



Adult Safeguarding – Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)

3/8/21: Developed by SSP BSU in consultation with colleagues in Adult Safeguarding.

The information contained in the briefing has been developed from a 7 minute brief prepared by Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership

1. Introduction: Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) means adult safeguarding is person-led, outcome focused, engages the person & enhances involvement, choice & control, improves quality of life, wellbeing & safety. MSP must not be simply seen in the context of a formal safeguarding enquiry but also in the whole spectrum of safeguarding activity and across all agencies. Ensure the adult understands what is happening at the point when the concern arises, that they are consulted about the referral, and that “ the process” follows the adult and their pace.

2. Principles: MSP is fundamental to adult safeguarding. It is embedded in the Care Act and ensures that the views of the adult are central to any action taken or not taken. It is about understanding what they want to happen and how they want it to happen (this may differ to what professionals think is right). MSP requires an individualised approach to adult safeguarding: keeping the person at the forefront of all intervention. It is essential to ensure that the adult is at the centre and in control throughout. **What do they want? What do they need? How can you help?**

3. The 6 Safeguarding Principles:

- ✓ **Empowerment:** People are supported & encouraged to make their own decisions & informed consent.
- ✓ **Prevention:** initiate & take action before harm occurs or risk escalates.
- ✓ **Proportionality:** support in the least intrusive way & proportionate to presenting risk.
- ✓ **Protection:** represent & support those in greatest need of protection from harm.
- ✓ **Partnership:** think about the relevant organisations/practitioners to involve including local communities, who have a role in detecting and reporting abuse.
- ✓ **Accountability:** be accountable & always transparent in safeguarding matters with those involved.

4. Practice: Before any action, it is important to discuss the views, wishes, feelings and beliefs of the person in relation to the risk of harm.

People should be seen as experts and in control of their own lives, taking into account any issues with mental capacity.



7. Review:

- ✓ Consider culture/ethnicity & possible language barriers & organise support as needed.
- ✓ Consider if the person lacks capacity to understand, or has substantial difficulty engaging in the safeguarding process, or aspects of it.
- ✓ Do they need someone appropriate to act on their behalf or an independent advocate?
- ✓ Ensure you invite the adult to meetings & think about what this practically means in terms of location, access, communication etc.
- ✓ Ensure you share relevant information with other professionals and make referrals as appropriate.

6. Support Network:

Consider family and wider support networks and involve them as far as wanted and helpful for the person at risk. This needs to take into account the impact (and also possible risk) on the adult.
Support family and relevant others to access support.



5. Key Issues:

- ✓ Clarify and record the person's wanted outcomes, to support them making choices and feel empowered.
- ✓ Ensure outcomes have been understood.
- ✓ Think about ways of working with the Person to achieve the desired change/outcomes.
- ✓ It is the person's personal outcomes, which practitioners need to check at the start, middle and end of the safeguarding process.
- ✓ Ensure the adult's wanted outcomes are met. This might not necessarily be to 'feel safer' where this has an impact on their quality of life.
- ✓ If a crime is committed the adult may need support to report this and understand what this means.

Useful Resources

- Newcastle Safeguarding Adult Board have developed a short animated video called 8 Principles of Engagement which provides key messages around Making Safeguarding Personal accessible via this link <https://youtu.be/pT7YR5k7atk>
- Research in Practice Webinar: This will give you an overview of resources to support Making Safeguarding Personal in practice. [Tools and resources to support Making Safeguarding Personal \(researchinpractice.org.uk\)](https://researchinpractice.org.uk)
- Local Government Association - Making Safeguarding Personal toolkit. The practice toolkit handbook guides you through the best approach and effective application of safeguarding with a range of helpful tools and practice based case examples. [Making Safeguarding Personal toolkit | Local Government Association](#)
- Swindon Safeguarding Partnership Adult Safeguarding Documents can be accessed on the website – [click here](#).
- Please also see the other 7 minute briefs and practice briefs – [click here](#).