



# NHS Tayside Public Protection Service Newsletter - Winter 2024

Welcome to the Winter Edition of the NHS Tayside Public Protection Service's Newsletter

**SUPPORT**

**This Newsletter will cover the following areas:-**

- Team Updates
- Learning & Development
- Quality & Assurance
- National Adult Protection Week
- Adult & Child Protection Committees

- Child Health Commissioner
- Joint Inspection of Adult Support & Protection
- Bairns' Hoose Approach
- Learning Reviews

## Team Updates

In line with our Public Protection structure, Grace Gilling is now Associate Nurse Director (Public Protection);

Following success at interview, our congratulations go to:

- Susan Torrance - Senior Nurse, Adult Protection;
- Justine Anderson - Child Protection Advisor (Midwife);
- Janine Melville - Adult Protection Advisor.









## Learning & Development



### **NHS Tayside Public Protection Learning & Development Framework**

NHS Tayside has developed a model for Public Protection which, in its broadest sense encapsulates Child and Adult Protection. We have developed our first NHS Tayside Public Protection Learning and Development Framework to provide a structured approach for learning, directing managers and staff teams to mandatory and role specific training. The Framework provides an overview of NHS Tayside's Child, Adult and Public Protection learning and development opportunities and examples of additional training available across Tayside. The aim of the Framework is to enhance service delivery, multi-agency working and care quality through capability and competence.

To be able to deliver and evaluate learning and development effectively, we rely on staff telling us how training has helped to improve their practice but equally what additional training they need to keep themselves and others safe and protected.

This led us to developing our training and training evaluations. Staff who attend Adult, Child or Public Protection Training will be invited to complete a short questionnaire directly after training and again three months later. Giving brief examples of the impact the training has had on practice will help us determine how well we manage actual and potential public protection risks.

Please refer to the respective Staffnet pages for the details of training available, including dates and venues, all bookable via LearnPro:-

[Child Protection Training](#)

[Adult Protection Training](#)



1 - [\\*\(click here\) Violence Against Women & Girls / Gender Based Violence Training](#)

- *The 2024/25 training sessions have been organised and are now bookable via LearnPro (these are all face to face). There are still places available on the 2023/24 sessions. Gender Based Violence/Violence against Women includes domestic abuse, rape, sexual assault, female genital mutilation, prostitution, child sexual abuse and many other forms of violence that predominately affect women and are most commonly perpetrated by men. The Scottish Government Equally Safe Strategy has set recommendations for health services to meet and achieve an equal and safe society for women and girls to live in and NHS Tayside has committed to working towards and achieving the recommendations outlined within the strategy. The Adult Protection Team offers support and training to staff in multi-disciplinary teams and external agencies on GBV/VAWG issues.*

[\\*Violence Against Women & Girls / Gender Based Violence Training](#)

A number of new courses have been developed and or updated, including:-

- Adult Protection Training Level 2 - commencing 20 February 2024;
- Child Protection continue to offer training to GP trainees;
- Effective Decision Making: Assessment Planning & Chronologies - commencing in May 2024.

### **Recording Processes**

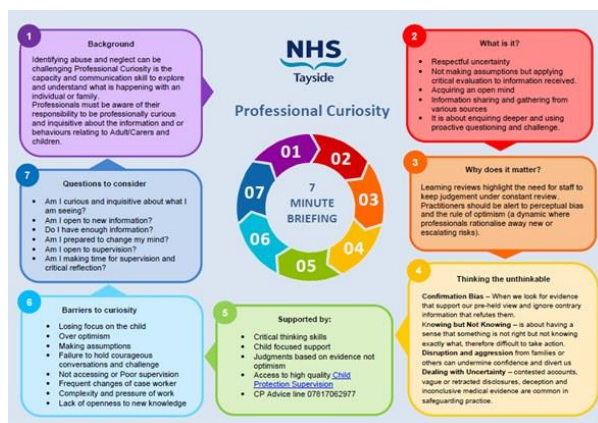
We would encourage staff to record their learning and development as part of their Continuous Practice Development (CPD) and where relevant, registration requirements. Managers should also monitor staff learning and development as part of each service's own quality assurance processes.

### **7 Minute Briefings**

The Public Protection Service has developed a range of 7 Minute Briefings to support Child and Adult Protection policies and guidance. These briefings will assist practitioners in their practice and signpost to the more in-depth guidance as required. The information can also support services to review current practice and make changes if necessary. 7 Minute Briefings are not a substitute for training and staff should continue to attend relevant online or face to face training.

## [Child Protection 7 Minute Briefings](#)

Adult Protection 7 Minute Briefings (currently being updated, therefore will be available soon).



