

**WHAT?** Making safeguarding personal - is an ADASS/LGA initiative to improve peoples' experience of adult safeguarding. It is a shift in culture and practice to ensure that the person potentially at risk is directly involved and able to exercise choice. Central to this is that safeguarding outcomes will be determined through conversations with the person rather than decided by professionals.

Examples of the kind of outcomes people may want –

*'I want to feel safer'.*

*'I want to make new friends'.*

*'I want the abuse to stop – but I still want to see my son'.*

*'I want to know this won't happen to anyone else'.*

*'I want an apology for what has happened'.*

**WHY?** Making safeguarding personal has come about as a result of findings from peer reviews and consultations –

- 1) People can feel driven through the safeguarding process rather than in control. In some cases people were not kept informed or involved in decisions.
- 2) Some people want access to some form of justice or resolution - e.g. criminal charges or disciplinary action – and can feel let down if this doesn't happen.
- 3) Some people do not want any formal action to be taken and are distressed when this happens without their knowledge or consent.
- 4) Outcomes have been measured in terms of whether or not abuse was substantiated and what happened as a result. This has little meaning for the individual.
- 5) Whilst people want to be safer, other things may be as or more important – such as maintaining a relationship with a person identified as a source of risk
- 6) People felt their experience throughout safeguarding intervention was as important as the end outcomes – particularly in terms of being listened to and involved.

## **HOW?**

Making safeguarding personal requires engaging with the person as a partner in safeguarding, developing understanding of what they want to achieve then negotiating and recording the desired outcomes. Safeguarding plans will focus on how these desired outcomes will be achieved if on-going action is required following a safeguarding enquiry. Success of safeguarding interventions will then be measured according to how involved the person has been in the process.

Central to this will be a proportionate and person centred approach to risk enablement. Having open discussions about the risks and benefits of possible options enables the person to be more in control and better able to safeguard themselves.

Making safeguarding personal will focus on timeliness of actions for the individual rather than sticking to rigid timescales.

## **WHEN?**

Worcestershire will be adopting a making safeguarding approach as part of the changes being introduced under the Care Act (2014). From April 2015, our processes and paperwork will reflect the need to involve the person from the point the safeguarding concern is recognised and to ensure that safeguarding outcomes are reflective of individual wishes.

## **WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

ADASS guidance

<http://www.local.gov.uk/documents/10180/5854661/Making+Safeguarding+Personal+-+Guide+2014/4213d016-2732-40d4-bbc0-d0d8639ef0df>

Making Safeguarding Personal Toolkit for Practitioners

[http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/home/-/journal\\_content/56/10180/3510238/ARTICLE](http://www.local.gov.uk/web/guest/home/-/journal_content/56/10180/3510238/ARTICLE)