

Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding Board
Multi-Agency Adult Protection Policy Review 2009

the Multi-Agency Adult Protection Policy has now been revised. You can get a copy by going online at www.shropshire.gov.uk or www.telford.gov.uk and type Adult Protection into the search engine.

Area of work	Key changes
Policy section	<p>Added Zero tolerance to abuse statement.</p> <p>Amended definitions including adding a definition of Safeguarding.</p> <p>New terms of reference added to Role of VASB section.</p>
Appendix 1.	<p>This has been reordered so guidance is given in the order that things should be happening in. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - receiving a referral - completing the strategy discussion - allocating an investigating worker <p>Added Deprivation of Liberty as an example of potential physical abuse.</p>
Referral form	<p>Changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve the strategy discussion • Increase space for referrer to explain protection plan and possible problems with it. Team Manager / Senior to check protection arrangements are in place. • Level of harm recorded at this stage.
Level of harm assessment	<p>This has been amended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • add detail about recording the potential for harm • Include “none” which is particularly relevant if an allegation is not substantiated. • End level of harm added to Closure Form.
The role of the investigating worker/ investigation stage	<p>This section has been changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give more detail and guidance about the extent of the role including with the Chairperson, coordinating any specialist investigators needed. • Include an investigators report which must be supported with evidence reviewed attached.

	Level I changed to become the Level I Investigation Stage.
Changes to paperwork	Apart from those already mentioned on the document the following has been added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • witness statement • adult protection reference number added to each level of paperwork to link papers together • agendas amended
Exiting the process	The ability to exit at Level I if the abuse is a low level of harm has been added. A protection plan must be evidenced and if it recurs, cannot be exited at Level I again.
Serious case review section	More detail has been put into this section including roles and responsibilities for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • members of the Panel • Chair • VASB New documents have been added and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent authors report • Panel executive summary • Agendas • Standard letter to agency asking for report
Legislative changes	TBC
Role and responsibilities of Senior / Team Manager / Chairperson	The guidance provided in appendix 1. has been strengthened. Emphasis has been put on what they are responsible for including being satisfied with the quality of investigation and associated paperwork.
Service user involvement in the process	This has been strengthened throughout the document. Of particular importance is gathering service user's views at the end of the investigation. This has become part of the process of closing the AP case.
Institutional Abuse	The following has been clarified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • starting a case with no vulnerable adult named (a selection of names to be used in order to create a referral) • review document to be completed as part of the investigation
Appendix 4.	Clarification about Shelton cases known to Telford being lead by T&W teams.