

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

This consultation questionnaire sets out the consultation questions from within the relevant sections of the revised Adult Support & Protection Code of Practice.

The revised Code of Practice is a larger and more comprehensive document than the original Code and we welcome your views on any of the changes made. In particular, we would appreciate your views on the following matters.

Please insert your response to the questions in the text boxes provided.

Question 1: Chapter 3

This chapter of the Code sets out the principles of the Adult Support and Protection legislation and the definition of an adult at risk.

Does this chapter help in your understanding of the legislation and whom it applies to?

If not, what changes would you suggest?

Yes, the chapter promotes a clearer understanding of the legislation and the rights, roles and responsibilities of those involved.

Sacro notes that at paragraph 16 it states, "*An assessment that intervention under the Act is not necessary or appropriate at a particular time, does not absolve authorities of responsibility to consider intervention under other legislation, such as the NHS and Community Care (Scotland) Act 1990, or to offer other services. Consideration should be given to practical and emotional support provided by social work, health, independent and third sector and private sector providers. For example the provision of mainstream health and social care services such as housing, independent living, financial, occupational therapy, counselling, support for carers, and Community Health Partnership services*".

Sacro suggests that whilst the rationale for this is absolutely correct, the wording of the text (viz. consideration should be given) could be enhanced to make it a stronger requirement. It could be the case that due to lack of resources such a consideration could be ignored. It would be prudent to change the guidance to reflect that any concern should be followed up or where there is no action this should be formally recorded to say why the concern would not be a considered at that time.

Question 2: Chapter 5

This chapter of the Code considers the principle of ensuring full regard is given to the wishes of the adult, and ensuring that the adult participates in decisions as fully as possible.

Does this chapter adequately covers the issues arising from ensuring as far as possible full participation by adults in decision making?

If not, what changes would you suggest?

The chapter adequately covers the issues. It is very comprehensive, ensuring that adults are fully involved in the decision making process. It is evident that the adult's views and wishes and participation in the process are maximised. It is also evident that the use of technical and other aids and adaptations are encouraged. Where appropriate, referral to 'other services' and multi-disciplinary meetings facilitated. The needs of others, such as carers, are acknowledged and the role of appropriate adult and vulnerable witness are clearly defined. Regular audits and reviews are to be considered by Adult Protection Committees.

Sacro considers that there is a genuine sense of inclusion in the process.

Question 3: Chapter 6

This chapter includes new guidance on large scale inquiries. Does this provide sufficient clarity for this type of inquiry or are there additional matters you would wish considered?

There is sufficient clarity in the guidance. Sacro has not identified additional matters that require further consideration.

Question 4: Chapter 11

This chapter is a new addition to the Code and considers a multi-agency approach. Does this provide sufficient clarity and support for your organisation in handling multi-agency assessments and practice?

Are there other matters that you consider should be included in this chapter?

Sacro considers that there is sufficient clarity in the guidance though would suggest that it could be useful to add that councils should have a single point of contact (SPoC) within local councils for external care providers to connect with in relation to multi agency meetings.

Question 5: Users and Carers

The Code seeks to develop and articulate good practice as regards service user and carer involvement, particularly in chapters 5 and 16. Does it succeed in this? If not please suggest ways in which this area could be improved on.

Sacro considers that good practice is articulated well throughout the guidance and that it promotes high levels of enablement, inclusion and participation.

Question 6:

Do you consider this revised Code of Practice will enable you to carry out your professional responsibilities effectively? Please feel free to comment on any areas of the Code which you consider could be improved in any way.

Yes, the revised code should enable the responsible authorities and supporting partners, such as Sacro, to carry out their responsibilities effectively.

Any further comments

No.