



7-minute briefings: Making Safeguarding Personal

Background

Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) is an approach to safeguarding adults which supports a person-centred, outcome-focus to safeguarding work, and a range of responses to support people to address concerns. Described in the Care and Support Statutory Guidance this includes having regards (to an adult's) views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action. Professionals should always work within the 6 principles of the Care Act which are Empowerment, Prevention, Proportionality, Protection, Partnership, and Accountability.



Why it matters

Research indicates that when we follow the Making Safeguarding Personal approach to safeguarding, that the adult at risk is more likely to be satisfied with the outcome and conclusion of any safeguarding section 42 enquiry. It also indicates that when we adopt this approach with adults at risk, that they are less likely to experience a repeated instance of that abuse or neglect within a 12-month period.



Individual

Having a conversation and seeking the views of the adult at risk is key to the MSP approach. Capturing and reviewing the adult at risk's desired outcomes at the beginning, middle, and end of the safeguarding process ("no decision about me without me") to ensure that the desired outcomes are a focus of the enquiry and are recorded to assess how these were met (or if not, why not).

This empowers the adult at risk in making decisions about their own health and wellbeing rather than being controlled by a process.

Professionals should always treat adults at risk with dignity and respect.

Family and wider support network

MSP is about person-centred and outcome-focused practice; how professionals work with adults at risk to ensure that they are making a positive difference to their lives by taking into account what matters to them. This includes the importance of considering an individual in the context of their family, friends, and wider community support networks, as well as taking into account the impact of the adult's need on those who support them which supports us to take steps to help those in a support network to access information, advice, or support.



Partnership

Professionals should work with individuals to recognise the potential for abuse or neglect and develop support systems to promote and maintain the individual's wellbeing and safety. Professionals must also ensure they effectively communicate and work with wider multi-agency professionals to prevent abuse and neglect occurring and engage with communities to ensure individuals safety and build resilience.



What to do

Have a conversation with the adult at risk. Ask, record, and work with individuals towards achieving their views, wishes and desired outcomes. Ask the adult at risk who they would like to be involved or consulted with as part of any enquiry. Discuss with them any options that are available, including any options that are not available or which are unachievable. Develop a plan so the individual knows how to stay safe.



Questions to consider

- Am I informed?
- [SCIE NSAB procedures.](#)
- Do your procedures support you to work within the principles of MSP?
- Does your organisation have systems in place to work within MSP agenda?
- Does your organisation carry out audit to check for MSP compliance?
- Do you have access to training in MSP?

