



Adult Support and Protection **Good Practice Guide**

Remember the overarching principles of the Adult Support and Protection Scotland Act is:

“Any intervention in an individual’s affairs should provide benefit to the individual, and should be the least restrictive option of those that are available.”

Remember the Nursing and Midwifery Regulatory Standards: Uphold NMC Code 2018 at all times and maintain professional standards of practice and behaviour:

- Prioritizing people. **Act in the best interests of people** at all times.
- Practice Effectively. **Communicate clearly.**
- Work **cooperatively.**
- Keep **clear and accurate records** relevant to your practice.
- Preserve Safety. **Act without delay** if you **believe there is risk to patient safety** or to **public protection.**
- **Raise concerns immediately** if you believe a person is vulnerable or at risk and needs extra support and protection.
- Promote Professionalism and Trust. **Uphold the reputation of your profession at all times.**
- Fulfil all registration requirements.
- **Cooperate** with all investigations and audits.

Remember the **definition** of an adult at risk is:

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 defines Adults at Risk, through a **3-Point Test** as adults aged **16 years or over**, who:

- 1. are unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests;**
- 2. are at risk of harm; and**
- 3. because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, are more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not so affected.**

The presence of one particular condition does not automatically mean an adult is an adult at risk – **all three of these elements must be met.**

Harm is defined as:

- Another **person’s conduct is causing** (or likely to cause), the **adult to be harmed** *OR*
- The **adult is engaging** (or likely to engage) in conduct which **causes** (or likely to cause) **self-harm**
- **REMEMBER:** conduct includes neglect and failures to act

Remember the Definition of Dignity:

Dignity in care therefore means the kind of care, in any setting, which **supports and promotes**, and does not undermine, a person’s **self-respect** regardless of any difference. Or, as one person receiving care put it more briefly, **‘being treated like I was somebody’**

SCIE.org.uk

Remember these numbers:

Clackmannanshire	01259 727010
Stirling	01786 404040
Emergency Social Work Service	01786 470500

Remember the **main principles** of the Adult Support and Protection Scotland Act are:

Intervention **must provide benefit to the adult** and be **least restrictive to the adult’s freedom** and, if relevant, have regard to:

- 1. the wishes and feelings** of the adult;
- 2. any views** of the adult’s nearest relative, primary carer, guardian, attorney or other person, who has an **interest in the adult’s well-being or property;**
- 3. the importance of the adult participating** as full as possible and providing them with the **information and support** to enable them to participate;
- 4. ensuring** that the adult is **not being treated less favourably** than any other adults in a comparable situation; and the adult’s abilities, background and characteristics.

My support, my life.

Health and Social Care **Standards** set out what we should expect when using health, social care or social work services in Scotland. **They seek to provide better outcomes for everyone;** to ensure that individuals are treated with **respect and dignity**, and that the basic human rights we are all entitled to be upheld. The Standards are underpinned by five principles;

dignity and respect, compassion, be included, responsive care and support and wellbeing.

Duty of Care is defined simply as a legal obligation to:

- Always act in the **best interest of individuals** and others
- **Not act or fail** in a way that **results in harm**
- Act **within your competence** and don’t take on anything you do not believe you can safely do.

