Statutory duty placed on local authorities to ensure provision of AA support

Service Delivery Local authorities will have autonomy to determine how service is delivered

The local authority responsible for providing AA will be that in which the vulnerable person requiring support is located at the time support is required, e.g. if in police custody in Edinburgh, then City of Edinburgh Council is responsible for providing an AA

The purpose of support will be to:

- help the vulnerable person to understand what is happening during contact with the police
- facilitate effective communication between the vulnerable person and the police

Persons eligible for support will be those aged 16 or over who, owing to mental disorder, appear to the police to be unable to:

- understand sufficiently what is happening, or
- communicate effectively with the police

"Mental disorder" is as defined in section 328 of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003, i.e. any:

- o mental illness;
- o personality disorder; or
- learning disability.

Statutory duty placed on local authorities to provide training

Training should include local elements, e.g. familiarisation visit to local custody facilities

**Training** 

Training to be delivered in accordance with a national training framework to ensure consistency across the country

Training should be developed with input from relevant specialists, e.g. speech and language therapists, mental health professionals

Consideration should be given to some form of accreditation or recognition, taking into account qualifications *and* experience There are existing materials, e.g. the SAAN training guidance, the RCSLT's Box training, that could feed into the development of a future training model

assessment function placed on the Care Inspectorate

Statutory duty to provide quality

Quality Assessment Introduce a quality improvement framework that providers can use to self-evaluate

Quality assessment must consider the AA service as part of a wider system and not in isolation

Insight from the user perspective will be an important aspect of any assessment

There should be the option for thematic inspections

Statutory duty to provide oversight function placed on the Mental Welfare Commission

**Oversight** 

Functions of oversight role to include:

- providing a comprehensive definition of what AA services should be delivering
- providing a system-wide overview
- producing good practice guidance
- contributing to policy development in this area

Consistent data collection is essential to provide a national picture