

Adult Support and Protection

Improvement Plan 2019-2022

Delivering improvements to support and protect adults at risk of harm in Scotland

October 2019

Foreword



I am very pleased to welcome and endorse this improvement plan on behalf of the Scottish Adult Support and Protection Independent Conveners Association.

We are now into the second decade of Adult Support and Protection (ASP) in Scotland. Over the past 12 years a wide range of agencies and individuals from the statutory, voluntary and third sectors have worked together in partnerships across Scotland to embed the support and protection of adults at risk of harm into everyday practice. This has been led by Chief Officers and Adult Protection Committees at a local level, and protecting adults from harm is now a hugely significant part of day to day work across Scotland.

We have sought to learn from experience. Practice development has been informed nationally by an updated Code of Practice and by interagency self-evaluation and audit activities at local level. The Thematic Inspection of ASP, published in 2018, took place across six partnerships and was undertaken by The Care Inspectorate and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland, assisted by Healthcare Improvement Scotland. This has been a welcome and centrally important piece of work. It is a significant recognition at a national level that scrutiny of practice is essential for robust assurance of practice standards, for identifying national themes and priorities, and for enriching and complementing the learning that takes place locally.

The Scottish Government Improvement Plan is a clear indication of the high priority that is given to ASP nationally and is a further stage in the development of policy and practice for ASP. The plan builds on the findings of the Thematic Inspection and on current best practice locally. It reflects the importance of interagency commitment and collaboration and will be a key element of work across Scotland over the coming years to ensure that we all as individuals, agencies and partnerships do everything in our power to protect adults from harm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Paterson', with a horizontal line underneath.

John Paterson – Chairperson, Scottish Adult Support and Protection Independent Conveners Association

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Executive Summary

It has been twelve years since the commencement of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. Since then, a significant amount of multi-agency improvement work has taken place at national, regional and local levels across Scotland. Over the intervening years, the legislation has become embedded in policy and practice both nationally and locally.

In July 2018, the Care Inspectorate and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland published a joint, thematic inspection of adult support and protection (ASP) in six local partnership areas. The Scottish Government reviewed the findings and recommendations of the inspection. The findings indicated good progress since the commencement of the Act and positive outcomes for most adults at risk of harm in the local partnerships inspected. The Scottish Government noted the finding that three of the local partnerships were assessed as adequate or weak in some areas. This raised concerns about the overall consistency and assurance of ASP across Scotland. This finding, alongside all of the improvement work already underway, provided the impetus for the development of the current ASP Improvement Plan.

The ASP Improvement Plan was subsequently developed by the Scottish Government between November 2018 and April 2019. Six areas for improvement were identified and developed into an outcomes based improvement plan. A consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken in December 2018 and this provided support for and feedback on the identified improvement areas.

The six areas for improvement in the plan are:

1. Assurance
2. Governance
3. Data and Information
4. Legislation, Policy and Guidance
5. Practice Improvement
6. Prevention

The ASP Improvement Plan described in this document includes a range of activities, outputs, measures and outcomes which the Scottish Government will deliver on between 2019 and 2022. This includes Phase 1 of a multi-agency inspection programme for ASP. The improvement plan is intended to complement and support local improvement activities and will be reviewed by the Scottish Government in 2021-2022.

1. Background

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act was passed by the Scottish Parliament in Spring 2007. This legislation has brought about significant changes in the ways that adults considered to be at risk of harm are supported and protected. It includes a range of powers that can be used to intervene in adults' lives and conveys duties on named public services to protect adults at risk of harm. Over the intervening years, the legislation has become firmly embedded in policy and practice across Scotland.

Since 2007, a significant amount of multi-agency improvement work has taken place at local, regional and national levels across Scotland. Improvement activities have included strengthening governance arrangements, working on national priorities, delivering prevention work, practice improvement, learning and development, developing guidance and the involvement of service users and carers in adult support and protection (ASP). This improvement plan has been informed by and includes the outcomes from previous and ongoing improvement work, it does not start afresh.

