

Dumfries and Galloway – Public Protection Partnership Strategic Plan



Public Protection

All agencies in Dumfries and Galloway have a duty and responsibility to work together to protect those who are our most vulnerable. Shared commitment to protect is at the heart of all that we collectively do.

How we, as partners, work together with those at risk to protect them from harm has developed and evolved over the years and will continue to do so going forward. Working effectively together at all levels is vital to ensure there are improved outcomes for people who are experiencing or at risk of harm.

The Chief Officers' Group – Public Protection (COG-PP) is the lead group within the Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Partnership (DGPPP) and is responsible for ensuring that there are appropriate people, practice, structures and processes in place to prevent serious incidents. Their focus is to make sure that the most vulnerable people and families across Dumfries and Galloway are identified and supported.

COG-PP consists of the Chief Officers from the Council, NHS, Police and the Health and Social Care Partnership providing the strategic leadership and oversight of delivery of services designed to improve outcomes in respect of the key areas of:

- Child Protection
- Adult Protection
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Offender Management (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements - MAPPA)

The Public Protection Committee (PPC) led by an Independent chair reports directly to COG-PP on Child Protection, Adult Protection and VAWG, whilst MAPPA reports through the South West Scotland MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group.

The PPC, accountable to COG-PP, shapes the delivery and review of public protection work through oversight of multi-agency performance with a specific remit on public protection issues and overview of all protection work; assuming responsibility for the development and delivery of services for those who are experiencing or at risk of significant harm. In line with statutory responsibilities, the PPC specifically focuses on children, adults and vulnerable groups at risk and works to ensure effective practice and arrangements are in place to manage areas of overlap across the key areas of public protection.

The PPC also ensures that appropriate planning and management, together with arrangements for performance review are a critical core function. With a clear focus on the identification and management of risk, the committee will ensure responses to individuals and families experiencing or at risk of harm, are timely, proportionate and targeted.

Strategy 2020-2023

The Public Protection strategy for 2020-2023 sets out key priorities and associated activity for this period, and how these will be achieved. This is the first joint Public Protection strategy, building on

Public Protection Strategic Plan 2020 – 2023

the previous separate business plans for Child Protection, Adult Protection and Violence Against Women and Girls for 2018/2020. This will strengthen partnership working and commitment to protect vulnerable people across Dumfries and Galloway.

As a partnership, our aim is to: -

- Develop our public protection activity by working more effectively together and making our planning processes easier to navigate. Making sure that we robustly support, review, and monitor public protection arrangements
- Take responsibility for the strategic development and delivery of services to the most vulnerable adults and children who are experiencing or at risk of significant harm

The strategy sets out the key priorities and the actions needed to meet our collective aims and through a variety of work have been developed in the past 2 years. The work includes:-

- lessons learned from assurance and scrutiny processes,
- Initial and Serious Case Reviews and Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) reviews,
- Learning identified by self-evaluation and audit activity, and
- National and local areas of improvement identified by the PPC in terms of quality assurance, performance management and practice improvement.

The strategic direction and prioritisation for public protection work is the function of PPC with the responsibility for implementation of this plan devolved to the sub-committees and standing committees who will report as per their terms of reference into the PPC on progress.

Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Committee – Strategic Aims 2020-2023

1. *Through effective public, community and staff engagement and awareness, identify all those at risk of harm in our community*
2. *Maintain, review, and continue to develop practice and processes to respond efficiently and effectively to protect those experiencing or at risk of harm*
3. *Fully utilise multi agency collaborations, opportunities, and resources to learn from practice and continuously improve services*
4. *Work with local partnerships across the public protection agenda to identify, develop and achieve priorities and shared outcomes*
5. *Continue to develop distinct and robust assurance pathways and processes across the Public Protection Partnership.*

26 May 2020