



Angus Adult Protection Committee Annual Report | 2018-2019

ANGUS ADULT PROTECTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2018 -19

CONTENTS

FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR OF THE ANGUS ADULT PROTECTION COMMITTEE	p3
1 INTRODUCTION	p4
2 WORK OF THE COMMITTEE	p4
3 SELF-EVALUATION	p5
a. Initial Case Reviews	p5
b. Case File Audits	p6
c. Network of Support events	p7
4 WORK OF THE SUB COMMITTEES	p8
a. Training and Workforce Development	p8
b. Policy and Practice	p8
c. Financial Harm	p9
5 DEVELOPMENT DAYS	p9
6 STRATEGIC GOALS OF ANGUS ADULT PROTECTION COMMITTEE	p9
7 KEY PRIORITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS	p10
8 STATISTICS	p11
a. Number of referrals by source	p11
b. Angus Early Screening Group (ESG) outcomes	p12
c. Referrals leading to Inquiry	p12
d. Orders and Investigations	p13
e. Case Conferences and Adults at Risk in Angus	p13
f. Profile of adults at risk	p14
g. Type of harm	p15
h. Age	p16
9 CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS	p16
a. Identified priorities for 2019-20	p16

Foreword

by the Independent Chair

As Independent Chair of the Angus Adult Support and Protection Committee, I am delighted to present this Annual Report which provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Committee over the 2018/19 period, as well as highlighting areas of success and key challenges that remain to ensure that Vulnerable Adults in Angus are receiving the support and care that they require to ensure their well-being.

The Committee continues to meet on a quarterly basis although an additional Committee meeting was included this year to allow greater discussion regarding a number of key elements of ongoing work. Member attendance at Committee Meetings is excellent and there continues to be very significant engagement and positivity regarding the issues that require to be discussed and addressed. I am very grateful for the full contribution that Committee members continue to make towards ensuring that Angus has a very professional, inclusive and positive approach to Adult Support and Protection work. In particular I would highlight the work of Niki McNamee, Lead Officer for Adult Support and Protection in Angus who coordinates much of the Committee's work and ensures delivery of policy and practice which directly benefits those who are vulnerable in the Angus area.

The Committee has developed a Strategic Plan covering the years 2018-20, the detail of which is set out in the Report. This Plan has enabled the Committee to focus on key Strategic Objectives over an extended period which is a different but more productive approach than previously, when the Plan was subject to amendment on an annual basis. This change to a 3 year plan has received positive comment from the Care Inspectorate and although the Plan is subject to regular review, it has set a very good basis to continuously develop Adult Support and Protection Work in Angus.

Self-Evaluation of Adult Protection cases in Angus is key to ensuring that best practice is identified and shared with all relevant Professionals working in the Adult protection arena. Likewise where areas of Improvement have been identified as necessary, work has been established to ensure that these challenges are met and practice is developed as required. Over the past year, a significant amount of Evaluation and Review has taken place in Angus, the detail of which follows in this Report. The outcome of this evaluation has also been utilised to develop a relevant Training Plan for Staff and Voluntary Groups, as well as highlighting the importance of Independent Advocacy and Service User engagement in Adult protection cases.

I remain confident that Adult Support & Protection work in Angus continues to deliver the support that Vulnerable adults require and that their quality of life is being enhanced by a professional high quality Adult Protection service, delivered by dedicated and highly trained staff.



Ewen West

Independent Chairperson

Angus Adult Protection Committee

Introduction

The Annual Report for the Angus Adult Protection Committee (AAPC) for the period April 2018 to March 2019 describes and highlights progress towards the outcomes described in the Business Plan for 2017-18 and the newly developed Strategic Plan for 2018-20. This Report includes a summary of the work of the AAPC, the outcomes from this work and priorities for the year ahead, as outlined in the Biennial Report 2016-2018.

Work of the Committee

During 2016, work was undertaken to bring the 6 thematic Protecting People Partnerships in Angus under one collective identity; Protecting People Angus. These are Child Protection Committee, Adult Protection Committee, Violence Against Women Partnership, Suicide Prevention Collaborative, Alcohol and Drug Partnership and MAPPA.

Adult Support and Protection benefits from support from a Team Leader, Protecting People, who also has oversight of Child Protection, Violence Against Women and Suicide Prevention; a full time Training Officer and a half time Development Officer, who also has responsibility for Child Protection, to support the work of Committee.

A Chairs and Lead Officers of the Partnerships Group has been established, working on developing the shared agenda with shared policy, training and events.

Developing the shared agenda has made it easier and more effective for staff to access the information and support they need; increasing communication, publicising the shared messages and mechanisms to access support and reducing the duplication of effort and developing more joint working.

A review of the purpose and function of this group is planned to ensure it continues to be as effective as possible.



Self Evaluation

AAPC are committed to ongoing self evaluation in Adult Protection cases to ensure robust self assessment and that learning and best practice is identified and implemented.

AAPC has a Self Evaluation Plan which includes Case File Audits, Networks of Support events and Initial and Significant Case Reviews when required.

A proposal was recently accepted by Angus Adult Protection Committee to develop a Self-Evaluation and Continuous Improvement Sub Committee to focus on the Self Evaluation programme, taking this work outwith the Policy and Practice Sub Committee, allowing this group to focus on practice development.

Initial Case Reviews

2018 saw two referrals for Initial Case Reviews to the Committee.

One of these has progressed to a Significant Case Review, with work ongoing at present.

The recommendations from the other Initial Case Review have been remitted to the Practice Sub Committee to develop an Action Plan to take forward.

A further referral was received for an Initial Case Review early in 2019. A recommendation to progress to Significant Case Review has been made by the Mandated Sub Group of the Adult Protection Committee. Due to legal matters, this has not progressed at this time. Further consideration as to how this proceeds will be given once the legal matters have been resolved.



Case File Audits

This review process is part of a routine annual activity which has been adopted by the Practice Sub Committee and approved by the Adult Protection Committee.

The primary purpose of these case reviews is to:

- Identify good practice and ensure this is disseminated to all partners.
- Highlight any concerns and areas for improvement in the protection of adults in Angus.
- Offer assurance to partners within the Adult Protection Committee that standards are being upheld and that there is evidence of good quality service provision with an emphasis on continuous improvement.