A thematic inspection of ASP (under Section 115 of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010) was undertaken in 2017-18 by the Care Inspectorate and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland. Support was also provided by Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

The publication can be found at the following link:

[http://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/4453/Review%20of%20adult%20support%20and%20protection%20report%20\(April%202018\).pdf](http://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/4453/Review%20of%20adult%20support%20and%20protection%20report%20(April%202018).pdf)

The inspection included six adult protection partnership areas in Scotland and evaluated each against the following three quality indicators:

1. Outcomes – evaluating whether adults at risk of harm were safe, protected and supported.
2. Key processes – evaluating referrals of adult support and protection concerns including physical and sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse and financial harm; initial and subsequent investigations; case conferences; adult protection plans; and the use of removal orders and banning orders.
3. Leadership and governance – evaluating the leadership and governance for adult support and protection exercised by senior leaders and managers, the adult protection committee, the chief officers group and the chief social work officer.

The thematic inspection included detailed findings and recommendations for improvement in each of the six areas. Additionally, the inspection itself developed a quality improvement framework and tools to support local partnerships to evaluate their own work. The thematic inspection also recommended that the findings be used to inform developments in ASP in:

- Scottish Government
- All other adult protection partnerships in Scotland
- The wider health and social care sector
- Police Scotland.

The Scottish Government reviewed the findings and recommendations of the thematic inspection in July 2018 when the report was published. Evidence in the inspection that Scotland has made good progress in 10 years to develop awareness of adult protection, create and train the workforce and put effective governance systems in place was welcomed by the Scottish Government. It is of note that the inspection found that the results of this progress are that many adults at risk of harm are safe, protected and supported.

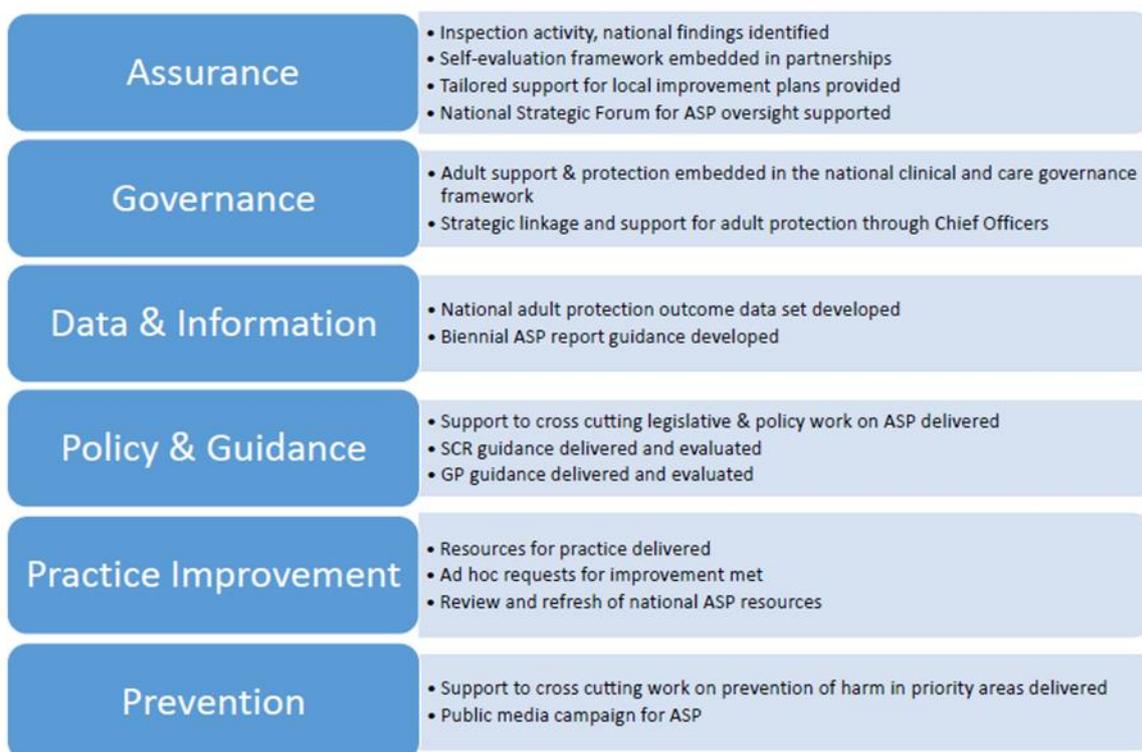
The Scottish Government also noted the finding that three of the local partnerships were assessed as adequate or weak for some of the indicators. This raised concerns about the overall consistency and assurance of ASP across Scotland. The Cabinet Secretary for Health subsequently asked Scottish Government policy officials to advise on substantive issues in ASP where further work is required to ensure a level of assurance. This finding, alongside all of the improvement work already underway, provided the impetus for the development of the current ASP Improvement Plan.

