



Appendix 2

Development Department

Your reference: Adult Safeguarding Partnership Strategic Plan

Our reference: #148736

Being dealt with by: David Purchase

Date: 29/5/13

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Dear Joyce,

RE: Consultation: NI Adult Safeguarding Partnership Strategic Plan

Please find attached our provisional response to this consultation document. Please note that this is still subject to final ratification by full council.

Provisional Response

1.1. General comments

- 1.1.1. Thank you for asking us to comment on the draft plan. We look forward to seeing the final plan in due course. Currently, the Council is looking at how the issue of vulnerable adults is managed. In particular, we are considering the longer term resource requirements (using child protection processes as a benchmark) to be effective in minimising the risk to vulnerable adults and how best to support them.
- 1.1.2. We support most of the objectives and actions within the plan but feel there is further scope to link into other agencies, particularly the Council. Our specific suggestions are shown in the following sections.

1.2. Specific Questions.

1. 1. *The Strategic Plan sets out 7 themes for the actions necessary to improve services to safeguard adults at risk in Northern Ireland. Do you consider the themes to be appropriate and relevant?*

1.2.1. Yes

2. *Are you content with the wording and scope of the themes?*

1.2.2. Yes, though see 4. Below.

3. *Are you content with the actions included within the themes?*

1.2.3. Yes, though see 4. Below.



4. *Are there other actions that should be included?*

- 1.2.4. For the Leadership Theme, the first action may be expanded to include encouraging appropriate non-partner agencies to also have an Alerting Manager. For example, the Council recognises the need for a Senior Manager as an Alerting Manager to have responsibility within the Council for Adult Safeguarding and would be keen to see guidance, job descriptions, etc.
- 1.2.5. For the Leadership Theme, the third action may be enhanced by referencing the opportunities that exist by asking Councils to help facilitate work with the Police and Community Safety Partnerships.
- 1.2.6. For the Public Awareness and Prevention theme, the Council may be able to support the first three actions either by linking into any of our similar schemes (via Community Safety, Good Relations and Community Services) or by using our Community Centres. These are based in the heart of many of the city's most at risk areas and could be used as information outlets or to host programmes and events.
- 1.2.7. For the Access to Adult Safeguarding Services first action, the Council welcomes the development of a more streamlined referral system. In a small number of cases the referral process has not been as clear as required or in comparison to the child protection system. Recording, maintaining and sharing information is a requirement that the Council recognise needs to be improved and that staff need to be trained accordingly.

5. *Are you content with the timescales identified in the Implementation Plan?*

- 1.2.8. We recognise the need to set realistic timescales and appreciate the volume of work that is involved in delivering the action plan. If any part could be moved forward we feel the appointment of Alerting Managers could be prioritised and delivered in year 1.

6. *Are there any aspects of the Strategic Plan that you consider could be made clearer or easier to understand??*

- 1.2.9. No.

Thank you for asking us to respond to the proposals.

Yours faithfully

David

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