In 2018 a different format of case file audit was agreed, allowing a greater number of cases to be reviewed. This was also a themed review, with a focus on decision making following an Initial Referral Discussion and a comparison of outcomes for those whose case was elevated to more formal proceedings and those who did not. There were a number of elements of good practice identified across the service areas which included:

- Good communication between agencies, with evidence of robust interagency and partnership working across most cases, particularly where cases went to IRD or case conference.
- Advocacy was noted to be offered in 5 cases, which is a notable increase on previous audits. Some cases did not warrant this as the service user was included within the process.
- Clear and robust assessment and risk plans were noted in 7 cases by the audit group, which supported the actions taken in respect to future supports for the adult.
- There were IRD minutes in 7 files with sound reasons around the decisions to elevate to conference or for no further action, with clear partnership focus on the preferred outcome.
- Chronologies were noted to be in place in all files provided for the audit, with clear chronology noted in 6 cases which supported evidence of good practice and decision making.
- Targeted resources were noted in a number of cases that were complex or had coexisting conditions, with good monitoring process noted to be in place, which were partnership orientated.
- There was evidence of workers supporting other family members/ carers throughout IRD or case conference process in 3 cases.
- Learning Disability Services noted to provide good practice standards for IRD and case conference process
- Angus Integrated Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service (AIDARS) case identified as an example of where Adult Protection processes achieve positive outcomes for co-existing cases for those who present as adults at risk of harm.

There were also a number of areas identified as requiring some improvement or consideration:

- The audit group felt that some cases could have been called to IRD earlier to achieve a quicker response to the risks highlighted. This may have been due to being unable to have the right people/ agencies engaged in IRD.
- Difficulty noted in some observation/ case notes around the non-attendance of particular agencies deemed to be important to the discussion of risk for the adult, particularly in relation to IRD meetings. This was not the case when a case conference was called, so may provide an indication of why a number of cases are directly elevated to conference within Angus.
- There was no ASP2a (There were no IRD minutes) noted in 5 files, although in some cases this was highlighted on Care First, but no copy in files. This should be a requirement if an IRD is called as this supports and confirms the reasons for the decision making taking place around the elevation to case conference or NFA.
- Although there were a number of good risk assessments in files, further work is required to ensure that all files have this in place, clearly detailing risk, action and how this will be monitored to reduce risks to the adult. This sits mostly with those cases that did not go to conference.

- Although there were chronologies in place for all audit files, their quality varied across the 12 cases. Some were lengthy documents that required considerable work to identify significant events, especially in relation to risk, with some also out of date. Further work is required to support the importance of clear and precise chronologies and how these can support good monitoring and consistency of practice.
- There was limited consideration for advocacy in the cases audited, with only 5 cases of the 12 highlighting this had been offered. In one case this could have supported a more robust outcome for the service user who had direct capacity issues.
- Case file recording between integrated services needs to be reviewed as the use of one system limits the access to information across the partnership, especially where cases may be transferred. Duplication of information across the two systems may be the only way to ensure information on previous risks or vulnerabilities is available, especially in relation to significant events/ chronologies. This could have supported an earlier elevation to conference on one particular case.

The recommendations from this review have been included within the Action Plan of the Policy and Practice Sub Committee.

Network of Support Events

Network of Support Events has been a new approach within Adult Protection, using live cases to review and evaluate practice and communication.

In 2018 eight Network of Support events took place. These were well received as a positive way to evaluate multi agency practice and obtain the views of the individuals and families within this,

Areas of good practice and strengths were identified as well as areas for improvement. Some of the key areas of strength were:

- Good evidence of practitioners working in a person centred manner
- Increased use of timely Initial Referral Discussion meetings enabling early identification/sharing of risk and proportionate decision-making,

Some of the areas for improvement noted within the report are areas that have already been identified for development and work begun;

- The area of transition between children and adult services
- Improvements within NHS Tayside in relation to adult protection
- Workforce development
- Streamlining of forms and processes

An Action Plan to take forward the areas for development and recommendations from evaluation of the event will be developed and managed through the coming year.

Engagement and feedback from adults at risk is a critical part of the Network of Support approach. An Independent consultant offered the adults at risk whose care and support was reviewed at the events the opportunity of an interview to share their experiences. Three adults in total elected to be interviewed and the findings have helped to inform the future direction of learning and development activities for staff.

Work of the Sub Committees

Training and Workforce Development

The Core Training Programme offered via the Adult Protection Committee is currently being reviewed. The Child Protection Committee Training Programme has also recently been reviewed and a proposal is being developed to amalgamate the Training Sub Committees into a Protecting People Training Sub Committee, including other Protecting People partners, reflecting the overarching aims of AAPC. This will reduce duplication, make best use of resources, allow for discussion of shared issues and allow for further development of more specialist training.

During the review period learning and development opportunities have continued to be made available to the multi-agency workforce. See Appendix 1 for the breakdown of attendance.

Alongside colleagues from Dundee City and Perth and Kinross, work has commenced on a Tayside-wide approach to the development of more specialist training for Council Officers and those involved in Adult Protection Inquiries/Investigations. This approach allows for the best use of all available resources and acknowledges the shared agendas of key partners, including the three local authorities, NHS Tayside and Police Scotland.

An online Adult Protection open learning resource and a Defensible Decision-Making Course will be available to staff from across Tayside during 2019. With the assistance of Mental Health Officer colleagues from the three local authority areas, plans are underway to develop learning around "Crossing the Acts" which will help staff to navigate associated legislation and achieve the best outcomes for all adults at risk of harm. It is hoped that these developments will go some way towards addressing concerns raised by staff around the need for more opportunities to develop their skills further.

In September 2018 the Workforce Development Officer along with a Mental Health Officer contributed to a local learning event for care staff and other professionals entitled "Sexuality and Dementia". This event aimed to give staff a better understanding of how to balance duty of care/right to protection considerations in decision-making alongside basic human rights to freedom of expression and sexuality.