2. Development of the Improvement Plan

The Scottish Government worked on developing the ASP Improvement Plan between October 2018 and April 2019. The Scottish Government worked in close collaboration with the following groups and stakeholders to develop the plan:

- The ASP National Strategic Forum (re-established in November 2018)
- Scottish Adult Support and Protection Independent Conveners Association
- Social Work Scotland ASP Leads Network
- Police Scotland ASP Strategic Group
- Social Work Scotland Chief Social Work Officer Network
- NHS ASP Network Group
- The Care Inspectorate
- Healthcare Improvement Scotland
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Scotland

A draft three year improvement plan went out for consultation to stakeholders in November 2018 and proposed six interlinked improvement strands. The following illustrates the high level improvement areas and activities proposed in the draft improvement plan:



A total of 17 responses were received in December 2018 from a combination of the stakeholders described above. The feedback overwhelmingly provided support for the proposed six interlinked improvement strands and also provided specific feedback which assisted the Scottish Government to further develop the improvement plan. A small number of additional suggested improvements emerged from the feedback and these were either incorporated into the plan or agreed as areas for future development. In January 2019, planning work also commenced on the multi-agency inspection and scrutiny work required for ASP. The outcome of this work, and the subsequent proposal for a phased multi-agency inspection programme, was then incorporated into the improvement plan within the assurance strand.

The Scottish Government developed an outcomes model to describe the national improvement work, including the activities, outputs and indicators described in more detail in the tables below. The ASP National Strategic Forum reviewed and provided feedback on the draft improvement plan in March 2019. By April 2019, the improvement plan was fully developed and encapsulated all existing Scottish Government improvement activity alongside new improvement activities around assurance, governance and legislative review. The improvement plan was approved by Scottish Ministers in June 2019 and is now included in Scotland's Programme for Government 2019-20.

The Scottish Government is committed to strengthening adult support and protection across Scotland by delivering specific support for improvement. The purpose of this three year improvement plan is to complement and strengthen local improvement, it is not intended to replace local improvement activity. The ultimate outcome of the improvement plan is that adults at risk of harm in Scotland are supported and protected. The short, medium and long term outcomes of the improvement plan are illustrated in the model below:

