

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Public Protection Committee
DATE	23 rd February 2022
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	APC Annual Report 2020-21
REPORT NUMBER	OPE/22/052
DIRECTOR	Sandra Macleod, IJB Chief Officer
CHIEF OFFICER	Claire Wilson, ACHSCP Lead for Social Work
REPORT AUTHOR	Val Vertigans, Lead Strategic Officer Adult Public Protection, ACHSCP
TERMS OF REFERENCE	Section 1.1

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Adult Protection Committee Annual Report 2020-21, in order to provide assurance about the impact and effectiveness of partnership working to support and protect vulnerable adults at risk of harm in Aberdeen during the period.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 notes the Adult Protection Committee Annual Report 2020-21; and
2.2 notes that the Biennial Report for the period April 2020 to March 2022 will be shared with the Committee following submission to Scottish Government in October 2022.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The independent Convener of Aberdeen Adult Protection Committee (APC), has a statutory duty to prepare a Biennial Report, the last of which was for 2018-20. At the meeting of the APC on 9th June 2021 it was decided that it would also be beneficial to produce an additional Annual Report, to enable oversight of activity on an annual basis, and particularly in the light of the amount of work done over the year and in response to the pandemic, and also to provide an opportunity for highlighting achievements and good practice. The first such report, covering the year April 2020 to March 2021, is attached as an appendix to this report.
- 3.2 The APC is committed to facilitating and overseeing an inclusive, responsive and effective approach to the support and protection of adults at risk of harm. It includes representation from a range of professional backgrounds and organisations including Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, NHS Grampian, Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance

Service, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and ACVO, the local third sector interface.

3.3 The reporting period almost entirely coincides with the first year of the pandemic, and the Report recognises this and draws out how partners in Aberdeen continued to prioritise the support and protection of vulnerable adults at risk of harm during this time, in very challenging circumstances for the staff involved. The Report includes several case studies to highlight some of the challenges.

3.4 Key data continued to follow previous years' trends:

- Care Homes / Care at Home services were the highest referrers of Adult Support and Protection referrals (446 referrals (32%);
- Financial and Physical Harm continued to be the most common harm types which resulted in an Investigation (29% and 20% respectively);
- In most Investigations (65%), the principal harm had taken place in the individual's own home

3.5 The report provides updates on work to progress the APC's Priorities, and sets out future priorities, which relate to:

- Stakeholder Engagement;
- Performance & Quality Assurance; and
- Learning and Development.

3.6. The Annual Report has been endorsed by Adult Protection Committee (APC) and the Aberdeen Executive Group for Public Protection. It is also being submitted for noting to the IJB Risk Audit and Performance Committee and the Council's Public Protection Committee, and will be shared by members of the APC with their respective organisations.

3.7 The Report has also been added to the [Aberdeen Protects website](#) and will be shared as part of social media communications aimed at raising awareness about the risk of harm to vulnerable adults, for National ASP Day on 20th February 2022.

3.8 The 'statutory' Biennial Report for 2020 – 2022 will be shared with the Committee at its meeting on 12th December 2022, following submission to Scottish Government at end October.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)	Mitigation
Strategic Risk	None for this report		
Compliance	None for this report		
Operational	None for this report		
Financial	None for this report		
Reputational	None for this report		
Environment / Climate	None for this report		

7. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Policy Statement
Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	No impact
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	Investing in early intervention and prevention activities is a core principle of the recently refreshed Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2016-2026 which envisages Aberdeen as “a place where all people can prosper”. Adult support and protection is a significant part of that ambition to ensure that everyone feels safe, supported and included.
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	No impact
Regional and City Strategies	
	No impact
UK and Scottish Legislative and Policy Programmes	
	No impact – there is no statutory requirement for the APC to produce an Annual Report.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	Not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

10. APPENDICES

i) APC Annual Report 2020-21

11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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