



Joint Inspection of Services for Adult Support and Protection in South Lanarkshire

Frequently Asked Questions (Issue: 1)

The Care Inspectorate announced a two-year multi-agency inspection programme in February 2020 to seek assurance that adults at risk of harm in Scotland are supported and protected by existing national and local adult support and protection arrangements. Please be aware that South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership has received notification that it will be inspected in phase one of the inspection programme.

Who is an adult at risk of harm?

Adults at risk are adults, aged 16 years of age and over, who:

- are unable to safeguard their own wellbeing, property, rights or other interests;
- are at risk of harm, and
- because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, are more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected.

An adult is at risk of harm if:

- another person's conduct is causing (or is likely to cause) the adult to be harmed, or;
- the adult is engaging (or is likely to engage) in conduct which causes (or is likely to cause) self-harm.

When will this inspection commence?

South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership has received notification that it will be inspected in phase one of the inspection programme - **but the start date has not yet been confirmed.**

How long will it last?

The planned inspection timetable has been condensed from 20 to 13 weeks to enable a proportionate response during the challenges that ongoing pandemic continues to create.

Has Covid-19 affected the inspection programme?

The inspection programme was paused in recent months due to Covid-19. However, the Scottish Government announced in March 2021 that the time is right for inspections to resume to provide assurance on the ongoing protection for adults at risk of harm.

What staff groups does this affect?

This joint inspection of adult support and protection will involve all partners in South Lanarkshire who work together to ensure the safety of adults who may be at risk from harm.

The core partners are:

- local authority;
- Police Scotland;
- NHS Board;

- Adult Protection Committee;
- Third sector organisations (including those that deliver support to adults at risk of harm and their unpaid carers, and organisations that provide independent advocacy);
- Fire and Rescue Service;
- Trading Standards (in respect of financial harm to adults at risk of harm).

What is the key aim of the inspection?

The inspection is being undertaken at the behest of Scottish Ministers and as part of a programme of scrutiny and assurance activity. The focus of the Joint Inspection will be:

- Independent scrutiny and assurance of how partnerships ensure that adults at risk of harm are kept safe, protected, and supported;
- Assurance to Scottish Ministers about how effectively partnerships have implemented the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007;
- An opportunity to support improvement more broadly across Scotland.

The inspection team will measure the performance of the partnership against a [Quality Indicator Framework](#). This will focus on two key quality illustrations:

- Key processes;
- Leadership and governance.

Who is leading the inspection?

The scrutiny bodies taking part in this joint inspection will include the Care Inspectorate, Healthcare Improvement Scotland and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland. A lead inspector will have the overall responsibility for the inspection and the reporting of findings.

What is expected of me and my team?

Please be assured that all staff groups will be briefed and fully supported ahead and during the inspection. A core team of senior staff are currently working to ensure all necessary preparations are made ahead of the inspection. More information will follow in due course.

South Lanarkshire adult support and protection committee has developed a 'Continuous Improvement' webinar to aide learning. This can be accessed via the following link to [Learn on Line](#) and thereafter you should select **Social Care – Social Care guidance – ASP Continuous Improvement**.

Who should I contact for more information?

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact the partnership inspection lead, Julie Stewart, lead officer adult protection or Ciana Stewart, operations manager, at ASPInspection@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

If you need this information in a different language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs. Phone 0303 123 1015 or email equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk