

## **CCG42. Adult Support and Protection Joint Inspection Report**

The committee considered a report by the Adult Support and Protection Lead Officer which provided an overview of the findings of the Falkirk Adult Support and Protection (ASP) Joint Inspection of partners - Falkirk Council, NHS Forth Valley, Police Scotland and the Adult Protection Committee (APC) - and the next steps.

The report highlighted Adult Support and Protection processes in Falkirk had adapted well during the unprecedented and ongoing challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. The inspection had concluded that both the partnership's strategic leadership and key processes for adult support and protection were effective and commended the practices and processes in place. The inspection identified examples of positive outcomes in relation to information sharing; improved outcomes; timely responses; knowledge sharing and leadership.

The six areas of improvement identified by the inspection were:

- Recording at each stage of the adult support and protection process needs to be clearer. This includes the delineation of adult support and protection stages and the application of the three-point test.
- Involvement of health colleagues, operationally and strategically, needs to be strengthened. For example – inconsistency was highlighted in the recording of adult protection concerns within health records. Case reviews could be strengthened with the attendance of health professionals.
- Risk assessment and risk management was less evident in investigations and inquiries that did not include an initial referral discussion. Risk management plans should be in place for all adults at risk of harm.
- The use and quality of chronologies required improvement. Chronologies provide a useful tool for assessing risk and should include details of significant life events. The report recommends a comprehensive and consistent approach to recording chronologies to inform decision making in adult support and protection. This should be done in consultation with the adult at risk of harm and, where applicable, their carer.
- Key partners were not always collaborative, or involved when required, in adult protection processes. All members of the partnership need to explore opportunities to make their single/joint contributions to adult support and protection arrangements more effective.
- Audits should be multiagency with findings from previous audits fully implemented. Priority should be given to improving previously identified key processes. Specifically, the completion of chronologies and risk assessment at inquiry and investigation stage.

An improvement plan developed by the partners would be produced by the APC and returned to Falkirk's link inspector within the Care Inspectorate on 23 March 2022. The ASP operational workforce would be invited and encouraged to participate in improvement planning and

activity. Improvement implementation and progress would be monitored by the Adult Protection Committee and the Integration Joint Board.

### **Decision**

**The committee noted that the improvement plan would be produced and returned to Falkirk's link inspectors within the Care Inspectorate on 23 March 2022.**