

Report

Report to:	Social Work Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	28 October 2020
Report by:	Director, Health and Social Care

Subject:	Adult Support and Protection Progress Update
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ inform of the impending inspection of Adult Support and Protection
- ◆ provide a progress update on preparation for the Adult Support and Protection inspection to date

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the content of the report be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Scottish Government published a three-year Improvement Plan on Adult Support and Protection (ASP) in October 2019 to complement and strengthen local ASP activity.
- 3.2. A joint inspection of ASP, involving six adult protection partnerships, was carried out in 2017/18 in terms of scrutiny and assurance that ASP is being undertaken across Scotland. Building on this inspection, the Care Inspectorate outlined a programme to further examine ASP across the remaining 26 partnership areas.
- 3.3. The Care Inspectorate announced a two-year inspection programme in February this year and published details of Phase 1, which would take place from April 2020 to March 2021. South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership (SLHSCP) has been included in the first phase of the programme. Whilst COVID-19 has impacted on the timetable, the Care Inspectorate has indicated that preparations for the resumption of inspection activity started in August 2020.
- 3.4. With the rise of community transmission of COVID-19, continued restrictions and associated winter pressures, the Chief Officers Group has written to the Care Inspectorate to request the timing of any forthcoming inspection be delayed at least until May 2021, thus enabling the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) to fully engage in the inspection process. As a key partner in ASP, the focus for NHS Lanarkshire (NHSL) from September will be on delivering the flu vaccination programme, by appointment, to over 300,000 individuals across Lanarkshire, this includes:
- ◆ children aged 2 to 5 years (must be age 2 or above on 1 September 2020 and not yet in school)
 - ◆ everyone aged under 65 at risk

- ◆ everyone aged 65 and over (by 31 March 2021)
- ◆ household members of people who are shielding
- ◆ 55 to 64 years (who are not otherwise eligible, if vaccine supplies allow later in the programme)

- 3.5. Due to restrictions, drop-in facilities are not available this year and appointments will be held within large community vaccination sites. Community nurses will provide vaccination to those unable to leave their home and a vaccination programme has been established for school aged children and the Health and Social Care workforce.
- 3.6. Whilst under the ASP legislation, Social Work Resources has the lead responsibility for Adult Protection, Health, Police and other agencies to work together to prevent and respond to situations where someone is being harmed. During the period 2019/20, Social Work responded to 2,863 ASP inquiries and carried out 1,308 ASP investigations. In addition, 2,567 welfare guardianship visits were carried out by Social Work staff to support adults with incapacity and 286 Mental Health Orders were granted.
- 3.7. In preparation for inspection, a multi-agency inspection sub-group has been established with representatives from each of the partner agencies, including the ASP Committee and representatives from the third sector and Education.
- 3.8. This group will support the Partnership to plan and prepare for inspection, gather evidence on behalf of the Partnership and prepare the Partnership's position statement for presentation to the inspection team. It will also take a key role in sharing information on the inspection across the Partnership through the delivery of management and staff briefings.
- 3.9. Social Work, as lead agency in ASP, has created an internal inspection sub-group to support the work of the multi-agency group. A Fieldwork Manager from Adult and Older People's Services will chair the group and other members will include a Team Leader from each locality, an Operations Manager from Justice, on a part-time basis, and support from Planning and Performance.
- 3.10. The group will develop a programme of self-evaluation and audit activity to build upon the work already undertaken by the South Lanarkshire Adult Protection Committee (SLAPC). They will evaluate key processes in ASP cases, including the sharing of information across the Partnership, and assess their effectiveness in identifying and managing risk.
- 3.11. The findings from the evaluations will be reported to the SLAPC and the adult protection workforce within Social Work to ensure there is shared learning across each locality and plans for improvement can be progressed. This self-evaluation activity will result in better services and improved outcomes for adults.

4. Inspection methodology

- 4.1. The inspections are planned around the 13 Police Scotland Divisional Hubs. This means in practice that the inspection team will carry out two or more partnership inspections over the same timeframe. Within Lanarkshire, the inspection will cover Police Q Division and both North and South HSCP will be inspected at the same time alongside NHSL. The partnerships will be inspected independently and the reports on findings will be separate for each Partnership area.

- 4.2. The Inspectors, who will all have appropriate levels of experience and expertise in ASP, will represent various scrutiny bodies including the Care Inspectorate, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland.
- 4.3. The focus of the inspection will be on two key quality illustrations: Key Processes and Leadership and Governance. It will assess how good our policies, procedures, and practice are in relation to ASP, our collaborative working across the Partnership, and the effectiveness of the Partnership at securing the sustained safety, protection and support of adults at risk of harm. In relation to leadership and governance, inspectors will measure the impact of leaders within the Partnership at creating a supportive and collaborative approach to ASP.

