

Strengthening Analysis in ASP Risk Assessment

Exercise:

Based on the following case study agree what types of harm there are. Out of however many types of harm you have identified, as a group pick two types of harm and fill out the tables that follow the case study to unpack their imminence, likelihood, and severity of impact.

One type of harm for each of the two tables.

Case Study:

Joyce is 50 and has mild learning disabilities. Two years ago, she moved out of supported accommodation to her own flat. In her flat she had twice weekly support visits to help with monitoring medication compliance, attending appointments, budgeting, shopping, and managing correspondence.

A Police referral to the local authority social work department states they were called because neighbours heard a man shouting angrily and Joyce crying. Joyce said the shouting and screaming was her having a lover's tiff with her partner, Bobby, 65. Joyce said he was not there as she asked him to leave to calm down. She confirmed she met Bobby when he was a cleaner in her supported accommodation and that he lives with her and "he loves me and treats her well, always."

Police found that the living room, kitchen & bathroom cluttered and unclean. There are many full ashtrays. The bin had several empty bottles of beer and vodka overflowing out of it. Joyce said she does not smoke or drink. She said the ashtrays and bottles were because of Bobby and his friends.

Joyce is thin and limping and said she felt weak. She said she needs to see the doctor, but Bobby does not like her "creating a fuss."

The police noted there was no fridge and little food. Joyce said Bobby sold it as they do not need it. She advised Bobby has her bank card and said he spends her money for her and does "everything else for me and loves me and treats me well, always."

A Council Officer is allocated and visits Joyce and finds the same situation, Bobby is not present and is Joyce reluctant to speak. Neighbours advise they used to hear the occasional and brief shouting about once a month. But this has increased from weekly last month and almost daily in the last week. GP confirms she has not seen Joyce for one year. This is the duration to date of her relationship with Bobby. It is also when Joyce cancelled the support visits. The Council Officer found that the GP is concerned Joyce has not had her high blood pressure or diabetes (diet controlled) monitored in that year. GP advises Joyce was treated for Chlamydia when in supported accommodation and she would not discuss how she contracted it. The pharmacy expressed concern Joyce has not picked up her blood pressure or diabetes medication for three months. During an Interagency Referral Discussion Police advised Bobby was dismissed from his cleaning job in the supported accommodation where

he met Joyce. He was found to be stealing funds from residents, which led to his dismissal and being convicted of theft. There were also concerns he was attempting to have sexual relationships with some female residents. They advised he has several convictions for assault, all on women he was in relationships with.

In your groups agree:

- What types of harm Joyce is at risk of?
- Which two types of harm you will analyse using the tables below.

(One type of harm per table.)

After you have completed the analysis, reflect and feedback on:

- To what extent does it promote an analytical approach in risk assessment?
- To what extent could it inform SMART risk management planning?

Type of Harm (one type per table)	
Imminence of Harm: (Low, Medium, or High)	
Supporting Analysis:	
Likelihood of Harm: (Low, Medium, or High)	
Supporting Analysis:	
Severity of Harm: (Low, Medium, or High)	
Supporting Analysis:	

Type of Harm (one type per table)	
Imminence of Harm:	

(Low, Medium, or High)	
Supporting Analysis:	
Likelihood of Harm: (Low, Medium, or High)	
Supporting Analysis:	
Severity of Harm: (Low, Medium, or High)	
Supporting Analysis:	

Alan Laughland, Adult Support and Protection Lead Officer, East Lothian and Midlothian, 14th Jan 2026.