



# 7-Minute Briefing: Dumfries and Galloway Multi-Agency Adult Support and Protection Guidance

## 1. Background

Dumfries and Galloway Multi-Agency Adult Support and Protection Guidance has been reviewed to align with the revised [ASP Codes of Practice 2022](#) and the [West of Scotland Inter-Agency Support and Protection Practice Guidance 2019](#).

It has been developed by representatives from Social Work, Police Scotland, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, Improvements and Quality, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and Third Sector.

## 7. What to do

- Take time to read the Dumfries and Galloway Multi-Agency Adult Support and Protection Guidance.
- Discuss the revised guidance within your team or working group.
- If you need clarity on any aspects of the guidance, speak with your line manager or contact the Lead Officer Adult Support and Protection ([Sandie.Donald@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:Sandie.Donald@dumgal.gov.uk))

## 6. Questions to Consider

- Do you know how to recognise harm?
- Do you know how to make an ASP referral?
- Are you clear about information sharing and consent?
- Do you understand your role and responsibility in keeping adults safe?

## 5. Useful Links

- [Scottish Government Guidance for Adult Protection Committees](#)
- [Regulation of Care \(Scotland\) Act 2001](#)
- [Adults with Incapacity \(Scotland\) Act 2000](#)
- [Mental Health \(Care & Treatment\) \(Scotland\) Act 2003](#)
- [The Self-directed Support \(Scotland\) Act 2013](#)
- [Human Rights Act 1998](#)
- [GP and Primary Care Team guidance](#)
- [Multi Agency Chronologies Guidance](#)

## 2. Why it matters

The [Adult Support and Protection \(Scotland\) Act 2007](#) was introduced to maximise the protection of adults at risk of harm and provide a clear legal framework to do this.

The Public Protection Partnership want to ensure that all practitioners who work with adults who may be at risk of harm are aware of the processes in place and the actions that should be taken by agencies when harm is identified.

## 3. What information can I find in the guidance?

The guidance is divided into chapters each with hyperlinked contents:

1. Context and Governance
2. Adult Protection Referrals – Duty to Report
3. Adult Protection Inquiries
4. Adult Support and Protection Investigations
5. Adult Support and Protection Conferences

And Appendices:

1. Adult Protection Referral Form (AP1)
2. ASP Process Flowchart
3. Glossary

## 4. Agencies' Responsibility

All partner agencies must ensure that their staff group has an awareness of Adult Protection issues and a working knowledge of the system of reporting requirements.

Social Work Services, as the lead agency for Dumfries and Galloway Council, have overall responsibility for the co-ordination of Adult Protection Procedures and are the central point for the receiving and recording of referrals.

All agencies working with adults must be mindful of the principles of benefit and the least restrictive option, seek to involve the adult in matters affecting him or her, including Adult Protection Inquiries, considering any communication issues, of the need to have support from relevant others and/ or independent advocacy. The adult's views and wishes, both past and present and future must always be acknowledged with due regard.