EAST AYRSHIRE

ADULT PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 12 NOVEMBER 2013

EAST AYRSHIRE ADULT PROTECTION UNIT
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2012-13 AND BUSINESS PRIORITIES 2013-14

Report by Chair of the Adult Protection Coordinator

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide the East Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee (APC) with the Adult Protection Unit (APU) Annual Progress Report 2012-13 and Business Plan priorities 2013-14 and seek endorsement of APC Partners.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The APU Annual Progress Report detailed in Appendix 1 represents the multi-agency interim activity in regard to adult support and protection and provides a basis for the East Ayrshire Independent Chairs Biennial Report required by Scottish Ministers by the end of August 2014.

2.2 The APC Business Plan 2012-13 has been monitored via the Adult Protection Unit and progress reported to Committee throughout the year.

3. SUMMARY OF CONTENT AND PROGRESS

3.1 Key Achievements

3.1.1 The Multi-Agency document highlights the positive and steady progress made by the APC and partners in protecting people and the implementation of Part 1 of the Act since the last Chairs Biennial Report 2010-2012 and reviewing our achievements in relation to delivering on our Business Plan 2012-14, where some of the key achievements to date are summarized below;

Empowering people to safeguard themselves

- We have developed the Joint Protecting People Communication Strategy 2013 – 2016 not only with our Child Protection Partners as intended but exceeded expectations by extending this work to include wider public protection partners of the Violence Against Women Partnership and Alcohol and Drug Partnership.

- We have participated in a number of community events to build community capacity in becoming key partners in all aspects of what we do.

- Our commitment to delivering and sustaining the Protecting People Training Calendar is supporting us to promote the key message of Protecting People and Zero Tolerance of harm and all our information has been reviewed to incorporate this. We delivered 916 training places
in 2012-13 with 95 % of attendees evaluating that their skills and knowledge had improved.

- We are on target to meet our 3% increase in ensuring adults at risk have access to independent advocacy and this work continues to support those individuals to fully participate in decision making and ensure that their views are heard.

**Early Intervention and Prevention of Harm**

- We have recognised and responded to 322 adults who were believed to be at risk of harm

- We developed the Protecting People Training Framework which has been adopted by our strategic partners and has been highlighted nationally as an area of good practice

- A toolbox talk to develop knowledge of keeping safe on the internet was adapted and delivered as a pilot for individuals who have a learning disability

- We have developed an Outcomes Framework for Adult Support and Protection Self Evaluation

**Reducing the impact and likelihood of repeat episodes of harm**

- We developed a multi agency protocol and have piloted the first Multi Agency Self Evaluation adult support and protection and our performance against this will be reported to the APC along with areas of improvement identified to take forward in the next 12 months.

- A number of policies and protocols have been reviewed including Access to Funds, Adults with Incapacity and Adult Support and Protection in Prisons which is in progress.

- The National Standards Framework - Adult Support and Protection has been endorsed by the EAAPC and it is anticipated that the Multi Agency Case File Audit will identify the priority for focussing the work of partners to implement these incrementally.

- The Adult Protection Committee continues to regularly inform partners and stakeholders on the progress of the outcomes through reports to the East Ayrshire Community Planning partnership structures and Chief Officers Group (Child Adult and Public Protection).

- A Pan Ayrshire Safe Ayrshire Campaign was delivered with Police and Trading Standards to increase awareness of scams and bogus callers to increase people’s awareness of financial harm in order to protect themselves.

- We have responded to 31 inquires from Social Work Staff relating to advice following protection concerns on social networking sites and supported those children and adults to be safer.
4. SUMMARY OF TRENDS AND FUTURE PRIORITIES

4.1 In relation to specific trends an analyses of trends has found;

- 51.5% of referrals received are from people with a diagnosed mental disorder
- 50% of referrals relate to Self Harm
- 38% reported as adults at risk were aged 65 and over a 2% increase on the last biennial reporting
- 7.5% of those causing harm to those over 65 yrs were care home staff
- 59% of adults who were reported as at risk of harm had some indication of problematic substance and alcohol use
- 15% of adults reported at risk of harm had a physical disability

