

Child Protection & Adult Support & Protection

criteria for being considered an adult at risk is defined as such from the age of 16 upwards.

The Code of Practice* to accompany the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 was produced in 2013. This document is complemented by the West of Scotland Inter- Agency, Adult Support and Protection Practice Guidance and Argyll

There will be children who have been supported through child protection procedures who do not fall within this definition despite on-going concern about harm to them, often because they have no disability. If this is the case they will not be dealt with as adults at risk of harm, but continuing support to them will be provided through Children and Families services in accordance with procedures.

'looked after' children as they approach adulthood will be the subject of a transition pathway and will have an allocated through care and after care support worker. Where the young person is harmed by someone else or self-harms, they will not be considered an adult at risk unless they meet the other criteria above, but should be offered support through their existing lead professional or named worker who may assist them to access appropriate services within the local area.

Those children who have a significant disability and will require care and support provided through social work when they reach adulthood will be referred to the

does not have an illness, disability or frailty that makes her more vulnerable to harm than another 16 year old. She does not meet the 3 criteria to be considered an adult at risk of harm, so follow up to the concern should be through child protection procedures.

2. A 16 year old with a complex learning disability is in the process of Transition. He tells his teacher that his father hit him. Because of his disability he is unlikely to be able to safeguard himself, he has a known disability and is alleging harm. He therefore meets the criteria for an adult at risk and an adult protection investigation should be started with a view to developing an appropriate protection plan. The responsibility for the adult protection investigation will be undertaken by the appropriate LD team in liaison with Children and Families staff who know him.
3. An 18 year old who is care experienced is found to have self-harmed and an adult protection referral is received for them. The adult care team who receives the referral checks if the young person has an allocated worker in a social work team and if so passes the AP referral form to them for completion. If the named worker states that the young person has an illness, disability or frailty that makes them more vulnerable to harm than other adults, then they will discuss with the appropriate team leader the need to consider an adult protection investigation, or liaise with other professionals working with the adult to check whether an appropriate risk assessment or care plan is already in place for them. If the young person does not meet the 3 criteria for an adult at risk of harm, ongoing support to them will continue to be provided through their named worker.