

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?

This chapter makes a very good attempt to inform the practitioner/ reader of the importance of balancing the right of the adult to self determine against the public agencies duty to protect an adult at risk. It also reminds the reader that the Act is Human Rights based and is built on key principles. It sets the scene well by reminding the reader to be aware of other pieces of legislation which contribute to protecting adults at risk in Scotland

*A definition of **infirmity** would be appreciated as other words have been defined to avoid ambiguity/ confusion*

There is some confusion over the role of the APC in relation to the assessment of risk & assessment. Is it not the responsibility of the agencies involved rather than the APC ?

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 safety & wellbeing of the adult is paramount this chapter places a lot of emphasis on carers. It just needs to be a bit more balanced

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?

NHS Lanarkshire has an important role to play in any large scale adult support and protection enquiries in our geographical area. This is a welcomed chapter but there needs to be better clarity on the sharing of information, specific roles & coordination within large scale investigations

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?

There is a need to include guidance on managing conflict. Recommended timelines & processes for challenging practice or decisions taken at various stages throughout the adults support & protection journey

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.

Yes

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.

Social Work & Health Integration agenda and the possibility of deferring local authority roles into Health. Clarity on the definition of "council officer" role is required

Any further comments

The document has a better flow to it and attempts to clarify the difference between inquiry and investigation by having defined chapters. The original document floated between inquiry and investigation throughout the narrative. Well done!