

Report

Report to:	Social Work Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	15 February 2023
Report by:	Director, Health and Social Care

Subject:	Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection
----------	---

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update the Committee on the outcome of the recent Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection (ASP)
- ◆ note the attached multi-agency improvement plan

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the content of the report be noted; and
- (2) that the process for implementation of the improvement plan be noted.

3. Background

3.1. A national programme of Joint Inspections for Adult Support and Protection was announced in 2019, led by the Care Inspectorate in collaboration with His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS). After considerable delay due to the impact of COVID-19, the programme resumed to seek assurances that adults at risk of harm are protected by existing local and national arrangements, and to identify areas for further improvement if necessary.

3.2. The South Lanarkshire inspection commenced on 1 August 2022 with the inspection team scrutinising two key areas of ASP activity, key processes and strategic leadership. The final inspection report was published on 6 December 2022.

3.3. Social Work Resources has the lead responsibility for adult protection, with Health, Police and other agencies including the third sector, working in partnership to prevent and respond to situations where someone is being harmed.

4. Outcome of Inspection

4.1. The outcome of inspection highlights areas of strength, development and opportunities to improve services further. The inspectors noted that the strengths detailed within the report collectively outweigh areas for improvement.

- 4.2. The inspection determined that the partnership's key processes and strategic leadership for adult support and protection were effective at keeping adults safe from harm and interventions supported positive experiences and outcomes for adults at risk of harm.
- 4.3. Key processes were found to be well organised and allowed for effective oversight and decision making early in the adult support and protection process, enabling adults to be supported through timely person-centred interventions.
- 4.4. The strategic leadership's vision and strategy was described by inspectors as collaborative and effective, and it was acknowledged that key processes were integrated into the adult protection policy and practice to support the vision.
- 4.5. The inspection also noted that strategic leaders promoted an extensive range of training opportunities for staff and carers and encouraged effective engagement with unpaid carers throughout strategic planning and service delivery.
- 4.6. Inspectors acknowledged that the partnership had maintained business continuity during the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledged recovery and remobilisation was focused on learning and collaborative working.
- 4.7. The inspection also highlighted four areas for improvement, which included the improvement of attendance and consistency at case conferences, improved quality and consistency of chronologies, the ongoing development of existing quality assurance processes, and improved quality of supervisory oversight around decision making.

5. Next steps

- 5.1. The partnership will prepare an improvement plan in response to the areas for improvement highlighted within the report. The improvement plan will be submitted to the inspection team by 31 January 2023 and implemented through the local Adult Protection Committee, with overall oversight through the South Lanarkshire Public Protection Chief Officers' Group. The Care Inspectorate's link inspector, and Healthcare Improvement Scotland and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland will monitor progress on behalf of Ministers.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no implications for climate change in terms of the information contained in this report.
- 8.2. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the information contained in this report.
- 8.3. There are no implications for the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. Maintaining high quality registered care and support services that are tailored to individual service user needs, ensures that people are supported and protected to live in good health and wellbeing.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function, or strategy, or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 10.2. There is also no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Soumen Sengupta
Director, Health and Social Care

30 December 2022

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ◆ focused on people and their needs
- ◆ working with and respecting others
- ◆ accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ health and wellbeing - people live the healthiest lives possible

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ [Report on the Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection in South Lanarkshire](#)

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Ian Beattie, Head of Health and Social Care

Ext: 3701 (Phone: 01698 453701)

Email: ian.beattie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk