

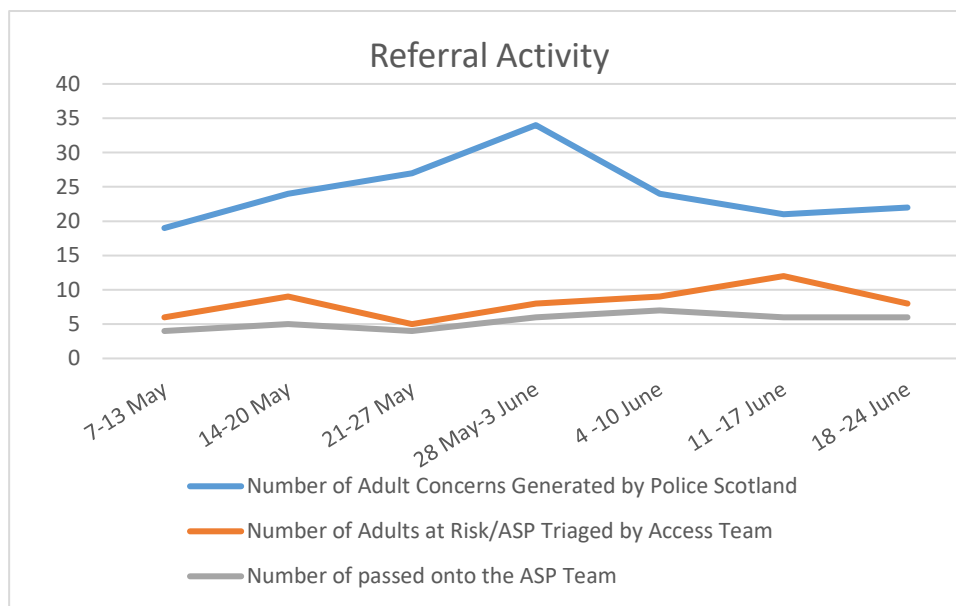
Adult Protection COVID19 Update Report

1. Work of the Adult Protection Committee

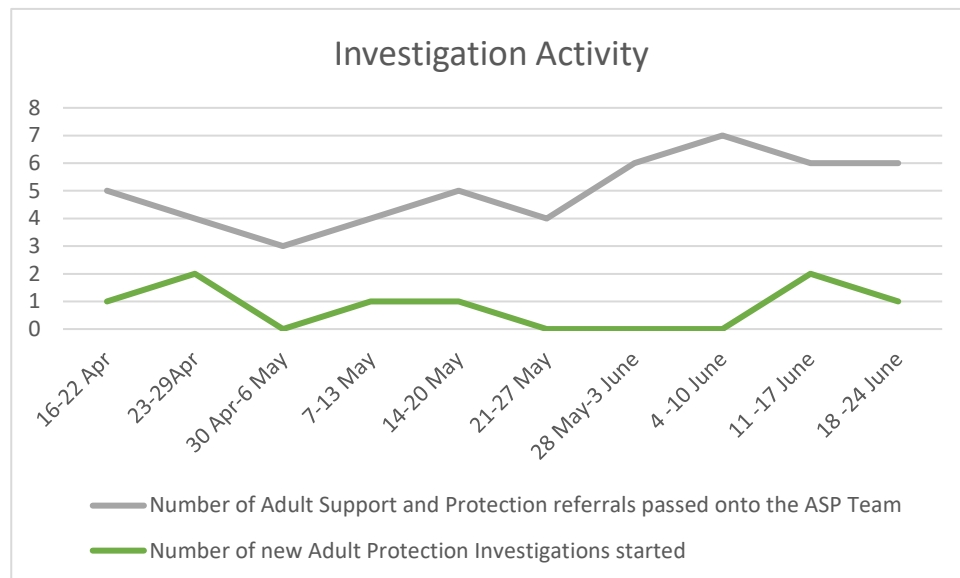
- 1.1. The APC are now meeting on a monthly basis to co-ordinate the response to the pandemic. A Moray ASP COVID19 Risk Register is now in place and reviewed at each meeting. The APC have reviewed the national supplementary COVID19 guidance published by the Scottish Government on 30 April 2020, to confirm all local arrangements are in line with this.
- 1.2. Contingency plans are in place regarding any increased workload and impact. The ASP consultant practitioner is monitoring referrals to the team as well as in contact with the Team manager from the Access team on a regular basis throughout each week. Should demand increase over the capacity to manage a process is in place to manage this as effectively as possible.
- 1.3. The Grampian Adult Protection Working Group last met on 29 June 2020 to discuss the strategic priorities that could be progressed on a Grampian wide basis over the next two years. This was a difficult exercise in the current circumstances and it was agreed that Adult Protection Committees would continue to monitor emerging themes locally to inform future work on a Grampian basis.