In April 2018 a licence to screen the film "Resilience – The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope" was purchased. This film highlights the impact (sometimes, lifelong) of Adverse Childhood Experiences and looks at examples of trauma-informed professional practice with people of all ages. Since that time a series of screenings have taken place for all staff from across the Protecting People workforce in Angus.

Monthly Lunchtime Learning Sessions are now a key part of the learning and development programme. Sessions this year have included Domestic Abuse, Drugs and Alcohol Services and Services for Women and Girls.

Policy and Practice

During the 2018-19 period there has been a number of initiatives the Policy and Practice Sub Group (PSG) has been involved with, including supporting the Networks of Support events, and leading on the annual multi agency audit of Adult Protection cases, which focused on casework and decision making process within Initial Review Discussion (IRD)

Adult Protection and the continued drive to raise awareness within a multi-agency framework has been the central focus of PSG, to ensure all partner agencies have adult support and protection as a core function of their roles, whether this sits within a community or hospital based environment.

Transition between children and adult services, in relation to young people who may be at risk of harm, has also been a key theme for the PSG, and has been involved with partners reviewing local structures around this group, to develop supports and procedures to support effective transition, thereby minimizing the risk of possible harm.

Representatives from the PSG have also been involved with partners from Angus Health and Social Care Partnership to further develop good communication tools between adult services, which has led to a specific thematic group being developed to ensure Adult Support and Protection Procedures are embedded within new IT systems within Angus.

Financial Harm

The Financial Harm Sub Committee continues to act to protect members of the Angus Community, particularly the more vulnerable citizens from financial harm. The main focus will always be awareness raising through education and provision of information and advice in order to empower our local community however we have seen the importance of interventions and preventions with the impact of the Banking Protocol, Trucall telephone call blocking and of course the Financial Abuse Support Team. (FAST)

Presentations have been delivered to local community groups within Angus including the North East Sensory Service and Dementia Awareness Service; to professionals within the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership and to commercial organisations such as Royal Mail.

Our Twitter account @scamfreeangus has grown to 401 followers and we continue to deliver monthly slots on Radio North Angus the last Wednesday of each month.

Community engagement featured heavily with Citizens Advice led "Scam Awareness Month" in June 2018 with all partners involved, Police Scotland led Operation Monarda, relating to doorstep crime in May 2018 and our own "Pop Up" financial harm events held in Arbroath in June 2018 and Montrose in March 2019, during this period.

The banking protocol was launched in March 2018 and although this has increased the number of incidents for the group to deal with, the benefits and interventions has offered greater opportunities for protection for our local community. The estimate saving or loss prevention due to the Banking protocol for 2018/19 in Scotland is £7 000 000.

Financial Abuse Support Team (FAST) has seen an increase in the number of referrals but this is viewed as a positive effect in maintaining and increasing the safety and security of the most vulnerable members of our community and confidence in reporting such incidents. Many common threads relating to referrals are fear, through false debt collection, utilising third party voucher schemes as payment, social engineering and the misuse of electronic technology, loneliness and romance type scams.

2019-20 will see a focus on enforcement and building on the existing partnerships between Trading Standards, Adult Protection and Police Scotland in tackling local, national and international fraud and scams.

Development Days

A development session was held in 2018 with the aim of bringing Committee members into the heart of practice. This was an extremely positive session and informed the development of the Strategic Plan for 2018-20.

Strategic Goals of Angus Adult Protection Committee

Strategic Goal 1:

Adults at risk within Angus will be protected from harm in a timely and proportionate manner

Strategic Goal 2:

We will have a confident, competent and supported workforce; skilled and equipped to identify, support and protect adults from harm

Strategic Goal 3:

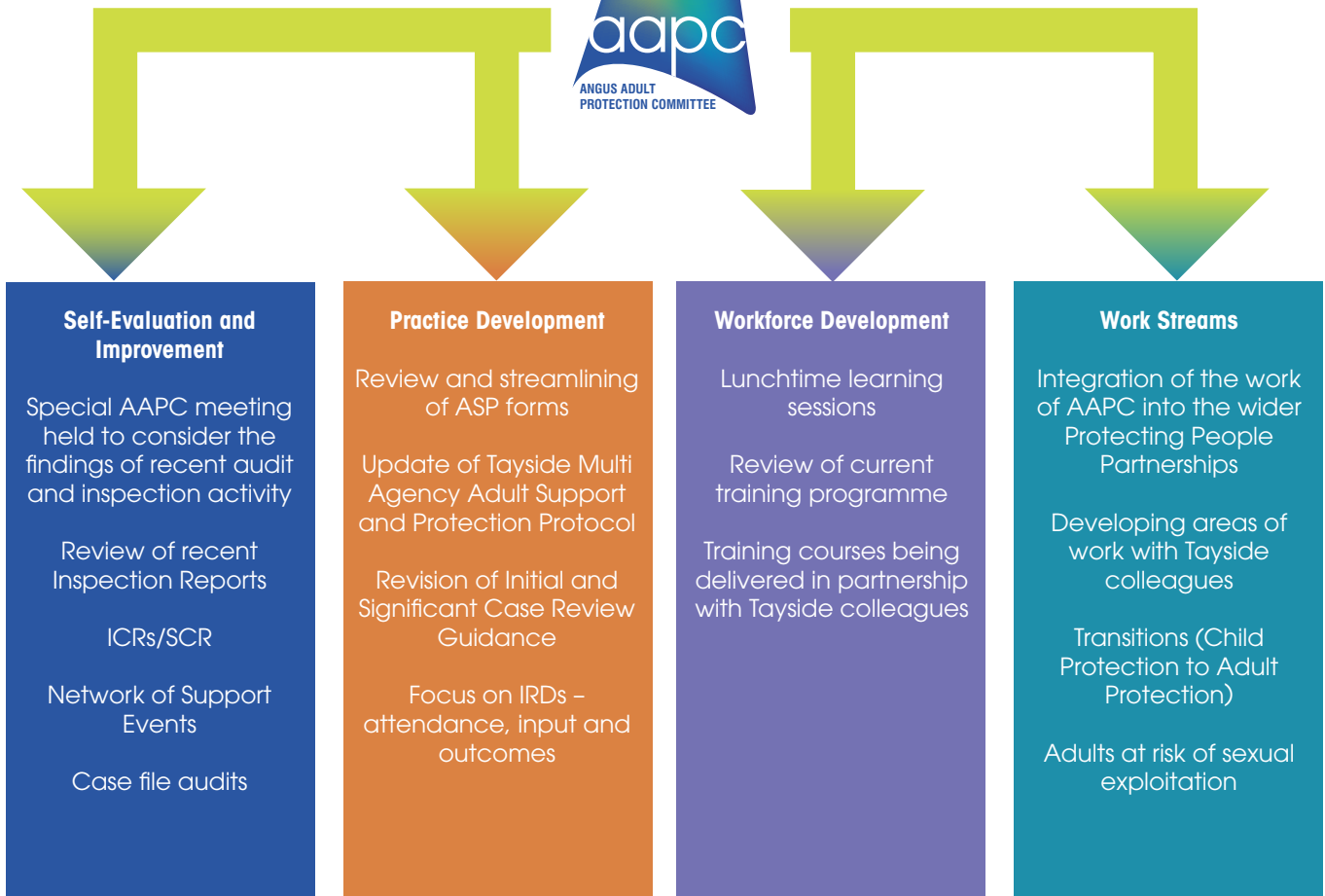
Angus citizens are able to identify adults at risk of harm and are confident and competent in using the available mechanisms to report concerns