4.2 Future Priorities of the APC

4.2.1 In relation to addressing these trends in future business planning, a range of future priorities have been identified and these include;

*Early Intervention - Empowering people to safeguard themselves and ensuring our policies, procedures and practice are good for people at risk of harm*

- Partners are planning a protecting People event in the summer of 2014 that will bring together communities of interest and really engage the people most affected by harm in all its forms.
- We will establish and evaluate the implementation of Call Blocker with 20 adults at risk of harm from nuisance calls/scams over the next 12 months.
- The Adult Protection Unit will continue to explore opportunities for joint working with the Self Directed Supports Co-ordinator.
- We will review the Legislative Assistant and Resource Assistant posts to ensure they reflect the current demands on the adult protection unit service.

*Prevention of Harm – People at risk of harm are safer as a result of our activity*

- Our Multi Agency Learning and Development Strategy will be developed
- The Protecting People Training Framework will be delivered and arrangements to strengthen this through inclusion of NHS Ayrshire and Arran Learning Directorate have been included
• The Adult Protection Unit will work in partnership with NHS colleagues to increase the number of referrals received from health by 3%.

• Agree arrangements and implement improvements and recommendations from the Multi agency Self Evaluation

• We will have in place a Pan Ayrshire Outcomes Framework for Adult Support and Protection that provides clear and consistent definitions of what partners agree is an appropriate outcome for safeguarding at an individual, service and organisational level

• Evidencing that adults subject to formal adult protection case conferences have access to an Independent Advocate is increased by 3% over the next 12 months

• Evidencing a 3% annual increase in adults at risk of harm who are also at risk of fire having access to a Home Fire Safety Visit

• Evaluate and deliver Internet Safety Training as a standard course on the Protecting People Framework.

Protection - Reducing the impact and likelihood of repeat episodes of harm

• We will continue to explore ways to work together that continues to reduce repeat referrals by 3% annually

• Continue to review with our partners how key safeguarding concerns such as good practice in relation to tackling Disability Hate Crime are being addressed and consider options for joint working with those affected

• Establish a short life working group to analyse referral pathways for adults who experience mental health, self harm and problematic substance/alcohol use with a view to identifying options for joint working to reduce the impact on individuals, services and the community

• Review the current East Ayrshire Multi Agency Protection Policies and Procedures incorporating changes within the revised West of Scotland Guidance and findings of the Multi Agency Self Evaluation Case File Audit

• Identify areas of joint working to compliment the joint action plan between Children’s Services and Community care Social Work in particular strengthen practice for young people in transition from child to adult services who may need further legal safeguards due to incapacity or previous protection concerns

• Prioritise two National Adult Support and Protection – Standards from the framework that partners can implement within their agencies when identifying adults at risk of harm

• Improve institutional harm in Care Home Settings by development of Large Scale Investigations guidance.
5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The future costs of administration, electronic distribution and inclusion on our Website for the final Annual reports can be met through existing resources.

6. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The reports are consistent with the legislative requirements of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 and the Performance and Audit function of the Adult Protection Committee.

6.2 The Business Priorities 2013-14 is consistent with Community Planning Partnerships policy and practice.

6.3 The three themes identified provide a focus on prevention and outcomes and is consistent with the approaches adopted by the Child Protection Committee and Alcohol and Drug Partnership who are key public protection partners of the Adult Protection Committee.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The East Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee is asked to:

(i) Consider and endorse the East Ayrshire Adult Protection Unit Annual Progress Report 2012-2013 and Business Priorities 2013-14; and
(ii) Note the continued positive progress made in terms of the key achievements of the APC in 2012-13 detailed in Section 3;
(iii) Consider and endorse the APC future priorities detailed in Section 4;
(iv) Endorse the annual performance measures identified in section 5.5.1; and
(v) Otherwise note the contents of this report.

Donna Sinforiani  
Adult Protection Coordinator  
DS/NMc 
04 November 2013

Implementation Officer:- Richard Stevens ,Independent Chair

Any person wishing further information on the contents of this report please contact Donna Sinforiani, Adult Protection Coordinator, Community Care (Adults) on (01563) 553559.