

Adult Support & Protection (Scotland) Act 2007

Adult at risk - 3 point criteria

People who are aged 16 & over and:

Criteria 1 - Unable to safeguard their own property; rights; welfare & other interests

All adults have the right to make their own choices, which should be respected if made willingly. If someone is experiencing coercive control or pressure from another individual, they may not be able to make or action decisions to be able to protect themselves. Past trauma and/or childhood experience can also impact someone's ability to make decisions & action them, as well as the type of choices they make.

Have you considered?

- Does the individual have the skills, means & opportunities to safeguard themselves?
- Does the individual recognise that there is a problem?
- Are they able to identify & communicate this to another trusted individual?
- Can they say no, or act to stop the situation?
- Is another individual using coercive control to do something against their will, or act in a way that is detrimental to their wellbeing?

AND

Criteria 2 - At risk of harm

Adults can be at risk of harm in a variety of settings including; their own home; the wider community; or within an institutional setting including the NHS. Perpetrators of harm can include family, friends, formal & informal carers, users of residential or day care settings, scammers & the public.

There are a vast number of types of harm. It is important to consider an individual may be a victim of any of the following, or a combination: physical; psychological; emotional; sexual; financial; self-neglect; neglect; coercive control; self-harm; domestic abuse; gender-based violence; female genital mutilation (FGM); human trafficking; modern slavery, stalking, scamming & hate crimes. Harm can be intentional or unintentional.

Have you considered?

- Is the individual engaging or likely to engage in conduct which will or likely cause harm?
- Is another individual's conduct causing or likely to be causing the individual harm?
- Are there concerns that the individual may be a victim of any of the types of harm noted above?

AND

Criteria 3 - More vulnerable to harm due to disability; mental disorder; illness; physical or mental infirmity

An individual who has a disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity is more vulnerable to being harmed. There is a growing recognition that a broader range of individuals are at risk, including individuals with substance or alcohol dependency; frailty; a history of trauma; hoarders; & those who are homeless.

Having a particular condition or being disabled does not automatically mean someone is unable to safeguard their own wellbeing. The impact of illness on an individual's ability to safeguard themselves, & the level that makes them more vulnerable to harm, must be considered.

Have you considered?

- Does the individual have a history of trauma?
- Does the individual have a chaotic lifestyle?
- Are there any barriers or obstacles to engaging with services, is there a history of missed appointments?

Please call the NHS Tayside Adult Protection Team on **01738 562471** if you have any concerns, or visit the **Adult Protection page on Staffnet** for further information.

You can also contact the relevant council on:

Angus Adult Support & Protection:

☎ 0345 277 7778

✉ firstcontact@angus.gov.uk

Dundee Adult Support & Protection:

☎ 01382 434019

✉ firstcontact.teamadmin@dundeecity.gov.uk

Dundee & Angus Out of Hours:

☎ 01382 307964

Perth & Kinross Adult Support & Protection (24hrs)

☎ 0345 301 1120

✉ accessteam@pkc.gov.uk