Strategic Goal 4:

We will work in collaboration with other Committees, Partnerships and Services to improve practice in relation to adult protection

These goals form the overarching basis of the Strategic Plan for 2018-20.

Key priorities and developments



Statistics

Number of Referrals by Source

Source of Referral	April 2015 March 2016	April 2016 March 2017	April 2017 March 2018	April 2018 March 2019
Police	150 (65%)	257 (61%)	340	306 (79%)
Angus Health & Social Care Partnership	25 (11%)	50 (12%)	28	19 (5%)
Family	5	20	4	4
Member of the Public	2	17	1	1
Carer	2	2	3	5
Voluntary Organisation	1	3	2	0
Other Care Home	13	5	8	10
Other	23 (10%)	5	5	4
Self	2	4	1	0
Health Acute	0	1	1	4
Health GP	0	5	3	2
Health Primary	4	18	8	4
Local Authority Care Home	0	0	1	5
Care at Home	2	0	0	0
Housing	1	14	2	1
Care Inspectorate	2	2	4	1
OPG	0	1	0	2
Fire and Rescue	0	1	0	17
Friend/Neighbour	0	1	0	0
MWC	0	0	0	0
Total	232	424	411	385

Overall numbers of adult protection referrals have remained at about 400 per annum over the last 3 years, although have reduced from 411 in 2017-18 to 385 in 2018-19.

The numbers of referrals from the general public (21 in the last 4 years) have been very low, with only 1 in each of the last 2 years. The spike in the number of referrals in 2016-17 coincides with the "See Something Say Something Campaign" that was undertaken by AAPC. AAPC has identified awareness raising for the general public as a priority area for taking forward over the coming year.

NHS referrals from the acute health sector have also been very low (6 in the last 4 years), however 2018-19 saw this number rise, albeit a small number. The appointment of a lead Adult Protection Officer by NHS Tayside has seen awareness raising and improvement work being undertaken over the past year, suggesting some influence on the increase in the number of referrals.

There has also been an increase overall in the number of referrals from Care Homes. A Care Home representative is now a member of AAPC. However, there continue to be no referrals from Care at Home providers, which, given recent changes and the increase in care provided, is surprising. This is an area that warrants further investigation.

The number of referrals from Scottish Fire and Rescue service has increased significantly.

Angus Early Screening Group (ESG) outcomes

ESG Decisions 2017/18				
Total number of referrals	Number NFA1s, NFA2's, NFA3s and NFA4s	Number NFA2s	Number Letter to GP	Number referred to specific team
270	NFA1 – 46 NFA2 – 116 NFA3 – 27 NFA4 – 1	116	53	27
ESG Decisions 2018/19				
Total number of referrals	Number NFA1s, NFA2's, NFA3s and NFA4s	Number NFA2s	Number Letter to GP	Number referred to specific team
368	NFA1 – 65 NFA2 – 132 NFA3 – 65 NFA4 – 7	132	74	25

NFA 1 = No further action

NFA 2 = No further action because the adult is now open to an AHSCP Community Care Team (possibly as a result of the police referral)

NFA 3 = no further action because the adult lives outside of Angus Council

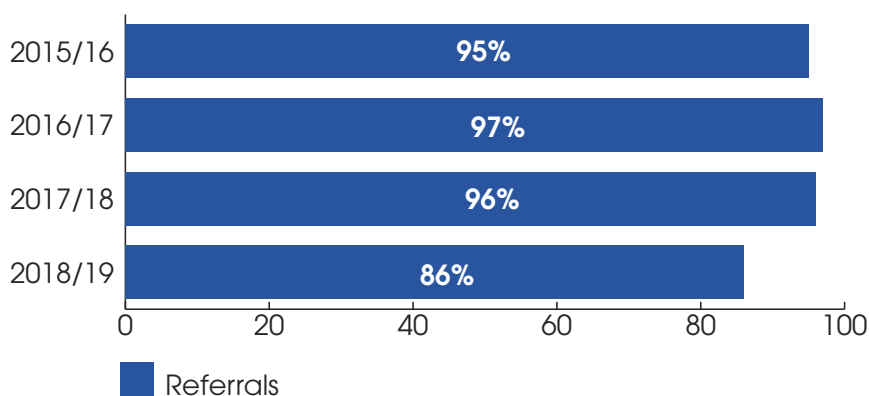
NFA 4 = no further action because the adult lives out with Angus

ESG is a multi agency group that meets fortnightly to consider mainly police adult concerns reports but also referrals from Angus Council's Housing Department for individuals who are not already open cases with any community based team and agree necessary action.

Agencies/services involved in the ESG are Community Mental Health Teams (over and under 65s), Police, Fire and Rescue, and the Angus Integrated Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service. It is chaired by the Adult Protection and Review Officer.