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT ADULT SUPPORT & PROTECTION IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2019-2022						
	Situation	Short Term Outcomes			Medium Term Outcomes	Long Term Outcomes
Improvement Area	Why change is needed	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 5	
ASSURANCE	Inspection activity in 2018 revealed the need for greater assurance and support for improvement in relation to adult support and protection. Variation in inspection findings provided impetus for improvement plan.	Inspection of ASP activity provides assurance that we are supporting and protecting adults at risk of harm and identifies where improvements need to be made locally	Inspection of ASP activity provides assurance that we are supporting and protecting adults at risk of harm and identifies where improvements need to be made locally	Inspection of ASP activity provides assurance that we are supporting and protecting adults at risk of harm and identifies where improvements need to be made locally	Improvement activity for ASP is embedded in local partnerships and provides assurance that we are supporting and protecting adults at risk of harm	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
GOVERNANCE	Governance and support for the leadership of ASP needs to improve so the delivery of ASP interventions are supported strategically & operationally. There is a need for consistency in governance for public protection and Chief Officers need to be aware and supported with their responsibilities.	Revised guidance on clinical and care governance incorporates ASP governance processes	Chief officers are more confident exercising their governance role in relation to ASP	Leadership and governance for ASP is effectively delivered within clinical and care governance arrangements	Responsible bodies are confident and effective in protecting adults at risk of harm	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
DATA & INFORMATION	ASP data varies across local areas and demonstrates ASP activity inconsistently rather than providing information about outcomes.	Existing ASP outcomes data sources and collection methods are understood	ASP outcomes dataset and data collection model are tested and refined	ASP outcomes data model adopted by local areas	Local and national data demonstrates that adults at risk of harm are supported and protected	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
LEGISLATION, POLICY & GUIDANCE	ASP guidance requires to be developed and/or updated to incorporate new reporting requirements and to reflect the delivery landscape.	New national guidance adopted by local areas	New national guidance adopted by local areas	Improved consistency in reporting: 1) ASP Significant Case Reviews and 2) Biennial Reports	ASP reporting demonstrates that ASP outcomes are being delivered and are embedded within local governance frameworks	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
LEGISLATION, POLICY & GUIDANCE	ASP legislation (and associated policy and guidance) requires to be reviewed and updated to reflect changes in human rights as well as work effectively alongside other relevant legislation.	UNCRRPD is understood and improvements identified	Required changes to ASP legislation and policy are identified	Required changes to ASP legislation and policy are made	ASP legislation and policy works effectively alongside other legislation and policy to protect adults at risk of harm	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
PRACTICE IMPROVEMENT	ASP is delivered locally but some requests to support and improve practice benefit from national support and in turn support the development of operational and strategic practice resources.	New requests for ASP practice improvement are managed in a consistent way	New requests for ASP practice improvement are met and improvement measures are developed	New requests for ASP practice improvement are met and improvements are demonstrated	ASP practice is improved through the use of evidence and practice resources	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
PRACTICE IMPROVEMENT	Resources for ASP practice require to be developed on an ongoing basis and in line with legislation/policy changes, the outcome of inspection activity and research and evidence.	National ASP practice resources are up to date and future hosting options are established	National ASP practice resources are up to date and accessible	Local areas use national ASP practice resources and evidence to support practice improvement	ASP practice is improved through the use of evidence and practice resources	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
PREVENTION	Public awareness of adults at risk and how to seek help is not well understood. The public are important in helping to identify and access support for adults at risk of harm.	Level of public awareness of ASP is better understood	Public awareness campaign for ASP delivered	The public are better informed about who is at risk of harm and what to do about it	The public are confident knowing what to do if they think an adult is at risk of harm	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected
PREVENTION	Priorities for the prevention of harm to adults will continue to emerge and benefit from a national approach. Inspection activity may also identify new priority areas for prevention.	Priority areas for ASP prevention activity are identified and supported	Priority areas for ASP prevention activity are identified and supported	Prevention activities improve ASP awareness in priority areas	People (in ASP priority areas) are confident knowing what to do if they think an adult is at risk of harm	Adults at risk of harm are supported and protected

