



**ANGUS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD – 2 FEBRUARY 2022**

ADULT PROTECTION SCR P19

REPORT BY GAIL SMITH, CHIEF OFFICER

ABSTRACT

This report presents the Angus Adult Protection Committee (AAPC) Significant Case Review (SCR) P19 and the subsequent development of a draft Scottish Government Commission to Healthcare Improvement Scotland and the Care Inspectorate for Independent Assurance and Improvement Support. Adult Protection Committees and Chief Officers have responsibility for commissioning SCRs and ensuring any improvement actions are delivered. There are 59 recommendations in the SCR report assigned to a range of agencies including Angus Council and Angus Health and Social Care Partnership. This report highlights the initial improvement actions in respect of these recommendations.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board:

- (i) Review and scrutinise the Adult Protection Committee Significant Case Review P19.
- (ii) Review and scrutinise the initial improvement actions detailed for Angus Council and Angus Health and Social Care Partnership, the priority attached to these and capacity being made available to progress these.
- (iii) Note the ongoing work of the Adult Protection Committee partners to finalise a multiagency improvement plan in response to the Significant Case Review and the complex and detailed nature of the work taking place.
- (iv) Agree to receive a further report detailing progress against actions in Autumn 2022.

2. BACKGROUND

The Adult Support and Protection Act 2007 determined the statutory duties placed on local authorities as the lead agency for adult support and protection, and the requirements on “duty to cooperate” named public bodies. This lead function transferred to the Health and Social Care Partnerships under the regulations introduced by the Scottish Government at the time of Integration; adult protection was one of the “must delegate” to IJB activities and not an optional one (such as criminal justice services).

Within the legislation, the responsibility for strategic planning for adult protection sits with the local Adult Protection Committee. This includes the power to undertake Initial Case Reviews and Significant Case Reviews under certain circumstances, defined in national and local guidance. Responsibility for ensuring that improvement work arising from such reviews is carried out rests with the Angus Adult Protection Committee (AAPC) in conjunction with other partner agencies and overseen by the local Chief Officers Group (COG). The author of this report is Vice Chair of the AAPC and lead officer within the Partnership for Adult Protection.

In terms of the Integration Scheme, the IJB is responsible for operational governance of integrated services. The Integration Scheme provides that the Chief Officer is operationally

responsible within the Council and NHS Tayside for services that are integrated, and this would include a role in ensuring the recommendations and Action Plan are implemented in respect of those agencies.

The IJB has received occasional reports summarising Adult Support and Protection matters, depending on the level of concern in that field of activity at a particular time, or new requirements being made of the Partnership/IJB, or where it was felt that the IJB should be sighted on, or approve, particular developments.

IJB members will recall receiving a briefing at the time of the publication of SCR P 19 on 25 November 2021 (attached as Appendix 1). This report is intended to formally advise the IJB of SCR P19 and provide the IJB with a progress report on the development of an improvement action plan implementing the recommendations in the SCR.

SCR P19 can be found via the following link <https://www.angus.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-11/P19%20Significant%20case%20review%20report.pdf>

3. CURRENT POSITION

SCR P19 was published on 25 November 2021 with appropriate communications to all stakeholders.

The Adult Protection Committee is overseeing the improvement action work through a Mandated Subgroup, as per local and national procedures. An action plan has been developed and is attached at Appendix 2. The Scottish Government has shown considerable interest in the SCR and is in the process of issuing a Commission to Healthcare Improvement Scotland and the Care Inspectorate regarding support to local agencies and assurance in respect of this SCR. The Scottish Government is seeking regular reports on the implementation of improvement actions. The precise terms of this Commission are the subject of current discussion between the Chairs of the AAPC and Angus COG, and the Scottish Government.

The amount of work required to complete the improvement actions should not be underestimated. The AHSCP has 20 stand-alone improvement action points and shares in a number of multi-agency improvement actions. There are intricate dependencies with several other workstreams, in particular with the Adult Protection Improvement Plan.

A report has also been prepared for Angus Council's Scrutiny and Audit Committee on 25 January 2022.

Improvement Action Plan

The attached action plan will inevitably seem incomplete since it is a work in progress and, at the time of writing, still in its early stages. It will be noted that some tasks are already completed; this is because members of the Committee who were involved in the Initial Case Review (which led to the SCR) were aware of key areas of concern at an early stage and were able to act on high risk issues promptly, for example the introduction of the Complex and Co-existing Case Panel and the changes to case conferences and core group meetings in how they consider the application of emergency measures in law.

Most involved professionals were unaware of the content of the SCR until publication (for reasons of confidentiality relating to publication), and then completed an initial response to the recommendations that applied in their service areas. The involved professionals are therefore at different stages in the process but over the next two months, these variations will be equalised, the component parts of tasks will be firmed up and a consistent approach across the improvement actions developed. Many of the actions are complex and multi-faceted, involving a number of agencies. Few are straightforward to achieve; a stepped approach will be necessary in some instances.

Timescales, as agreed with the Scottish Government, COG and the Angus Adult Protection Committee are: a) a status report on improvements that were commenced prior to publication (following the Initial Case Review) to be concluded by 15 January 2022 b) a plan for the wider improvement actions to be concluded by the end of January 2022 c) a full work plan to be agreed and in place by the end of February 2022.

4. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that the IJB considers and scrutinises SCR P19, the Action Plan which is intended to implement the findings of SCR P 19 and seeks a progress report in Autumn 2022.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this stage.

6. RISK

The Clinical Care Partnership Group contains an overall Adult Protection risk. This was updated on 12 January 2022. The SCR and its action plan do not in themselves indicate increased risk, in fact its successful application will reduce risk to service users and to the organisation, but the non-completion of key tasks or their delayed completion is a potential risk to be guarded against. It may be necessary to add additional capacity to Adult Protection services to manage the demand for change work.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (IF APPLICABLE)

N/A

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment is not required. This report is for information and does not propose strategic change.

9. DIRECTIONS

The Integration Joint Board requires a mechanism to action its strategic commissioning plans and this is provided for in Section 26 to 28 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. This mechanism takes the form of binding directions from the Integration Joint Board to one or both of Angus Council and NHS Tayside.

Direction Required to Angus Council, NHS Tayside or Both	Direction to:	
	No Direction Required	X
	Angus Council	
	NHS Tayside	
	Angus Council and NHS Tayside	

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 PP presentation to IJB members regarding SCR P19

Appendix 2 Adult Protection Committee SCR P19 Action Plan