Referrals leading to Inquiry

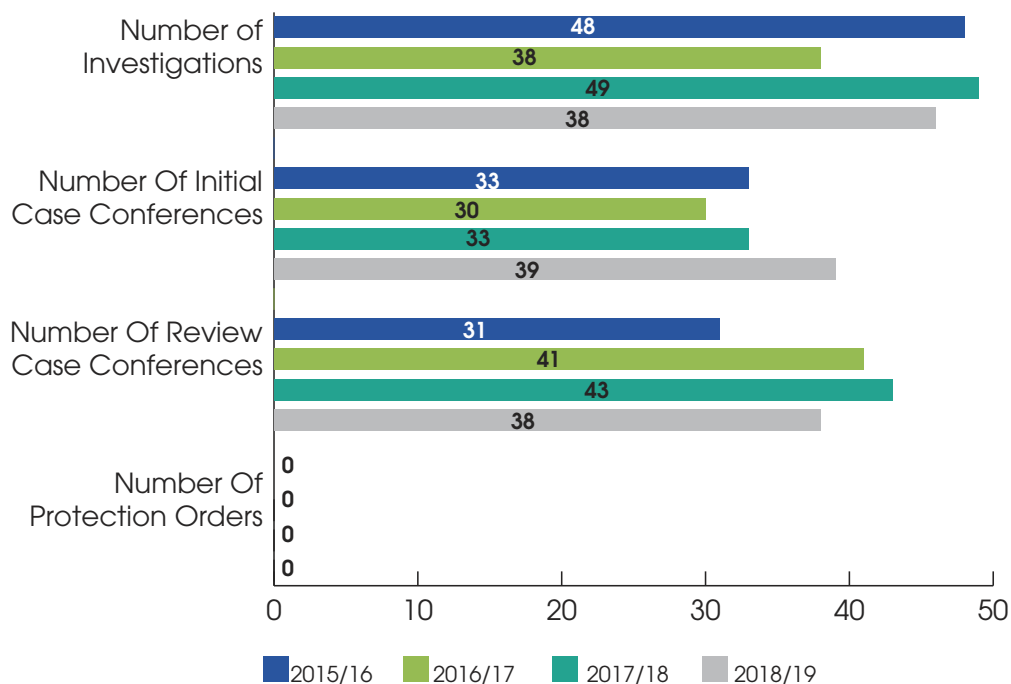
% of Referrals Leading to an inquiry



The percentage of referrals resulting in an initial inquiry has remained consistently high, however there has been a decrease by 10% from 2017-18. There does not appear to be any significant reason for this decrease. This is an area that will continue to be monitored through self-evaluation processes.

Orders and investigations

Investigations Case Conferences and Protection Orders 2015 - 2019



From the 331 inquiries undertaken, 46 of these proceeded to investigation. This is slightly higher in terms of conversion than 2017-18; 13.9% as opposed to 12.3%.

There was a notable increase in Initial Referral Discussions (IRDs); from 16 recorded between August 2016 and March 2017 to 41 recorded between April 2017 and March 2018. Between April 2018 and March 2019 there were 31 IRDs undertaken, a decrease from the previous year. The percentage of inquiries proceeding to IRD has also decreased from 105% in 2017-19, to 9.3% in 2018-19.

The number of Adult Protection Orders has remained nil since 2015. The need for a Protection Order is considered at every Adult Protection Case Conference, however this has not been warranted.

Case Conferences and Adults at Risk in Angus

Angus has continued to average 70 adult protection case conferences per annum over the last 4 years with 77 taking place in 2017/18. The conversion rate of investigations to Initial Case Conference is 85%; this is higher than the rate in 2017-18 which was 69%.

Angus has sought to obtain the views of adults at risk at the end of adult protection procedures as to whether they feel any safer. This figure has always been relatively high, reaching a high of 85% during 2017-18. This percentage decreased in 2018-19, with only 60% reporting feeling safer. An additional 8 questionnaires were completed by adults who were no longer deemed to be at risk. The majority of these adults felt that their quality of life had been improved since adult at risk procedures commenced. Ongoing work to consider other impacts of adult protection intervention will be prioritised by the AAPC in the coming years.

The figures regarding adults feeling safer and being assessed as feeling safer by professionals at the last case conference have remained high since this measure of was introduced 10 years ago; however this has decreased slightly from 2017-18. This is in accordance with the views of the adults no longer at risk noted above, suggesting similar views of recent Adult Protection processes.

Attendance and invitations to Case Conference figures show a decrease in the number of individuals being invited to and attending their case conferences. The increasing number of adults at risk affected by substance misuse and the number of adults lacking capacity in the "adults at risk" figures may have had an impact on these numbers.

There has been a reduction in the number of adults being assisted by an independent advocate at Case Conference. The figures for 2018-19 demonstrate an increase in the number of Advocates being invited to and attending Case Conferences, however this figure is still low. AAPC will consider how best to support practitioners to better utilise and support the use of independent advocates.

