

Summary of Aberdeen Adult Protection Committee (APC) meeting

3rd February 2023

Below is a summary of the meeting held on 3rd February. We hope these updates are helpful.

- Members started by noting discussions held at a meeting of agency leads / Sub Committee chairs on 13th January, which had considered the impact of current pressures and demands on the ability to progress actions in the APC Improvement Plan, given the need to prioritise operational issues. ASP work was continuing to be prioritised by all partners.
- The meeting approved the Grampian Learning Review Procedures which had been updated to reflect the new national [Learning Review Guidance for APCs](#). Once the Procedures have been endorsed by all three Grampian APCs, they will be published on the [Aberdeen Protects website](#), along with an accompanying local 'toolkit' of guidance documents for practitioners across both Adult and Child Protection.
- It was noted that work was being done to progress the recommendations of a 'strategic assessment' undertaken about how better to ensure that individuals supported and protected under ASP legislation have access to independent advocacy support. This work was as a result of a key recommendation of the joint inspection of ASP in Aberdeen during the first half of 2022.
- Positive work was progressing, at a Grampian level, on a number of fronts, including:
 - a working pilot resulting from work undertaken to improve the process for consideration of Police Concern Reports;
 - a review being undertaken of the Grampian ASP Procedures in light of the revised national ASP Code of Practice; and
 - a webinar was to be held for staff from Financial Institutions (banks, post offices, etc) to raise awareness of financial harm and how they can help to prevent this.
- Work was being undertaken to assess our position locally against new national guidance including the National Code of Practice for ASP, Guidance for APCs, and Guidance for GPs. Progress was at different stages, due to capacity pressures, but the APC will be keeping a watching brief on this, on behalf of the Chief Officers Group.
- A 'Public Protection Leads' group had been formalized by the COG, which would consider cross-cutting public protection issues.
- It was noted that National ASP Day was on 20th February 2023, the theme for which this year was 'Neglect and Self Neglect'. Awareness-raising was to take place as follows:

- at a national level (social media and other messaging);
- at a Grampian level (local social media messaging led by Police Scotland, and a Facebook Q&A session on 21st February); and
- at a local level (involvement in the above, plus dissemination of single and multi agency 'bulletins' for staff).

As ever, if you know of anyone who might be interested in being involved in the Adult Protection Committee's Lived Experience Forum, or would like to find out more, please ask them to contact Advocacy Service Aberdeen (Email: ASA@advocacy.org.uk, Tel: 01224 332314)