2. Adult Support and Protection Activity

- 2.1. **Process:** Adult Support and Protection activity is being managed as per normal processes. The Access Team screen all concerns that are submitted, with those that appear to be of an Adult Support and Protection nature continue to be passed onto the ASP consultant practitioner(s).
- 2.2. **Police Concern Reports:** During May the number of Police Concern Reports submitted to the Access Team increased, after which they have fallen and plateaued to earlier levels. There is not a corresponding peak in those established to be Adult at Risk concerns, suggesting there was an increase concerns relating to adult wellbeing immediately post lockdown.



2.3. Referrals: Of the Adult at Risk referrals received by the Access Team have been passed onto the Adult Support and Protection Team for further action, the largest proportion of these referrals related to concerns regarding the care and support provided to an individual, followed by concerns related to financial harm, concerns regarding mental health/self-harm and concerns regarding the self-care of individuals, related to alcohol and/or home environment.



2.4. Investigations: Four of the Adult Support and Protection Investigations initiated since April relate to concerns regarding care provision, three of which are the same care provider. Government guidelines are being followed and adhered to.

2.5. Case Conferences: Meetings have continued virtually using both a conference call and video conference platforms.

2.6. Care Providers: regular contact is in place.

2.7. Adult Support and Protection Training: delivery of face to face training has ceased since the pandemic. Work is underway to move towards virtual delivery of this training using Microsoft Teams when possible.

3. COVID19 –Areas of Risk

3.1. Restricted Access: visits to service users require are to be assessed on a case by case basis. Moray is a small local authority and this enables these risk assessments to be conducted with the appropriate support staff swiftly.

3.2. Service Continuity: All referrals are all sent to the ASP inbox to ensure continuity and the ability to pick up any concerns which are sent. Should the ASP Consultant Practitioner be unavailable there is a certainty the matter will be managed appropriately by another staff member. ASP Team Consultant Practitioners are all working elsewhere at the present time but regular meetings are being held between them to ensure consistency and effective working remains.

3.3. Technology: The ASP team are continuing to use technology at times when connection quality is suitable, until the solution of a new platform is made available across the council.

3.4. **Emerging Themes:** During the lockdown increased pressure has been placed on Unpaid Carers with activity and respite services unavailable. This has resulted in increased strain and tensions within households, is having a detrimental impact on the health and wellbeing of the Unpaid Carer, and poses risk of breakdown to the care relationship as a result. Links with the Carer Support Service at a strategic level will be progressed to support the APC to address these risks further.

3.5. **Local Improvement Plan:** The focus required to ensure the ASP critical functions are maintained has reduced the resources available to deliver against the Adult Support and Protection improvement plan and agreed timescales. The post of Project Manager has now been advertised. It was agreed by the APC that it would be beneficial to review the activities within the improvement plan in relation to Covid-19 and how working practices may have changed.

4. Conclusion/Next Steps

4.1. An Adult Support and Protection Contingency Plan is in place with a Risk Register. Critical services remain in place, and the Adult Protection Committee meet monthly to co-ordinate action required on a partnership level.

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