West Lothian Adult Protection Committee (APC)

7-minute briefing - Adult Support and Protection facts file

https://publicprotectionwestlothian.org.uk

When an

adult is assessed to be at risk of Serious Harm anyone of the three protection orders can be considered:

- Banning order or temporary banning order
- Removal Order
- Assessment Order

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Consultation with Legal services is needed to pursue one of these orders or an alternative measure under Mental Health legislation, when proportionate and appropriate. All adults at risk of harm have the right to be safe and protected. The <u>Adult Support and Protection</u> (Scotland) Act 2007 is designed to protect those adults (individuals aged 16 years or over) who are unable to safeguard their own interests and are at risk of harm because they are affected by:

- Disability
- Mental disorder
- Illness

and neglect.

Physical or mental infirmity
Harm means all harm including self-harm

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Further Adult Support and protection: Guidance for GPs and primary Care Teams can be found here

Read the WL Child and Adult Protection Committees Information Sharing briefing <u>here</u>

> The 2007 Act places a duty on Council Officers (Social Workers in West Lothian only) to investigate cases of suspected harm to an adult at risk. As part of this investigation financial, other and health records pertaining to the adult at risk can be requested under Section 10 of the act. Agencies holding these records have a legal duty to co-operate.

WL APC Adult Support and Protection facts file

You can make a asp referral to Social Work here: Adult Protection Referral Form

For cascading

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The 2007 Act defines harm as all 'harmful conduct' and in particular includes:

- Conduct which causes physical harm
- Conduct which causes psychological harm (e.g. by causing fear, alarm or distress) Unlawful conduct which appropriates or adversely affects property, rights or interests (e.g. theft, fraud, embezzlement or extortion

Conduct which causes self-harm. This list is not exhaustive, and all kinds of harm can fall within the scope of the 2007 Act.

Remember:

Adult support and protection applies to those <u>with and</u> <u>without</u> mental capacity An adult is not necessarily an adult at risk of harm simply because they have a disability.

The Act Against Harm website provides information on who to contact when you 'know or believe' someone is at risk of harm. It has a Seen something? Say something video for you to watch about how sharing your piece of information may form part of a larger picture to keep an adult at risk safe and protected. View it at:

http://www.actagainstharm.org/what-isharm/

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