Practice responses in adult safeguarding:
Views from an Independent Chair in Adult Support and Protection

Alex Davidson: Independent Chair,
Inverclyde Adult Support and Protection Committee
Argyll and Bute Adult Support and Protection Committee
Orkney Public Protection Committee
• Each Council must establish a committee with the following functions – Keep under review the procedures and practices of the public bodies and office holders

• To give information and advice, or make proposals to any public body or office holder

• To make or assist in or encourage the making of arrangements for improving the skills and knowledge of officers or employees

• Have regard to improving co-operation between each of the public bodies (relating to safeguarding adults) and the Code of Practice
APPOINTMENT

Appointed by the Partnership.

DUTIES

Duty to provide information and data, preventative cultures and systems, reactive to community safeguarding issues (SCR and Large-Scale Investigation), and developmental activities

SUPPORTING

Ensuring clear understanding of the role of committee

PRINCIPLES

• Empowerment
• Prevention
• Proportionality
• Protection
• Partnership
• Accountability

REPORTING

Reports to the Chief Officers Group Public Protection and to Community Planning and Community Safety
- Biennial Reporting to Scottish Government
Committee Membership

- Public bodies, the Council (now Health and Care Partnerships),
- The Care Inspectorate
- The relevant Health Board
- The Chief Constable
- Any other body and access for the Office of the Public Guardian, the Mental Welfare Commission.
- Most now have representation from the Fire and Rescue Service, The Scottish Ambulance Service, Mental Health services, Child Protection, legal services.
- The voluntary services, care settings
- Advocacy
GOVERNANCE AS LEADERSHIP
CO-PRODUCTION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

• VISIBILITY TO COMMITTEE, STAFF, VOLUNTARY SECTORS, COLLEAGUE AGENCIES

• STRATEGIC AND EVIDENCE BASED

• CREATIVE AND ENCOURAGING

• LOOK AFTER YOUR STAFF, ENCOURAGE, CHALLENGE, SHARE INFORMATION, SEEK QUALITY,

• COLLABORATIVE, MULTI-AGENCY AND INCLUSIVE, BUILD ALLIANCES

• AND CHIEF OFFICER GROUPS
• Involved and resourceful on training. Deliver training – be seen
• Identify opportunities - and gaps – Involve staff and feedback from Service Users lived experience
• Cross cutting, community and locality, families, individuals,
• Voluntary sector and locality actions
CONSTRUCTIVE LINKS AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

• Connections, links, mentors,
• Professional and user groupings
• Networking and involvement
• Data, intelligence and surveillance

• Who is doing what and why

• Sharing challenges and good practice

Diagram: Process → Review → Audit → Procedures
National Policy, case law and research

• Watching and listening
• Hearing stories, making connections
• Understanding and challenging practice (e.g. substance misuse, homelessness, neglect, trauma-informed)
• Locality and geography
• Legal Literacy, impact of legislation (capacity, mental health)
Shifting Roles – Social Work, Police, NHS, Fire and Rescue, Advocacy etc.

• As ever, managing demand, including hospital discharge but ...

• the growth in protection work, (single biggest area) the widening of definitions of safeguarding, capacity, learning disability and on outcomes.

• Currently some 780 referrals a week in Scotland, and an attendant focus on complementary social care needs.
01 APRIL 2019 – 31 MARCH 2020
TOTAL NATIONAL VALUES FOR THE YEAR 2019-20
CURRENTLY 780 REFERRALS PER WEEK

Referrals recorded for every 100,000 adults in Scotland during 2019-20. This is a 17% increase over the previous year and reflects a general upward trend over the past 6 years.

Investigations carried out for every 100,000 adults in Scotland. This is up 11% from 2018-19 and continues the increase that has been apparent in previous years.

Case conferences held for every 100,000 adults in Scotland. This is up 9% from a total of 54 in 2018-19.
SO-AN INDEPENDENT CHAIR - INFLUENCE, DIRECTION AND RESOURCES – AND ACCOUNTABILITY

SCR

AUDIT

DATA

AUTHORITY

EVIDENCE AND

PRACTICE SOME

PERFORMANCE HUMOUR

INFORMED AND ENGAGEMENT
THANK YOU

Alex Davidson

Mob: 07801952257

alex.davidson6@btinternet.com