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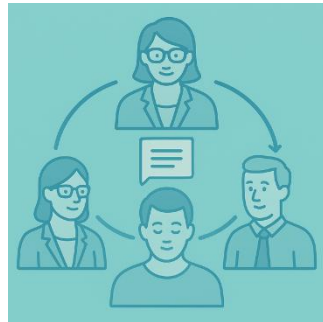
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## FEEDBACK

We want your feedback, thoughts and ideas for future issues. Let us know by emailing

[yvonne.davidson7@nhs.scot](mailto:yvonne.davidson7@nhs.scot)



## What's New?

### LEGISLATION CHANGE – Strengthening information sharing in Adult Support and Protection

From 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026, a new section has been introduced to the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, following amendments in the Care Reform (Scotland) Act 2025.

**Section 5a** provides clarity and strengthens the legal basis for sharing information when there is concern that an adult may be at risk of harm.

It confirms that healthcare services – including independent and private providers – can lawfully share relevant information with local authorities and other Adult Support and Protection partners to support inquiries or protective action.

Section 5a also strengthens two-way information sharing, allowing public bodies to share relevant information back with health services where this supports good assessment, decision-making, and proportionate intervention.

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Overall, the change is intended to reduce uncertainty, prevent unnecessary delay, and promote more consistent practice across Scotland.

It reinforces the principle that timely and proportionate information sharing is a key part of protecting adults, and that concerns about consent or confidentiality should not prevent action where there is a risk of harm.

#### What does this mean for you?

- You can share information earlier if you believe an adult may be at risk.
- You have legal assurance around sharing information with ASP partners.
- You do not have to delay action because of concerns about consent or confidentiality (where sharing is necessary and proportionate).
- Information can flow both ways to support good decision making.
- You should continue to use professional judgement, good recording practices and follow the Grampian Interagency Procedures for Adult Support and Protection.

## Time to Reflect

In every edition we use this section to provide you with some thought provoking or inspiring content that we hope will encourage professional reflection, peer or multi-agency discussions. This might be in the form of a scenario, a question or simply a short quote.

### The Puzzle

The box was old, the picture rubbed thin, only half the pieces lay within. Cast aside by hurried hands with more important tasks to plan.

Stray shapes found within a drawer, with no relevance to now or before. What use were these on their own? The final picture completely unknown.

A different puzzle with pieces to spare, frustration that they didn't fit there. Shapes of interest with no place, kept aside just incase.

The pieces shared with all of the team, the edges align the colours gleam. A picture emerged at that table of three. A picture alone none of them could see.

That picture was me.

Have you ever felt like you only had 'part of the picture' when working with someone?

What are the risks when information isn't shared across agencies?

How might a person experience being 'seen in pieces' rather than a whole?

What does 'putting the pieces together' look like in practice?

## Whose Job is it Anyway?

### *When risk escalates, collaboration matters*

The next Grampian wide Multi Agency ASP event will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

Drawing on findings from the recent Southport Inquiry (see Page 3), this session will explore a number of key themes:

- **Multi-agency roles and responsibilities** – supporting attendees to develop a clearer understanding of both their own role and the roles of others involved in ASP situations. Alongside a general overview, there will be a closer look at the specific contributions of Police and GPs.
- **Information Sharing** – led by an experienced Local Authority solicitor, this session aims to build confidence in sharing information within ASP practice, while addressing common misconceptions around GDPR and perceived barriers.
- **Alternative risk management pathways** – an overview of the range of approaches available to support effective risk management alongside ASP, and how to identify when each may be most appropriate. This will include a focused input on Prevent and Care Programme Approach (CPA).



The event is brought to you by the Grampian ASP Learning & Development Group and will take place via MS Teams from 13:00.

This event is open to all health and social care professionals, police, housing officers, and anyone else working with vulnerable adults.

Click the link or scan the QR code below to register. Registration closes 25<sup>th</sup> September.

[Whose Job is it Anyway? When risk escalates, collaboration matters – Fill in form](#)



Once registered, please save the date in your calendar. Electronic invites and joining links will be shared the week of the event.

## Recent ASP Learning Reviews

An Adult Support and Protection Learning Review is a means for public bodies and office holders with responsibilities relating to the protection of adults at risk of harm to learn lessons by considering the circumstances where an adult at risk has died or been significantly harmed.

In Grampian the learning from these reviews is often what drives our Learning & Development agenda. Therefore, in every edition of GrASP Insights we plan to bring you a summary of some recent learning reviews.