3. Improvement Plan – Assurance

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to the assurance of ASP.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Support the development and delivery of a multi-agency, proportionate, phased ASP Inspection Programme. Establish a Reference Group of stakeholders to advise and support the Inspection Programme.	Multi-agency ASP Inspection Programme Phase 1 is developed and delivered. Inspection reports are published (from early 2020).	Inspection of ASP activity provides assurance that we are supporting and protecting adults at risk of harm and identifies where improvements need to be made locally.	Model of inspection developed and refined based on testing demonstrates how assurance will be gained. Inspection reports from local areas are available and provide evidence of assurance and improvements required.	Evidence = Reference Group papers, inspection programme schedule and reporting framework. Evidence = published local inspection reports.
2020-2021	Support the delivery of a multi-agency, proportionate, phased ASP Inspection Programme. Support the Reference Group of stakeholders to advise and support the Inspection Programme. Support the development of assurance and improvement methodology for Phase 2.	Multi-agency ASP Inspection Programme Phase 1 is delivered. Inspection reports are published.	Inspection of ASP activity provides assurance that we are supporting and protecting adults at risk of harm and identifies where improvements need to be made locally.	Inspection reports from local areas are available and provide evidence of assurance and improvements required.	Evidence = published local inspection reports.

2021-2022	Support the delivery of a multi-agency, proportionate, phased ASP Inspection Programme. Support the Reference Group of stakeholders to advise and support the Inspection Programme. Support the development of assurance and improvement methodology for Phase 2.	Multi-agency ASP Inspection Programme Phase 1 is delivered. Inspection reports are published. National learning report is published.	Inspection of ASP activity provides assurance that we are supporting and protecting adults at risk of harm and identifies where improvements need to be made locally.	Inspection reports from local areas and a national learning report are available and provide evidence of assurance and improvements required. National learning report includes recommendations for assurance and improvement in Phase 2.	Evidence = published local inspection reports. Evidence = published national learning report.
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4. Improvement Plan – Governance

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to the governance of ASP.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Work with the Scottish Government Child Protection Leadership Group to explore and develop training opportunities in relation to public protection. Support the development of statutory clinical and care	Statutory Guidance for Clinical & Care Governance. Four meetings of the ASP National	Revised guidance on clinical and care governance incorporates ASP governance processes.	Scottish Government revised governance guidance includes statutory ASP governance requirements. Training materials for Chief Officers include adult support and protection.	Evidence = Scottish Government Guidance for Integrated Clinical & Care Governance. Evidence = induction pack, working group outputs, minutes of

	governance guidance (ensuring inclusion of ASP within Public Protection). Establish and support the ASP National Strategic Forum.	Strategic Forum.			Child Protection Leadership Group.
2020-2021	Deliver support to Chief Officers in relation to ASP duties through their induction and training programme. Support and develop the governance role of the ASP National Strategic Forum.	Induction and Learning opportunities for Chief Officers. Four meetings of the ASP National Strategic Forum.	Chief officers are more confident exercising their governance role in relation to ASP.	Baseline and post-training levels of Chief Officer awareness and confidence in the governance of ASP indicate improvement. Chief Officer feedback/evaluation following induction and training on public protection roles is available.	Evidence = training evaluation analysis and Chief Officer survey analysis (on wider governance). Evidence = induction training evaluation analysis.
2021-2022	Deliver support to Chief Officers in relation to ASP duties through their induction and training programme.	Induction and Learning opportunities for Chief Officers. Four meetings of the ASP National Strategic Forum.	Leadership and governance for ASP is effectively delivered within clinical and care governance arrangements.	Chief Officer awareness and confidence in the governance of ASP improves. Chief Officer feedback/evaluation following induction and training on public protection roles is available.	Evidence = Chief Officer survey evaluation analysis. Evidence = induction training evaluation analysis.

