

Perth and Kinross Adult Protection Committee Minute

Friday 5 September 2025
10am, held virtually via MS Teams

Attendees

Andrea McCallum (AM)	Service Manager, Housing, Perth and Kinross Council
Grace Gilling (GG)	Associate Nurse Director (Public Protection), NHS Tayside
Graham Binnie (GB)	Independent Convener
Iain Wilkie (IW)	Adult Protection Co-ordinator, Perth and Kinross HSCP
Julie Hutton (JH)	CEO, Independent Advocacy
Paul Walker (PW)	DI, Risk and Concern Hub, Police Scotland
Sal Peterson	GP Clinical Lead for Perth and Kinross, NHS
Susan Netherington	ASP Admin
Winnie Burke	Strategic Inspector, Care Inspectorate

Apologies

Alison Jenkins	Service Manager, Social Work, Perth and Kinross HSCP
Arun Singh	Chief Social Work Officer, PKC
Dave Henderson	Scottish Care, Independent Sector Lead, Perth and Kinross
Christopher Lamont	Strategic Lead for Mental Health, NHS
Jane Menzies (JM)	Head of Integrated Services for Adults within HSCP
Jennifer McOmish	Safer Communities
Julie Wyllie	Manager, Robert Douglas Memorial Care Home
Karyn Sharp	Service Manager, Social Work, Perth and Kinros HSCP
Kerry Sweeney	Scottish Ambulance Service
Sheila McCole (SM)	Unpaid Carer Representative
William Young	Scottish Ambulance Service
Valerie Davis	Lead Nurse, PKC

Correspondence Members

Amanda Welch	Care Inspectorate
Brian Hutton	Improvement Officer, ECS
Deborah Lally	Perth College
Erin Wilson	Capability Scotland
Ewan Baird	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Gordon McNelis	Mental Welfare Commission
Louis Ford	Team Leader, SAS
Sarah Rodger	Legal Manager, Legal and Governance Services, PKC

1 Welcome and apologies

GB welcomed all and apologies were noted as above.

2 Minute of Adult Protection Committee (27 June 2025)

This is GB's first APC as independent chair. IW spoke to the minute of the APC in June 2025. No comments or changes were requested, and the APC Committee minute was approved.

3 Perth and Kinross ASP Annual Report 2024/2025

The draft report was shared at the last APC where APC members were given the opportunity to seek changes, amendments and/or contribute further to it. The version shared at the APC today is a final copy upon which approval is sought. The APC subsequently endorsed the contents, and it was approved.

4 ASP Bi-Ennial Report Summary from IRISS

IW spoke to the IRISS Bi-ennial report summary. The emerging ASP themes seen nationally appear to be relatively consistent with the themes that we see in Perth and Kinross. Nationally an increase has been seen in how the Adult Support and Protection act is used for trauma is prevalent.

GB highlighted the challenges with ageing population. IW notes that in the annual report the Adult Support and Protection activity continues to be dominated by the older adult which is not a surprise given the 'ageing adult' demographics in Perth and Kinross.

GB highlighted the challenges in the of technology. WB said that she has been in talks with the operational heads within the Care Inspectorate regarding the use of AI and how it can support improvement. WB confirmed that if there a development with this specific to public protection she will highlight it to JM and IW.

IW has also attended a webinar regarding AI and how it can be used within Health and Social Care arena. IW said that technology is growing both within the workplace and outside the workplace. IW highlighted that financial harm is becoming more complex and how safeguarding those at risk from financial harm is more challenging because certain banks not being based in Scotland or even the UK, therefore not recognising Section 10 of the Adult Support and Protection Act. IW is also meeting with a sector lead in Barclays regarding how they can support our approach to financial harm.

IW advised that the National ASP Improvement programme is revising its sub-groups based around national emerging themes. Perth and Kinross will continue to be involved in these.

WB spoke to the Quality Assurance report that was completed by the Care Inspectorate which highlights a lot of the same themes. The same areas for improvement appear to emerge and that there is now a need to understand why they are not changing. WB said that workstream 4, self-evaluation and improvement plans will support change and are areas that the Care Inspectorate will be focusing on.

GG referred to the report regarding the learning reviews from the Care Inspectorate which is included within the IRISS report. The reports both highlight reoccurring themes around self-neglect and hoarding. GG is aware that IW has done a lot of work in Perth and Kinross regarding both of those themes however improvement is still required with one of the worst cases of self-neglect coming to light recently. GG asked if there is an appetite for self-evaluation around neglect and self-neglect.

IW agreed that there is. Nationally there has been more opportunity for lead officers to comment on the areas that they feel are important and nationally self-neglect and neglect will be given more prominence than it has been.