In this issue we are looking beyond ASP learning reviews and are bringing you a 7 minute briefing outlining the key findings of the Southport Inquiry and look at how these relate to the work we do in ASP.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

### 7 Minute Briefing

#### The Southport Public Inquiry Phase 1 Report

- 1** The Southport Inquiry was set up to examine the circumstances surrounding and events leading up to the knife attack, carried out on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024, which resulted in the death of 3 young girls, 10 other people injured and 16 survivors left with serious emotional scars.
- 2** The inquiry concluded that the attack was foreseeable and preventable but the safeguarding systems failed due to a number of core systemic multi-agency weaknesses. These findings are relevant to ASP because the same structural issues are present in the work we do.
- 3** **Risk ownership** – ‘No agency or multi-agency structure accepted responsibility for assessing and managing the grave risk posed by the perpetrator.’ Systems created to manage risk (e.g. safeguarding hubs, Prevent) were not effective in practice.
- 4** **Information sharing** – there were critical failures in information sharing. ‘Essential information was repeatedly lost, diluted or poorly managed across agencies’ Repeated concerns did not translate into coordinated action.
- 5** **Professional Curiosity and challenge** – in relation to the perpetrators online activity the inquiry noted ‘a marked lack of professional curiosity as to how (he) was spending his time, ...he was neither in education, nor had any other form of constructive activity, and was barely leaving the house’
- 6** **Cumulative harm and escalation** – the perpetrator was repeatedly opened and closed with little impact, despite escalating concerns. There were dozens of warning signs over several years but they were not connected into a coherent risk picture.
- 7** **Balancing vulnerability and risk** – there was a significant lack of understanding of autism across agencies which resulted in serious warning signs being reinterpreted as part of autism. The autism diagnosis overshadowed the escalating risk and was used to excuse or explain harmful behaviour.

# National Learning Opportunities

## Scottish Trauma-Informed Leaders Transformation (STILT) Webinar

The Scottish Trauma-Informed Leaders Transformation (STILT) programme was developed as part of the National Trauma Transformation Programme, recognising the key role of leaders in driving trauma-informed change through multi-agency and collaborative approaches.

The webinar aims to:

- Look at why trauma informed and responsive organisations, systems & workforces are important
- Provide real life examples of what 'good' looks like
- Offer resources on how we get there

Further information can be found [here](#)

You can register by clicking on any of the dates below:

[1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 1-4pm](#)

[1<sup>st</sup> December 2026 1-4pm](#)

[11<sup>th</sup> March 2027 1-4pm](#)

## Grampian ASP Training Catalogue

The TURAS links below will only work once you are signed into TURAS.

### Core ASP Training:

The Core ASP Training is delivered via modules. Which modules you should complete is dependant on your role.

#### Module/Level 1 – ASP General Workforce & Module/Level 2 – ASP Specific Workforce.

For dates and booking information please contact your organisation's ASP contact or Training Team.

#### Module/Level 3 – ASP Specialist Multi-Agency Workforce. Book via TURAS [here](#).

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2026 09:30-13:00 via MS Teams.

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2026 13:00-16:30 via MS Teams.

#### Module/Level 3 – ASP Specialist Lead Agency Workforce (attendees must attend the above Multi-agency Level 3 prior to coming on this course) – Book via TURAS [here](#).

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 09:30-13:00 via MS Teams.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2026 13:00-16:30 via MS Teams.

#### Module/Level 4 – ASP Specialist Council Officer (attendees must attend attend the above Multi-agency and Lead Agency Level 3 prior to coming on this course). For dates, booking information and details of other support available for Council Officers please contact your organisation's ASP contact or Training Team.

#### Multi Agency Risk Assessment Training – Book via TURAS [here](#).

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2026 09:30-12:30 via MS Teams.

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2026 13:00-16:00 via MS Teams

#### Professional Curiosity Training – Book via TURAS [here](#).

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2026 09:30-12:00 via MS Teams.

#### **\*\*\*NEW\*\*\* ASP, Addictions & Bias Training – Book via TURAS [here](#).**

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2026 10:00 – 12:00 via MS Teams - **FULLY BOOKED – WAITLIST ONLY (please join the waiting list as additional sessions may be added if there is demand)** Bespoke/Ad Hoc sessions can be arranged. Contact [yvonne.davidson7@nhs.scot](mailto:yvonne.davidson7@nhs.scot) to discuss.

### Bite-sized e-learning

We will be adding to our library of bite-sized learning over the next few months so watch this space, in the meantime we currently have the following available:

**Grampian ASP Case Conference Standards, available [here](#)**

**Grampian Capacity Pathway for Protection Based Decisions, available [here](#).**

**Introduction to ASP Interagency (or Initial) Referral Discussions (IRDs), available [here](#). (although created for NHS staff, the advice and guidance in this video is relevant to anyone attending an IRD).**

Please also check out the NHS Grampian Public Protection page on TURAS for details of other training available. Click [here](#).