5. Improvement Plan – Data and Information

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to ASP data and information.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Work with data analysts, local stakeholders and national agencies to develop outcomes dataset for ASP. Define the project and identify the resources required. Design and deliver a feasibility study which reviews current data collection and reporting and identifies options for a national outcomes data set.	Project Initiation Document and feasibility study.	Existing ASP outcomes data sources and collection methods are understood.	Improved understanding of existing local data collection / current position. Draft set of feasible outcomes and methods for data collection is available. Stakeholder feedback on engagement in the process of developing outcomes data collection is available.	Evidence = SG review of Biennial Reports and data collection feasibility study. Evidence = outcomes data working group outputs, data collection feasibility study. Evidence = survey of data outcomes working group members.
2020-2021	Work with data analysts, local stakeholders and national agencies to develop a draft outcomes dataset for ASP which can be tested/piloted.	Draft outcomes dataset is produced for adult protection and tested/piloted.	ASP outcomes dataset and data collection model tested and refined.	Local authority feedback following their testing of the draft outcomes dataset and data collection is available. Results and recommendations from testing of the outcomes dataset is available, and these inform the final model.	Evidence = local interim data reports, survey of local authority ASP data leads. Evidence = report of data outcomes project, local interim data reports.

				Stakeholder feedback on engagement process and outcomes of the project is available.	Evidence = survey of data outcomes working group members.
2021-2022	Work with data analysts, local stakeholders and national agencies to roll out and support outcomes dataset for ASP.	ASP data outcomes model rolled out and supported.	ASP outcomes data model adopted by local areas.	Outcomes dataset launched and guidance in place. Biennial reports include evidence on performance regarding outcomes data collection. Stakeholder feedback on outcomes data collection evidences that outcomes data model has been adopted.	Evidence = data guidance document, launch communication plan. Evidence = Biennial Reports. Evidence = survey of local authority ASP data leads.

6. Improvement Plan – Legislation, Policy and Guidance

There are two improvement areas within the legislation, policy and guidance strand – guidance and legislative review.

6.1 Guidance

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to ASP guidance.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Develop and publish Interim SCR Guidance and the quality assurance process with the Care Inspectorate. Develop and publish GP and Primary Care Guidance.	Interim SCR Guidance (including Care Inspection quality assurance process), GP and Primary Care Guidance.	New national guidance adopted by local areas.	<p>SG policy team engagement with stakeholders provides sufficient assurance to confirm receipt & adoption of Interim SCR Guidance.</p> <p>SG policy team engagement with stakeholders provides sufficient assurance to confirm receipt and adoption of GP and Primary Care Guidance.</p>	<p>Evidence = attendance at launch event.</p> <p>Evidence = feedback from working group, survey across GPs and primary care stakeholders.</p>
2020-2021	Develop and publish Biennial Report Guidance integrating outcomes data reporting.	Biennial Report Guidance.	New national guidance adopted by local areas.	<p>SG policy team engagement with stakeholders provides sufficient assurance to confirm receipt and adoption of Biennial Report guidance.</p> <p>SCRs will provide evidence of whether multiple new guidance has been used.</p>	<p>Evidence = survey across ASP leads and conveners.</p> <p>Evidence = SCRs, SCR report analysis by Care Inspectorate.</p>
2021-2022	Analyse, review and publish reports on SCRs. Analyse Biennial Reports	SCR analysis and reporting, Biennial Report analysis.	Improved consistency in reporting: 1) ASP Significant Case	Analysis and review of SCRs and Biennial Reports will provide	Evidence = SCR Report, Biennial Report analysis.

	in partnership with relevant bodies.		Reviews and 2) Biennial Reports.	evidence that consistency has improved.	
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6.2 Legislative Review

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to ASP legislative review.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	<u>Proactive role:</u> initial review of ASP legislation and policy to identify any changes required. <u>Reactive role:</u> involvement in any related legislation/policy review or development activities to ensure 'fit' with ASP.	Establish parameters of legislative review with Ministers, develop review process, engage in consultation, evaluate options and make recommendations.	ASP compliance with United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities is understood and improvements identified.	Scoping and review of ASP compliance with United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities identifies improvements. Mental health legislative review identifies ASP improvements.	Evidence = Ministerial report, working group outputs. Evidence = independent mental health legislative review outputs.
2020-2021	<u>Proactive role:</u> contribution to mental health legislative review process. <u>Reactive role:</u> involvement in any related legislation/policy review or development activities to ensure 'fit' with ASP.	Contribute to legislative review process, engage in consultation, evaluate options and make recommendations. Decision about revision of ASP Code of Practice. Develop legislation and	Required changes to ASP legislation and policy are identified.	ASP report on required changes to policy and legislation is available as part of the independent mental health legislative review. Decision about review of ASP Code of Practice based on any	Evidence = ASP report, independent mental health legislative review outputs. Evidence = working group outputs, report

