



Partnerships – networks - events



National Hoarding Conference 2022
Capacity: Who's Got it?

16 May, 2022: 10am-4.30pm Virtual

Exploration of Mental and Practical Capacity Across People Who Hoard and Support Services



Chartered
Institute of
Environmental
Health

06
May

HoardingUK coffee and catch up