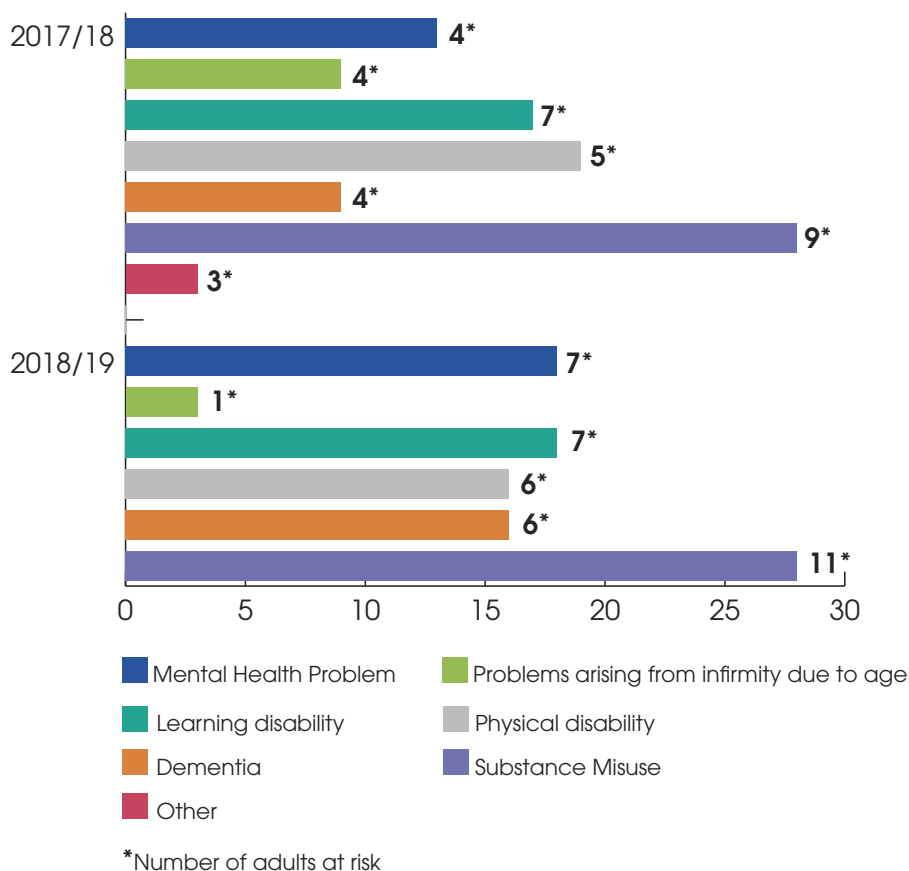
Profile of Adults at Risk

Gender

There were slightly more female adults at risk in 2018-19 than in 2017-18 where there were slightly more males.

Main Client Group

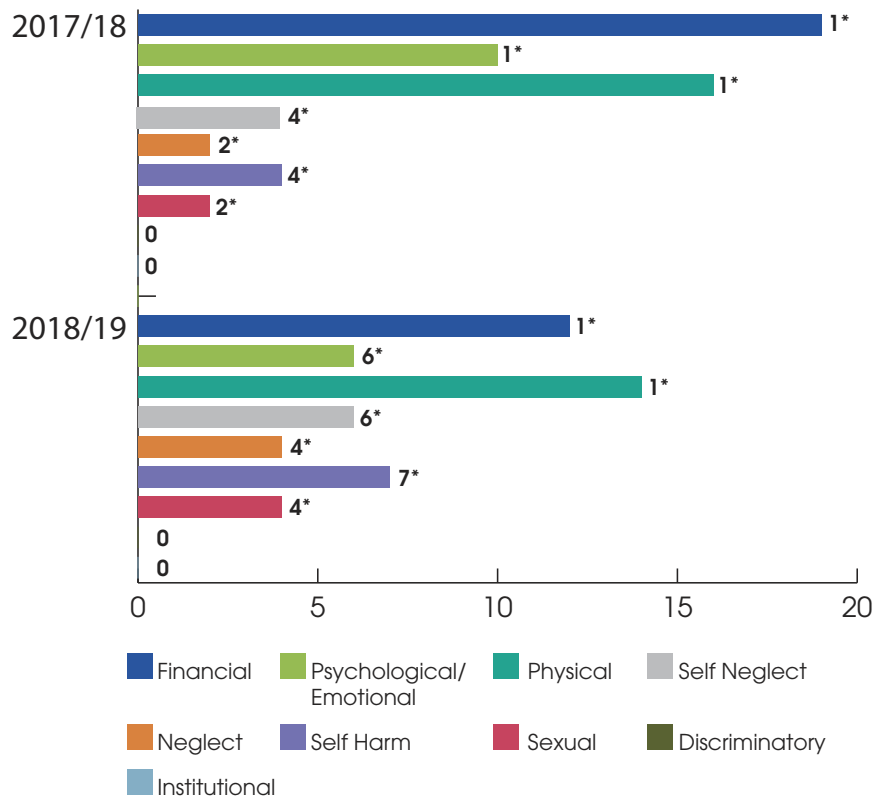
Adults at Risk by Main Client Group



All client groups are represented in adult protection work, however there has been an increase over the past 2 years in those affected by substance misuse. This may have impacted on the change in age of adults at risk, with the highest number in 2018-19 being aged 50-64.

Type of Harm

Types Of Harm Reported By Adults At Risk

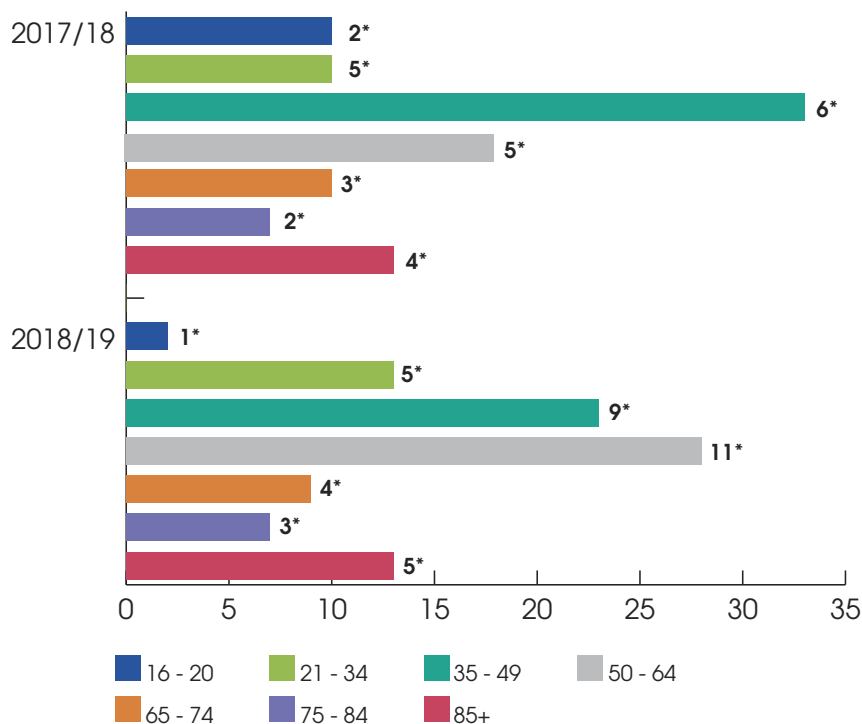


*Based on all types of harm reported on 31 adults at risk 2017/18 and 38 adults at risk in 2018/19

The principal type of harm of adults going through the Angus Adult Protection system has changed in recent years, with physical harm overtaking financial harm for the first time in 2017-18. However, the difference between physical harm and financial harm is not as great in 2018-19 as it was in 2016-17. The statistics from the Financial Abuse Support Team show that of the 72 FAST meetings held in 2018-19, only 3 of these warranted an adult protection referral.