5 ASP Learning and Development Framework and Summary

IW was part the Adult Support and Protection (ASP) Learning and Development Framework Consultation Workshop. It brought together stakeholders from across Scotland to review and discuss the draft framework aimed at enhancing consistency in ASP training.

Members broadly welcomed the framework, noting its alignment with child protection standards and its potential to support day-to-day practice.

Key strengths included:

- the clarity of workforce levels
- the inclusion of the second worker role
- the detailed articulation of skills and behaviours across roles
- the framework was seen as a valuable tool for harmonising training approaches across regions

GB asked IW if he feels this document will support different areas align or will it drive them apart. IW said that it would make areas within Public Protection align.

GG said that Susan Torrance, the Senior Nurse within NHS ASP team was one of the three health staff in the writing group for this document. GG said that it was positive that Health, Social Work and other agencies were included in this document which comes across as more collaborative. GG said she is also on the stake holder reference group for this document also. GG agrees with IW that this document aligns with the

Child Protection Learning and Development framework that was published last year. There is also a public protection framework within Health which this will also be aligned with. GG said that they are going to start having conversations with universities to highlight the benefit of not delivering frameworks or training in silos. GG also likes how the report has provided levels in particular the intensive workforce which has been really helpful.

6 NHS Update

GG advised that she has recently been appointed as Nurse Director for Angus. GG understands that she may keep the Public Protection portfolio therefore will continue working with the committee. GB congratulated GG on her new role.

Two new Adult Protection Advisers have been appointed and will be in the post by end of October. This will bring NHS Public Protection team up to 6.2 full time equivalent adult protection advisers and 7.2 child protection advisers. The team have moved into the public protection hub which is on the Seymour House site in Dundee. Child and adult protection advisers will be situated there for Tayside who will deliver a range of core functions such as the NHS Tayside advice line, emergency MARACs etc.

The NHS public protection assurance framework is part of the governance reporting within Health which is usually shared once a year with the ASP committee. It is a large document therefore going forward a bi-monthly 2-page public protection briefing is going to be produced which GG will be issuing to the committee that provides an update on health.

GG noted that across Tayside there is eight learning reviews currently underway. Potential for a lot of learning to be taken from these which GG will share at the adult and child protection leads meeting next week.

GG chairs a national health leads group around Adult Protection and assisted dying bill was discussed. Having been at a presentation recently there is a lot of challenges that need to be undertaken around coercion and capacity assessments. Within the bill it is noted that nurses will be able to complete the capacity or coercion assessments which GG has concerns over training and ensuring that the safeguarding is right. GG has invited the Royal College of Nursing to the National Health Leads Group to explore this further. GG asked IW if he has seen anything from Social Work Scotland or any other national agencies regarding this. IW will ensure this is raised at the next lead officers meeting to understand who has this on their agenda.

SP said that there is great concern from front line GPs regarding the capacity assessments. SP noted that there is concern for capacity assessments generally as

often GP's state that they are completing assessments out with what they normally do such as finance therefore this bill has added extra concern to that.

Members of the ASP committee to consider the Assisted Dying bill and escalate to the next committee if they hear of any further consultation arising.

7 Police Scotland Update

PW advised that the work being completed with Doctor Gillings in relation to how police are responding to adults that have personality disorders is ongoing. Formulation meetings are now being held of at least three complex cases that Doctor Gillings is advising on. Support plans are being developed and agreed actions progressed with the relevant mental health approach being led.

The pilot in Angus in relation to joint investigations with involvement from the police and social work about financial and sexual harm cases is underway. Several identified cases are being screened earlier, the joint investigation between the agencies is being progressed with feedback being positive to date in terms of outcomes and support to the vulnerable people. Positive outcomes have been seen that include minimal trauma and impact being caused. This trial will continue and the possibility of this to be rolled out through Tayside to be discussed which PW said it would be beneficial for everyone.

GB asked if PW could provide an evaluation on how beneficial the pilot has been so that other areas can consider this.

PW agreed and confirmed that financial harm continues to be on the increase across Tayside included here in Perth and Kinross. PW asked if there is any update on the possibility of the financial harm group being resurrected. IW agreed that if financial harm is on the increase throughout Tayside that it may be beneficial to collaborate which IW and PW can discuss further out with the committee.

FYI For information

Documents shared regarding the following:

- Financial charging GP position
- Scot Gov Update
- NASPC update

SP and GG raised concerns regarding the paper from Social Work Scotland regarding financial charging for medical input. It would have been beneficial if a balanced approach were provided with input from primary care that describes some of the challenges. SP said that the paper is asking GPs to either work for free or at a personal loss and that implementing this will decrease the quality of work.

IW is aware that the section 5 of Adult Support and Protection Act is being revised. This section is regarding who has a duty to comply with the act and currently GPs are not included which is to be amended.