



7-Minute Staff Briefing: Multi Agency Adult Support & Protection Self Evaluation – Final Report

1. Introduction

In August 2023, we told you about the Adult Support and Protection (ASP) self-evaluation work that the Public Protection Committee was undertaking via a multi-agency steering group. The findings from the ASP self-evaluation will help us understand more about how services work together to protect adults and tell us what we are good at and what needs to get better at. The findings will inform what we need to include in our improvement planning to make sure we are providing the best services for adults at risk of harm.

7. Contact Information

If you require further information about the self-evaluation please contact Self-Evaluation Co-ordinator karen.brown@dumgal.gov.uk, Lead Officer Adult Support and Protection sandie.donald@dumgal.gov.uk

6. What do I need to do?

You can take the time to read the Multi-Agency Adult Support and Protection Self Evaluation Executive Report using one of the following links:-

NHS- [MA ASP SE Executive Summary Report.pdf](#)

Social Work - [Document Library - Adult Services - All Documents](#)

Police - [Document Library - Adult Services - All Documents](#)

If you would like to be involved in any future self-evaluation work, please contact the above members of the Public Protection Team.

5. What will happen next?

The final report sets out the next steps required to take this improvement work forward. The Public Protection Committee have agreed these areas for improvement and the leads for these have been identified. The Public Protection Committee will get regular reports on progress via a single improvement plan monitored by the Performance, Quality and Improvement Subcommittee.

This work will complement ongoing self-evaluation and improvement work and has informed the development of the Public Protection Strategic plan [Public Protection Partnerships Strategic Plan 2024 to 2027](#) and its four key priority areas of focus. It is acknowledged that certain work will be driven through the PPC Strategy's Key Priorities including Chronologies and Lived/Living Experience, so will not be included in this plan.

2. What did we do?

In October 2023, we undertook a multi-agency file reading exercise which looked at the record of 61 adults. Adults were contacted via letter or, where appropriate via their representative or allocated worker. We looked at different stages of the ASP process, some only at initial stages as well as those that progress through ASP conference. We focused on particular harms identified as prominent within our performance data:

- Psychological Harm
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Use
- Neglect

3. What else did we do?

In January and February 2024, we held **multi-agency staff focus groups** with those involved directly supporting four adults. These practice examples were selected by file readers to gain wider learning from what worked well and what we could have done differently. We sought to gain **direct feedback** from these **adults**, with minimum success. A **wider staff survey** was open from November 2023 to January 2024 to capture staff opinion of ASP practice and process. We then held a **workshop with our leaders** to establish how well they think they are working together to support staff across the partnership. All this information was then brought together and our Steering Group along with the File Readers analysed all the findings and identified what we are good at and what we need to do about the things that need to get better. This was all pulled together in a final report which was presented to the Public Protection Committee and the Chief Officers Group in August 2024.

4. What did we find

Overall, this self-evaluation and supporting data, provides good evidence that since the Joint Inspection in 2021 our adult support and protection arrangements continue to work well in Dumfries and Galloway despite a number of challenges. It is important to note that the files read dated from November 2021 to October 2023, which included some of the COVID Pandemic period. This period also included the adult care social work restructure which came into effect on 2nd May 2023 and had a direct impact on our data and systems.