Age

Age Of Adults At Risk 2017 - 2019



*Number of adults at risk

There were slightly more adults at risk aged 35-39 in 2017-18. This is a small sample size and the increase/decrease may not be significant. As noted above, this may be related to the increase in individuals affected by substance misuse being involved in Adult Protection processes.

Conclusions and next steps

As noted in the introduction, it has been a busy period for the Angus Adult Protection Committee. There are a number of work streams progressing and priority areas identified to progress over the coming year.

Identified priorities for 2019-20

The Strategic Plan for AAPC, as noted above, is based on the overarching strategic goals that were identified at the 2017 Development Session. The plan identified areas for future development as well as ongoing monitoring and oversight of planned work.

Adults at risk of Sexual Exploitation

A short life working group was established in 2017 and awareness raising undertaken. A proposal to widen the scope of this work to include other Protecting People partnerships and the wider aspects of sexual exploitation has been approved. This will be progressed in conjunction with Angus Violence Against Women Partnership.

Service User involvement/Advocacy

This is an area identified as a high priority to develop over the coming period. Obtaining the views of those who are involved in adult protection processes and their carers in a meaningful way has traditionally proven challenging, however work has begun to enable this. This will be further progressed over the coming year.

Outcomes and self-evaluation

A robust self-evaluation programme is in place, however a priority area for AAPC is to further develop and review mechanisms for using the findings from evaluation processes to inform areas of work and future development. A proposal currently being considered is the development of a Self-Evaluation and Continuous Improvement Sub Committee, to ensure scrutiny and accountability of all adult protection processes and procedures.

Practice development

This is an ongoing work strand to ensure practice is of a high standard and progresses alongside developments in adult protection practice. The annual self-evaluation plan will inform this work and allow the Training Sub Committee to progress related workforce development opportunities.

Committee members will continue to rigorously oversee the progress of its 2018-20 Strategic Plan and full delivery of the Plan's priorities will continue to ensure the positive and productive development of Adult Protection and Support throughout Angus.

Angus Adult Protection Committee Strategic Plan 2018 – 2020

Our Vision

“Working together to protect adults at risk of harm in Angus”

Introduction

Under Section 42 of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 each council must establish an Adult Protection Committee (APC). The membership of APCs is multi-agency. Angus APC includes representatives of NHS Tayside, Police Scotland, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership, Angus Council and other organisations who have a role to play in adult protection.

Angus APC has moved from producing a one year Business Plan to a three year Strategic Plan. This brings the priorities and reporting in line with the reporting arrangements to Scottish Government. This also allows the setting of strategic objectives which will be progressed through an annual action plan, aimed at meeting these objectives.

There are functions set out in legislation that APCs must undertake in order to fulfil their statutory duties. These are:

- reviewing adult protection practices;
- improving co-operation;
- improving skills and knowledge;
- providing information and advice; and
- promoting good communication.

Strategic Goal 1:

Adults at risk within Angus will be protected from harm in a timely and proportionate manner

Strategic Goal 2:

We will have a confident, competent and supported workforce; skilled and equipped to identify, support and protect adults from harm

Strategic Goal 3:

Angus citizens are able to identify adults at risk of harm and are confident and competent in using the available mechanisms to report concerns

Strategic Goal 4:

We will work in collaboration with other Committees, Partnerships and Services to improve practice in relation to adult protection

The aims of Angus Adult Protection Committee

- Improve the safety of adults at risk of harm in Angus
- Ensure that adults at risk of harm are listened to
- Raise awareness of adult protection
- Provide an integrated approach to the development of adult protection policy and practice
- Ensure staff are confident and competent
- Ensure continuous improvement through audit and review of professional practice

The objectives of Angus Adult Protection Committee

- Develop policies and strategies and involve service users and carers
- Develop systems to identify adult protection concerns and deal with referrals
- Guide significant case reviews and oversee the implementation of learning
- Devise, implement and evaluate education and training programs
- Create information sharing policies, procedures and practices
- Monitor, audit and review the implementation and impact of policy
- Monitor performance and report to Scottish Ministers on progress against agreed adult protection outcome measures
- Oversee the publication of public information

No of actions	Completed (G)	On Target (A)	Behind Target (R)

- Adult Protection Guidance
- Policies and Procedures
- Service User involvement
- Self Evaluation

STRATEGIC GOAL 1**Adults at risk within Angus will be protected from harm in a timely and proportionate manner.**

	Action	Indicator	Timescales	Person/Group Responsible	Update
1.1	Review and update the Tayside Adult Protection Guidance and ensure that professionals are aware of and refer to this	There are clear systems and process in place across all agencies in Angus Protocols, procedures and timescales are adhered to by professionals; evidenced through case file audit	September 2018	Tayside Lead Officers/ AAPC Practice Sub Committee	
1.2	Specific target groups will be identified to ensure that there is clear recognition of the needs of each group and mechanisms in place to support and ensure their protection	Target groups are identified and work progressed in this area	As identified	AAPC	June 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Harm subgroup in place • Adults at risk of sexual exploitation have been identified as the first target group. A SLWG is in place to take this work forward.
1.3	Robust protection plans are in place for those assessed as being adults at risk; these are regularly reviewed and updated to reflect continuous assessment	Evidenced through case file audit	Annual audit	AAPC Practice Sub Committee	
1.4	There is commitment from all professionals to engage in necessary protocols and procedures such as Case Conferences, Core Group Meetings, Initial Referral Discussions	All appropriate agencies represented where necessary	Six monthly reviews of attendance	AAPC members within their own agencies	

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

We will have a confident, competent and supported workforce; skilled and equipped to identify, support and protect adults from harm.