		guidance as appropriate.		identified changes is available.	on review of Code of Practice.
2021-2022	<u>Proactive role:</u> contribution to mental health legislative review process and delivery of changes. <u>Reactive role:</u> involvement in any related legislation/policy review or development activities to ensure 'fit' with ASP.	Develop legislation and guidance as identified through legislative review process.	Required changes to ASP legislation and policy are made.	Identified ASP policy and legislation changes are available and being progressed.	Evidence = revised Code of Practice, independent mental health legislative review outputs.

7. Improvement Plan – Practice Improvement

There are two improvement areas within the practice improvement strand – responding to requests and developing practice resources.

7.1 Responding to Requests

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to responding to ASP practice improvement requests.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Develop a mechanism for capturing and prioritising requests for practice improvement. Monitor and respond to changing practice support needs. Embed	Ad hoc requests for practice improvement prioritised and met consistently. Annual national	New requests for ASP practice improvement are managed in a consistent way.	System in place for managing and reporting on improvement requests. Quarterly performance reports on the number, type, response and	Evidence = data report from National Coordinator. Evidence = data report from National Coordinator.

	support for practice improvement within the improvement plan.	learning event delivered.		evaluation of practice improvement requests.	
2020-2021	Develop a systematic reporting process for prioritised practice improvement measures. Monitor and respond to changing practice support needs.	Ad hoc requests for practice improvement prioritised and met consistently. Annual national learning event delivered.	New requests for ASP practice improvement are met and improvement measures are developed.	Formalised reporting on improvement requests which are agreed with stakeholders as priorities. Systematic reporting on delivered improvement measures.	Evidence = data report from National Coordinator. Evidence = data report from National Coordinator.
2021-2022	Develop a feedback template for stakeholders which enables consistent feedback on the impact of practice improvement measures. Monitor and respond to changing practice support needs.	Ad hoc requests for practice improvement prioritised and met consistently. Annual national learning event delivered.	New requests for ASP practice improvement are met and improvements are demonstrated.	Feedback on the impact of practice improvement measures from stakeholders. Wider reporting on the local impact of practice improvement measures.	Evidence = report on feedback from National Coordinator. Evidence = ASP National Strategic Forum reports, national learning event evaluation reports.

7.2 Developing Practice Resources

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to developing ASP practice resources.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Review and refresh national resources, evaluate improvements, identify	National resources reviewed based on current use. Options for future online	National ASP practice resources are up to date and future	Review / audit of ASP practice resources and their current status is	Evidence = review document and outputs inform

	online repository options. Identify research into practice network options and develop a network development plan.	repository identified and acted upon. Research into practice network development plan.	hosting options are established.	undertaken and made available. Future resource hosting options identified and a new online repository delivered. Research into practice network options and development plan available.	content of new website. Evidence = new website. Evidence = network development plan.
2020-2021	New online practice resource maintained and its usage monitored and analysed. Evaluate and respond to online practice resource needs. Establish and develop the research into practice network.	Website analytics report leads to website development. Research into practice network established.	National ASP practice resources are up to date and accessible.	Website analytics capacity in place and resource usage data available and reported. Key stakeholder survey undertaken to explore accessibility of resources. Research into practice network meeting identified objectives.	Evidence = website analytics report Evidence = survey of ASP stakeholders. Evidence = research into practice network papers and outputs.
2021-2022	New online practice resource maintained and its usage monitored and analysed. Evaluate and respond to online practice resource needs.	Website analytics report leads to website development. Research into practice network supported.	Local areas use national ASP practice resources and evidence to support practice improvement.	Website analytics data enables analysis of resource usage and reporting. Key stakeholder survey undertaken to explore usability and impact of all	Evidence = website analytics report. Evidence = stakeholder survey report, research into

	Support and develop the research into practice network.			practice improvement resources.	practice network report.
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8. Improvement Plan – Prevention

There are two improvement areas within the prevention strand – responding to requests and developing practice resources.

