

Joint Inspection of the P&K Adult Support and Protection Partnership



What is Adult Support and Protection?

All adults at risk of harm have the right to be safe and protected. The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 is designed to protect those adults who are unable to safeguard their own interests and are at risk of harm because they are affected by:

- **disability**
- **illness**
- **mental disorder**
- **physical or mental infirmity**

Harm means all harm including self-harm and neglect.

The ASP Act requires councils and a range of public bodies to work together to support and protect adults who are unable to safeguard themselves, their property, and their rights.

More about how we deliver Adult Support & Protection in Peth & Kinross can be found at:
<https://www.pkc.gov.uk/asap>

What is the background to this inspection?

In line with the Scottish Government led improvement plan, a further programme of inspection of adult support and protection is being undertaken across Scotland. This builds on the first joint inspection of adult support and protection, involving six adult protection partnerships, undertaken in 2017/18 and published July 2018.

The initial inspection identified some good progress by partnerships and but also variations in how partnerships give effect to the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. The Scottish Government has requested further inspection of the remaining 26 partnership areas. Perth & Kinross was not one of the initial six partnership inspected in 2017/18, so we are part of this inspection programme.

Why Inspect?

The purpose of this joint inspection is to seek assurance that adults at risk of harm in Scotland are supported and protected by existing national and local adult support and protection arrangements. The inspection programme is one element of an overall Scottish Government improvement plan.

Who is doing the Inspection?

The inspection programme will be led by Care Inspectorate in collaboration with Her Majesties' Inspectorate of Constabulary Scotland (HMICS) and Healthcare improvement Scotland (HIS). Each of these agencies has identified dedicated staff with appropriate levels of experience and expertise in adult support and protection.

How the inspection will be completed.

It is proposed at this time that inspections will be completed remotely, and inspection areas will upload all the requested documents onto a shared secure SharePoint site. However, as we move into a newer 'living with covid' phase, this may change. We will be inspected in five different areas:

1. A staff survey will be sent by the inspection team to relevant colleagues in Health, Police Scotland, provider organisations, social work and social care staff.
2. We have prepared a position statement ahead of the inspection. This set out how we deliver ASP work in Perth & Kinross, where we see our strengths to be and where we think our areas of improvement are. The inspection team will review this as well as the different documents we share with them to support this position statement. This latest position statement can be found at [Adult Support and Protection \(sharepoint.com\)](#). Please read it and feedback to me whether you think this reflects the position of ASP work in Perth & Kinross.
3. The inspection team will read our records (health, police, and social work records) of a sample of adults considered at risk of harm who did not require any further adult support and protection work after an adult support and protection referral was submitted.
4. The inspection team will also review the records (health, police, and social work records) of a sample of adults at risk of harm who have been subject of formal adult support and protection procedures.
5. They will also arrange focus groups with front line and senior managers in focus groups, to discuss the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on adult support and protection practice.

How are we preparing for this inspection?

As stated earlier, colleagues in Health, Police and Social Work have prepared a draft position statement in relation to how we deliver our Adult Support & Protection (ASP) work in Perth & Kinross. In this, we set out what we think are our key strengths and the areas that we think we need to work on. This position statement is based on a programme of annual self-evaluation and audit across a number of areas, which helps inform our work. These audit reports can be found on: [Adult Support and Protection \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

Our position statement is also based around our Adult Support & Protection annual report 2020/21 and our improvement plan 2021/22. Both of these can be found at: [Adult support and protection - Perth & Kinross Council \(pkc.gov.uk\)](#)

For all P&K Council and Health & Social Health Partnership employees, all of the Perth & Kinross ASP policies, processes and reports can be found at: [Adult Support and Protection \(sharepoint.com\)](#). For colleagues from Health & Police, these can be found on the Police and Health Staff Intranet

I would urge those who are involved in safeguarding adults in Perth to be familiar with these policies and reports, and we are keen to get feedback on these so that we can be assured that our practice seeks to safeguard adults in the best way that we can.

In preparation for inspection, we have also arranged a series of focus group open to anyone and everyone who may want to join to hear about the inspection programme, what they will be looking at and how they will be doing it. I also hope to use feedback from the focus groups to ask the following questions:

- What has been the impact of the pandemic on delivery of ASP.
- Do people know the range of policies and guidance that exist in relation to ASP and where to find them and how relevant and helpful they are?
- What people think about the management and leadership around ASP and;
- What has worked well and what areas for improvement exist.

Do you want to be involved in the Focus Groups?

These sessions will all be very informal, and it is hoped we can generate some discussion about whether you think that the position statement is an accurate reflection of where our strengths lie in Adult Support & Protection and the areas that we think need to improve.

The meetings will be held Wednesday at 2pm on:

- **23rd March**
- **20th April**
- **18th May**

If someone would like to be added to the meeting if not already, please contact Susan Netherington on: **HSCPAdultProtectionAdmin@pkc.gov.uk**.

Any further questions?

If anyone has any questions about Adult Support & Protection work in Perth & Kinross or questions about the inspection programme and our response to this, please do not hesitate to contact one of us:

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