	Action	Indicator	Timescales	Person/Group Responsible	Update
2.1	<p>Review, develop and implement the adult protection learning and development programme that is a component of an overall training programme aligned with the needs of the Protecting People workforce in Angus.</p> <p>Ensure staff have access to opportunities that are flexible, responsive and which meet the local development needs of the workforce; both general, specific and intensive Training evaluation</p>	Targeted training is in place for different workforce groups	September 2018	AAPC Training Sub Committee	
2.2	Support single agencies across the care sector to develop good quality single agency training including access to e-learning, 'train the trainers' and interactive practitioner presentation materials			AAPC Training Sub Committee	
2.3	A shared language and understanding of adult protection will be developed throughout Angus	Case file audit, Network of Support Events	June 2019	AAPC Training Sub Committee and Practice Sub Committee	

STRATEGIC GOAL 2**We will have a confident, competent and supported workforce; skilled and equipped to identify, support and protect adults from harm.**

	Action	Indicator	Timescales	Person/Group Responsible	Update
2.4	Professionals are aware of and actively fulfil their duties in relation to adult protection with appropriate urgency	Adult Protection concerns are recognised, identified and responded to appropriately – evidenced through case file audit, staff supervision and Case Conferences	Immediately and ongoing	AAPC Practice Sub Committee	
2.5	There is a clear understanding across agencies of the Three Point Test	The Three Point Test is clearly identified and communicated through all training, publications and engagements	January 2020	AAPC	
2.6	There is a robust quality improvement and evaluation plan in place that ensures learning and practice development is disseminated appropriately	Self Evaluation Plan is in use Plan is developed for the dissemination of learning, including learning from Case Reviews (local/national)	Plan is reviewed annually in March	AAPC Practice Sub Committee	

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

Angus citizens are able to identify adults at risk of harm and are confident and competent in using the available mechanisms to report concerns.

	Action	Indicator	Timescales	Person/Group Responsible	Update
3.1	There are clear methods of communication to Angus citizens around issues of adult protection and the responsibility and mechanisms to report any concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of appropriate referrals to ACCESSLine and First Contact Team • Systems are in place and reviewed for effectiveness • Clear links are established to and Community Safety locality groups to further communicate with communities. 	Ongoing	AAPC/Lead Officer/Development Officer	
3.2	With other 'Protecting People Partnerships' in Angus we will raise awareness of protection themes including adults at risk by delivering a communicating strategy that encompasses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Social media • Attendance at public events 	Professional events Professionals and the public are aware of protection themes and there is an increase in reporting of adult protection concerns	Ongoing	Chairs and Lead Officers Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference took place on 23.03.18 • PPA Missing, trafficking and Exploitation Strategy is being developed • CLOG will develop an updated Action Plan

STRATEGIC GOAL 4

We will work in collaboration with other Committees, Partnerships, Services and Service Users to improve practice in relation to adult protection.

	Action	Indicator	Timescales	Person/Group Responsible	Update
4.1	With CPC, we will develop a clear protocol/pathway for young people transitioning from Children's Services to Adult Services where there is an assessed need for Adult Support and Protection input	Protocol and Pathway in place	October 2018	AAPC and ACPC Practice Sub Committee reps	June 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLWG has met on a number of occasions and proposal is being developed
4.2	A common language for Adult Protection will be developed and shared with other partners to enable a greater shared understanding of adult protection	All Partnerships have an understanding of and use a common language in relation to Adult Protection	August 2019	AAPC/ AAPC Training Sub Committee	
4.3	The work in relation to Adult Protection and Sexual Exploitation will be shared with other Partnerships	Information and material is disseminated to all Partnerships	December 2019	SLWG/ All AAPC members	

STRATEGIC GOAL 4

We will work in collaboration with other Committees, Partnerships, Services and Service Users to improve practice in relation to adult protection.

	Action	Indicator	Timescales	Person/Group Responsible	Update
4.4	In conjunction with AVAWP & CPC support the development of policies and procedures arising from Forced Marriage / HBV Statutory Guidance/FGM (Harmful Traditional Practices), ensuring staff are aware and provided with suitable training where appropriate	Policies and Procedures are in place that are accessed and followed where necessary	October 2018	AAPC/ACPC/ AVAWP	
4.5	In conjunction with ADP consider the development of defined pathways for adults who experience substance misuse and who are likely or may be likely to become adults at risk	Clear, defined pathways are in place and understood and followed by services	October 2019	Angus Adult Protection Practice Sub Committee/ ADP	
4.6	Develop a service user involvement strategy that ensures the views of services users, those at risk of harm and carers are represented within Angus.	Use the Network of Support referral cases as an opportunity to seek service user feedback in respect of Adult Protection services. Advocacy Services will provide feedback to AAPC of the views of those they represent	June 2019	Angus Adult Protection Practice Sub Committee Advocacy Services	

Appendix 1

Date	Course Name	AH & SCP	Angus Council Children & Learning Directorate		Angus Council	NHS	Police	Private Sector	3rd Sector	Public Bodies	Total Attendance
22/05/2018	Info Sharing & Communication	7			3	5	2	3			20
18/01/2019	Info Sharing & Communication	20	2		1	1	2	3	3		32
	Info Sharing & Communication										
Total		27	2	0	4	6	2	5	6	0	52
22/05/2018	Assessing Risk	7			3	5		2	3		20
18/01/2019	Assessing Risk	20	2		1	1	2	3	3		32
Total		27	2	0	4	6	2	5	6	0	52
04/04/2018	Roles and Responsibilities	6			5	4	1	2	7		25
23/04/2018	Roles and Responsibilities	2			10	2	1	1	11		27
12/06/2018	Roles and Responsibilities	6			5			6	10		27
24/09/2018	Roles and Responsibilities	8			5	1	1	6	4		25
14/11/2018	Roles and Responsibilities	9			6	0	0	8	6		29
08/02/2019	Roles and Responsibilities	15	1		4	2	0	1	4		27
08/03/2019	Roles and Responsibilities	26	1		4	3	0	2			36
19/03/2019	Roles and Responsibilities	23	2		2						27
25/03/2019	Roles and Responsibilities	20						3			23
Total		109	4	0	36	8	2	13	35	0	221