8.1 Public Awareness

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to responding to ASP public awareness.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Develop and commission survey to evaluate levels of public awareness about adults at risk of harm. Start to develop a public facing campaign in partnership with stakeholders.	Baseline measure of public awareness about ASP.	Level of public awareness of ASP is better understood.	Survey provides baseline level of public awareness.	Evidence = public survey report.
2020-2021	Develop, commission and deliver a public awareness campaign about ASP.	Public awareness campaign about ASP.	Public awareness campaign for ASP delivered.	Range of data and evidence from public awareness campaign delivery is available and evaluated.	Evidence = materials, outputs, channels used, estimated reach, campaign evaluation report.
2021-2022	Develop and commission survey to evaluate levels of public awareness about adults at risk of harm.	Post campaign measure of public awareness about ASP.	The public are better informed about who is at risk of harm and what to do about it.	Survey commissioned and provides post-campaign level of public awareness.	Evidence = public survey report.

8.2 Priority Areas

The following table outlines the Scottish Government outcomes, activities and measures in the improvement plan linked to responding to ASP priority areas for prevention.

	Activities	Outputs	Outcome	Indicators	Measurement
2019-2020	Identify, agree and develop priority areas for prevention alongside stakeholders to identify where a national approach is needed.	ASP prevention activity priority report.	Priority areas for ASP prevention activity are identified and supported.	The identification and agreement of prevention activities, including a process of identifying priorities and explicit prioritisation criteria. Key stakeholder feedback on proposed priorities for prevention.	Evidence = ASP prevention activity priorities report. Evidence = stakeholder survey on priorities for prevention activity.
2020-2021	Develop priority areas for prevention alongside stakeholders and provide support to prevention work. Obtain feedback on proposed priorities for prevention.	A range of prevention approaches and outputs for ASP priority areas.	Priority areas for ASP prevention activity are identified and supported.	Proposal/s detailing what prevention activities have been prioritised and taken forward. Key stakeholder feedback on proposed priorities for prevention.	Evidence = ASP prevention activity priorities report. Evidence = stakeholder survey on priorities for prevention activity.
2021-2022	Develop priority areas for prevention alongside stakeholders and provide support to prevention work. Undertake an evaluation of prevention activities and	An evaluation of prevention approaches and outputs for ASP priority areas.	Prevention activities improve ASP awareness in priority areas.	Feedback from stakeholders enables consistent feedback on the impact of work on prevention priorities in	Evidence = stakeholder feedback evaluation report.

	develop mechanism for wider sector feedback through stakeholders.			<p>improving ASP awareness</p> <p>Sector networks and/or intermediaries support local service providers (third & independent sector) to undertake surveys of staff ASP awareness.</p>	Evidence = service provider feedback report.
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9. Review of the Improvement Plan

Given that the improvement plan is for three years, the Scottish Government will be flexible in its implementation to accommodate as yet unknown new developments in legislation and policy. For example, the outcome of the current review of mental health legislation may have a range of implications for adult support and protection.

The Scottish Government has already started to implement the ASP improvement plan in 2019-20 and will provide quarterly updates to the ASP National Strategic Forum moving forward. The ASP National Strategic Forum will maintain strategic oversight of all ASP improvement work, including the Scottish Government improvement plan.

The improvement plan will be formally reviewed in 2021-2022, alongside the conclusion of Phase 1 of the multi-agency inspection programme for ASP. The purpose of the review will be to evaluate the impact of the improvement plan towards achieving its outcomes. The review will also evaluate what and how future improvement support should be provided by the Scottish Government.



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