5. Preparation for Inspection

5.1. Multi-agency Sub-Group

- 5.1.1. An inspection sub-group meets fortnightly with representatives from Social Work, NHSL, Police Scotland, Education, Independent and Voluntary sector and the SLAPC Lead Officer, to drive the inspection agenda forward. This group reports to the SLAPC on activity and progress.
 - 5.1.2. An action plan has been developed by the Inspection Sub-Group to prioritise work across the multi-agency partners in preparation for inspection, including a communication framework, the gathering of evidence from all partners and the development of a position statement.
 - 5.1.3. The Group is currently identifying resources across each partnership agency to progress this work.
- ### **5.2. Multi-Agency Case File Audit**
- 5.2.1. SLAPC arranged a multi-agency case file audit during July 2020, with case file readers from Social Work, NHS and Police assessing the quality of ASP key processes across the Partnership. The findings are currently being analysed and will be presented to the next meeting of the SLAPC.
 - 5.2.2. Twenty cases were selected that represented individuals supported through ASP with some living independently and others living within a care home setting. The cases dated from 01 June 2018 to 01 June 2020, reflecting the two-year timespan of the inspection methodology, and included pre and post COVID-19 activity.
 - 5.2.3. The Care Inspectorate has issued an inspection augmentation paper which will enable joint inspection partners to specifically consider the impact of the Covid-19 emergency, and the associated restricted period on adults at risk of harm. This will enable them to determine how Adult Protection Partnerships have managed the considerable challenges posed by the COVID-19 emergency and help them assess the partnerships' compliance with the Scottish Government's COVID-19 additional guidance for ASP.
- ### **5.3. Social Work Case File Audit**
- 5.3.1. An evaluation was completed by local Social Work managers within the HSCP during May 2020, with 16 Social Work case files audited. The purpose of this audit was to evaluate key processes in ASP cases and to assess their effectiveness in identifying and managing risk.

- 5.3.2. The outcome of the audit indicated good collaborative working through the referral activity from partners and the sharing of effective and appropriate information. However, there were areas of development highlighted in relation to risk primarily relating to strengthening the depth and consistency of the case record across agencies in areas including:
- ◆ detailing the risk assessment process
 - ◆ clarify that all dealings with the adult at risk of harm had adequately addressed any potential barriers
 - ◆ evidencing that the views of the adult at risk had been considered
 - ◆ whether advocacy support was considered
- 5.3.3. In response to these findings, the HSCP has nominated a Fieldwork Manager to lead a Social Work team, consisting of Team Leaders from each locality, to further evaluate ASP cases during the last two years and ensure that an improvement plan, based on the findings of this audit and earlier evaluations, is implemented. This group will develop a more rigorous system of quality assurance which will include regular reporting to the Social Work Governance forum chaired by the Chief Social Work Officer.
- 5.3.4. Governance arrangements have been put in place to monitor the progress of the actions with two weekly reporting to the Head of Health and Social Care Services and quarterly reporting to the Social Work Governance Group and the Adult Protection Committee.
- 5.4. ASP Training
- 5.4.1. At the beginning of the year, SLAPC supported a comprehensive training programme involving Social Work Managers and Team Leaders in preparation for inspection. Due to the impact of COVID-19, elements of this programme and the wider ASP training programme have now been transferred to Learn-on-Line for multi-agency partners.
- 5.4.2 SLAPC has continued to deliver ASP training throughout the Pandemic both online and classroom based. A comparison of the period 23 March to 31 July for 2019 and 2020 highlights the significant increase of ASP training courses attended at ASP Level 2 and Level 3, Practical Application of ASP, Assessment of Risk and Need and Chronologies. This also reflects increased training activity for Care at Home staff.

	2019	2020
ASP Classroom Training	132	426
ASP Learn on Line Training	107	433

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 climate change, sustainability and environmental implications in terms of the information contained in this report.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no risk implications associated with this report.
- 9.2. There are no sustainable development implications associated with this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. There is no requirement to undertake an equality impact assessment regarding the content of this report.

Val de Souza
Director, Health and Social Care

2 October 2020

Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives

- ◆ improve later life
- ◆ deliver better health and social care outcomes for all
- ◆ improve health, care and wellbeing
- ◆ make communities safer, stronger and sustainable

Previous References

- ◆ none

List of Background Papers

- ◆ none

Contact for Further Information

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

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