## Quality & Assurance



NHS Tayside's Public Protection Service is committed to making sure that systems and services are in place across the organisation to protect unborn babies, children, young people and adults at risk of harm. Quarterly reporting on quality assurance (QA) and improvement activities is scrutinised by the Public Protection Executive Group (PPEG) to provide assurances to the Chief Executive and NHS Tayside Board that adequate Public Protection arrangements are in place across the organisation. Following the publication of the Scottish Government's [NHS Public Protection Accountability and Assurance Framework](#) (PPAAF) in 2022, NHS Tayside piloted a national reporting template during 2023 to gather evidence of compliance with the national standards and this will form the basis of future QA reporting activities

### **NHS Tayside Public Protection Annual Report 2022-23**

The transition to a NHS Tayside Public Protection Service brings together our Child and Adult Protection Teams within one management and governance structure and we are pleased to present our first [Public Protection Annual Report for 2022/23](#). Taking a more integrated approach to protection provides us with a more robust framework to meet the needs of our patients and clients across the lifespan. This year's report highlights the key achievements and breadth of work undertaken by our Child and Adult Protection Teams in partnership with other NHS Tayside services and our multi-agency partners.

If you would like to give us feedback on our annual report, please scan the QR code provided.



## National Adult Protection Week

NHS Tayside continues to raise awareness of Public Protection through training, multi-agency working and engagement with our staff and communities. The Public Protection Service is hosting a series of events as part of National Adult Protection Week (19 – 23 February 2024). These events provide an opportunity to raise awareness of Public Protection across Tayside. Staff and members of the public can access information stands which will be located in Tayside Hospitals. We are also hosting a Webinar which is open to NHS Tayside and multi-agency staff (please scan the QR code in the Sextortion poster opposite to gain access to Webinar link).

The focus of our Webinar is 'Sexual Exploitation & Sextortion'. Sharp rises in crimes and threats associated with sextortion has prompted national concern and as such NHS Tayside have taken positive steps to develop staff's understanding of sextortion and what we can do to minimise risks in our own area of work and throughout Tayside.

**Please see posters opposite for further information.**





## Adult Support and Protection/Public Protection Week 19 – 23 February 2024

The NHS Tayside Public Protection Service is hosting awareness raising events across Tayside to provide information for staff and members of our communities.

Our team along with representatives working in your local authority area will be providing information which aims to help keep people safe and protected from harm.

These events provide an ideal opportunity to meet our team and others who can offer advice and support about what to do if you are worried about someone you think may be at risk of harm.

We are hosting events in reception areas at the following venues:

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 09:00 – 15:30

WHITEHILLS HEALTH and COMMUNITY CARE CENTRE FORFAR

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 09:00 – 15:30

NINEWELLS HOSPITAL DUNDEE

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 09:00 – 15:30

MURRAY ROYAL HOSPITAL PERTH

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 09:30 – 12:00

MS TEAMS - WEBINAR 'SEXUAL EXPLOITATION & SEXTORTION'

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 09:00 – 15:30

PERTH ROYAL INFIRMARY

*Together we can help to keep people safe and protected from harm.*

## SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND SEXTORTION WEBINAR

NHS Tayside Public Protection Service is hosting a webinar to raise awareness of sexual exploitation and sextortion

Join the Public Protection team alongside representatives from Police Scotland and The Corner to find out more, share learning and ask questions.

Date  
THURSDAY 22  
FEBRUARY 2024



Time  
09:30 – 12:00



SCAN QR CODE TO JOIN



## Adult & Child Protection Committees



Child Protection and Adult Protection Committees are represented by multi-agencies who are collectively responsible for the protection of children and adults. Health representation on these Committees is essential to help develop and direct shared decisions on policy, resources, and strategy. Child and Adult Protection Committees are also responsible for the delivery of efficient child and adult protection processes which contribute to continuous improvement and a suitably skilled and competent workforce.

Tayside Child and Adult Protection Committees are committed to a learning culture and promote learning reviews to better understand how our workforce can improve practice and outcomes for everyone in Tayside. Each Committee produces Annual Reports and these are available on the Child and Adult Protection Staffnet pages respectively.

## Child Health Commissioner



Elaine Cruikshank is the Child Health Commissioner for NHS Tayside.

The role of the Child Health Commissioner (CHC) is central to enabling NHS Boards to deliver on requirements relating to the extensive children's agenda. The CHC's engagement with, and future membership of, NHS Tayside's Public Protection Executive Group (PPEG) will further support the organisation to attend proactively to the roles and responsibilities the agenda brings.

## **Background**

The Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 is the primary legislation which sets out the requirements upon which NHS Boards, together with Local Authorities and other children's services partners, are required to deliver on. Parts 1 – 18 of the full Act are far reaching and include the areas of children's services planning, children's rights and corporate parenting which are of particular relevance, and priority, to NHS Boards.

Underpinned by the above Act, the Scottish Government continue to have a very active focus on infants, children and young people. A sense of this focus is demonstrated by the range of current policy and legislative priorities being driven by the Scottish Government including:

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Bill;
- Disabled Children & Young People (Transitions to Adulthood) Bill;
- Age Appropriate Care and Justice Bill;
- The Promise Implementation Plan 2022 - 2030;
- Best Start, Bright Futures Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2022-2026;
- Voice of the Infant: best practice guidelines and Infant Pledge (March 2023);
- Children's Services Reform Research (2022-2023);
- Bairns' Hoose model pathfinder phase.

