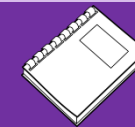




PRACTITIONERS GUIDE



What is Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)?

MSP is an initiative which aims to develop a **person-centred and outcomes focus** to safeguarding work in supporting people to improve or resolve their circumstances. MSP is **applicable to all agencies** working with adults in relation to safeguarding, including those at the initial stages of a safeguarding concern being identified. This guide is designed to provide advice on how best to engage with adults, and work in a committed, multi-agency partnership.

What MSP seeks to achieve?

1. A personalised approach to enabling safeguarding to be done with and not to people, using **practical methods** defined by the adults individual needs rather than those of the organisation;
2. The outcomes of an adults wants, by **determining these at the beginning** of working with them, and ascertaining if those outcomes **were realised at the end**;
3. Improvement to peoples circumstances rather than on 'investigation and conclusion';
4. Utilisation of person-centred practice rather than '**putting people through a process**';
5. Good outcomes for people by working with them in a timely way, rather than one constrained by timescales;
6. Improved practice by supporting a range of methods for staff learning and development;
7. Learning through sharing good practice;
8. Further development of recording systems in order to understand what works well; and
9. Broader cultural change and commitment within organisations, to enable practitioners, families, teams and the NSAB to know what difference has been made.

Providing Personalised Information and Advice

People cannot make decisions about their lives unless they know what the options are, what the implications of those options may be and have had the chance to really consider them. Professionals involved in dealing with safeguarding concerns should take time to consider **what information needs to be made available** to assist people at the right times, in the right place, in what format, and allowing time for information to be digested.

Supported Decision Making and Freedom from Undue Influence

Supported decision making focuses on the outcomes the person wishes to achieve, what is working in their lives and what is not. There should be a mechanism to clearly guide and record the 'conversation' about **choice and risk**. There may be areas of disagreement between people, their family carers and practitioners, needing negotiation and support. Attention needs to be given to the support needs of those with special language and sensory needs, giving the individual the best chance to make decisions for themselves.

Advocacy and Involvement

Self-advocacy, long term **citizen advocacy** and **peer advocacy** are all useful in preventing abuse and responding to concerns by supporting the wellbeing and rights of people involved. **Issue based advocacy** enables people to participate in the safeguarding enquiry by supporting them to review options, decide upon outcomes, and participate in discussions and decision-making. **Collective advocacy** may have a place in settings where abuse has previously occurred and people who live there want to influence changes.