



Protecting Adults in Forth Valley

Adult Support and Protection



Information
for adults, their
representatives
and families



What is Adult Support and Protection?

This leaflet aims to provide guidance for adults who require support and protection should they suffer any kind of harm, whether that be physical, psychological, sexual, financial harm or neglect. The leaflet also provides information for family, friends or representatives of an adult who needs help.

Who will be involved?

It is the job of social services to inquire into any situation where harm to an adult is reported and to take action to prevent further harm. This is not needed for all adults, but for adults who may have difficulty with protecting themselves. Some situations can also involve the police if the harm involves a crime, for example an attack or sexual assault. Some may also involve an examination by a police doctor, GP or nurse if there is an injury or any concerns about the health of the adult who has been harmed.



Advocacy

An independent person can help the adult to say what they want to happen. This person is called an advocacy worker and it is a free service. The social care worker will put the adult in touch with an advocacy worker if they want this to happen. We often recommend the adult speaks with an advocate.

Other Support

There are other organisations that can also help adults at risk. These include Victim Support Scotland, Trading Standards, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority and other specialist support groups. If the adult requires help then a social care worker can provide contact details for these organisations, or arrange for contact to be made on the adult's behalf.

Investigation

An investigation is needed to work out what has happened and what else needs to happen to stop any harm. Two people from the police or social work will interview the adult and any other people involved, to ask questions about what happened. The answers to those questions will be written down. The adult can refuse to be interviewed if they wish, but interviews with others may still take place.



What next?

After the investigation, any action needed to make the adult safe will be taken. Other adult support and protection actions can be implemented, which are detailed in this leaflet.

Case Conference

There might be a meeting of all the main people in the adult's life to talk about the best ways to stop the harm. The adult will be invited to the case conference. They can ask someone to attend with them. The social care worker will give you a leaflet called *Adult Protection Case Conferences - What You Need To Know*.

The person causing the harm will not "normally" be invited to come to the case conference and will not be there if the adult doesn't want them to attend. Any people who work with the adult, for example, care workers, nurses, doctors, social workers and other staff will be invited.

The case conference will usually last around an hour. There will be a social work manager in charge of the meeting. This person is called the chairperson. The chairperson will ask everyone to give their views on what has happened and what needs to happen next to help the adult stay safe. An administrator will write down what is said (the "minute") and the adult and everyone at the conference will be sent a copy of the minute.



Protection Plan

Information for adults, their representatives and families

After the case conference, a plan may be written. It will say what needs to happen and who is responsible for the actions needed to keep the adult safe. This is called the protection plan and is usually written by the social care worker for the adult. The adult, any family or representatives and all staff will be given a copy of this, so that everyone knows what is in the protection plan.

The protection plan should stay until the person is safe and actions can be changed or added if needed.

Case Conference Review

If there is a Protection Plan, another meeting will be held three months after the first case conference, to find out if the situation is better for the adult. This is called a case conference review, and will ask all of the same people to come back and say what has happened since the first case conference. The review could be held sooner than three months if the situation is not improving. If any other meetings are to take place after that, people should meet up every six months.

When the harm has stopped and the adult is safe again, the Protection Plan will be closed.

Protection Order

In some cases the harm to the adult may mean that the Court has to take action to make sure the adult is safe. This is called a protection order. This can happen if the adult is at risk of serious harm.

The social care worker can ask for a court order to remove the adult from a harmful situation, or to ban a person causing harm from getting in contact with the adult. If this is needed the social care worker for the adult will explain this to the adult, any family or representative.

How do I contact the people who are helping?

Ask them to write down their name and phone number here:

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Other useful numbers and email addresses

Information for adults, their representatives and families

- 1. Stirling Council**
Social Work Adult Assessment and Partnership
01786 233759
intakecomcare@stirling.gcsx.gov.uk
- 2. Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership**
Social Work Intake Team
01259 727010
cart@clacks.gcsx.gov.uk
- 3. Falkirk Council**
Social Work Adult Assessment and Partnership
01324 506400
asp@falkirk.gov.uk
- 4. Forth Valley Advocacy**
01324 557070
info@forthvalleyadvocacy.com
- 5. Carers Link**
0800 975 2131
enquiry@carerslink.org.uk
- 6. The Care Inspectorate**
0845 600 9527
enquires@scswis.com
- 7. The Public Guardian's Office**
01324 678300
opg@scotcourts.gov.uk
- 8. The Mental Welfare Commission**
0800 389 6909
enquiries@mwscot.org.uk



If you have any questions on this booklet please contact:

For Clackmannanshire and Stirling:

Adult Protection Coordinator

Clackmannanshire & Stirling
Adult Protection Committee
Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB
or
Wolfcraig, Dunbarton Road, Stirling, FK8 2LJ
Tel : 01259727010 or 01786233759

Or

For Falkirk:

Adult Protection Lead Officer
Camelon Social Work Office
108b Glasgow Road, Falkirk FK1 4HS
Tel: 01324 506400

Formats

If you need help or this information supplied in an alternative format please call 0845 277 7000.