## **Joint Inspection of Adult Support & Protection**



### **Phase 2 - Dundee Inspection**

The aim of the inspection was to consider how multi-agency partnerships ensure that adults at risk of harm are kept safe, protected, and supported. It looked at how effectively multi-agency partnerships have implemented the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, and opportunities to identify good practice and support improvement more broadly across Scotland.

Staff were asked to support the inspection by taking part in a staff survey and providing information when requested.

The full report was published in December 2023 and can be accessed [here](#).

### **Dundee Report Summary**

Summary of strengths included:

- Initial inquiries were progressed within timescales to meet the needs of adults at risk;
- Multi-agency adult support and protection case conferences were well attended meetings where partner agencies worked collectively to support and protect adults at risk of harm;
- The dedicated NHS Tayside adult support and protection team was a valued resource for staff across partner agencies;
- The partnership had a clear and coherent shared vision for protecting people in Dundee. There were strong pathways between public protection partners;
- Strategic leaders were committed to the delivery of competent, effective, and collaborative adult support and protection practice.

Areas for improvement included:

- The partnership needed to improve the consistent application and quality of investigation, chronology and risk assessment templates;
- Quality assurance, self-evaluation and audit activities were embedded but to varying degrees;
- The pace of strategic change and improvement needed accelerated across the partnership.

All 3 Tayside localities have now had a multiagency national ASP inspection resulting in improvement plans developed and being monitored via the locality Adult Protection Committees. Updates are also shared with the Care Inspectorate to evidence progress and provide assurance that adults at risk of harm are supported and protected.

The Inspection Team viewed the Adult Support & Protection health staff as:-

***"The dedicated NHS adult support and protection team had strengthened health's frontline contribution to adult support and protection work".***

***"an exemplar of good practice to the benefit of adults at risk of harm and had significantly strengthened health's role at a strategic level".***

## Tayside Bairns' Hoose



The Scottish Government has set out a vision for implementing [Bairns' Hoose](#) which is a transformational, whole-system approach to delivering child protection, justice, and health support and services to child victims and witnesses of abuse and harm. The overall vision of a Bairns' Hoose in Scotland is that all children in Scotland who have been victims of or witnesses to abuse or violence, as well as children under the age of criminal responsibility whose behaviour has caused significant harm or abuse, will have access to trauma informed recovery, support and justice. [Standards](#) were published in May 2023 and following a successful funding application, Tayside has been chosen as one of six pathfinder sites to test the Bairns' Hoose standards prior to a pilot phase in 2025/26 and then implementation from 2026.

## Learning Reviews



Learning Reviews can occur when a child or adult has died, been significantly harmed or put at risk of significant harm. They are a vital part of an effective and improving Public Protection system, enabling agencies to identify good practice and areas for improvement both nationally and locally.

Two learning reviews have been published recently within Tayside:

**Ms L:** (click [here](#) to read full report) was published by the Dundee Adult Protection Committee in November 2023. Ms L was a young woman (29 years old) who moved to Scotland in December 2018,

in an attempt to move away from an abusive ex-partner. She had a complex history of domestic abuse, homelessness, substance use, mental health issues (including a diagnosis of Paranoid Schizophrenia), chronic physical health issues (including Diabetes), exploitation and isolation from family and friends. She had a young child who was cared for by her family due to her circumstances.

Prior to her death in October 2020 due to Diabetic Keto-Acidosis, Ms L received support from a number of agencies including Women's Aid, Community Justice Services, Homelessness Services, Health Services, the Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre, Dundee Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service and Community Mental Health. She had numerous contacts with Police Scotland, including as victim of abuse, exploitation and racial abuse. Ms L was not subject to Adult Support and Protection processes, however practitioners had progressed co-ordination of assessment and support through professional meetings and alternative risk management processes, such as MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference).

**Child D and Child G:** (click [here](#) to view report and recommendations) was published by the Perth & Kinross Child Protection Committee in December 2023 following the hospitalisation of two non-mobile babies (referred to as Child G and Child D), both of whom were found to have sustained significant harm. The published summary report provides a high-level summary of the:

- circumstances leading up to the hospitalisation of Child G and Child D;
- review process and methodology used in the review;
- practice and organisational learning identified during the review;
- effective practice identified during the review;
- suggested strategies for improving practice and systems, including recommendations, which Perth & Kinross CPC has accepted in full.

## Do you need advice?



Child Protection Advice Line:- **07817 062 977** Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.30pm (excluding public holidays)

Adult Protection Advice Line:- **01738 562471** Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.30pm (excluding public holidays)

For further information, including team contacts, guidance, reports, learning and development, please refer to our Staffnet pages:-

- [Staffnet Child Protection \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://scot.nhs.uk)
- [Staffnet Adult Protection \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://scot.nhs.uk)

**Thanks for reading. Our next Newsletter will be issued in late Spring 2024.**

