

Argyll and Bute Adult Protection Committee Biennial Report

**Allen Stevenson, Lead Officer Adult Protection
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**Act
against
harm** |

Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007

- Made the council the lead agency for making inquiries if it believes an adult may be at risk of harm
- Places a duty on many public bodies
 - To report to the council
 - To co-operate with the council
- Gives the council new legal powers to intervene where necessary



The Act also created multi-agency Adult Protection Committees

- The APC has an independent Chair
- The Chair is responsible for the Biennial Report that goes to the Scottish Government
- Nationally the agenda for adult protection is led by multi-agency policy forum

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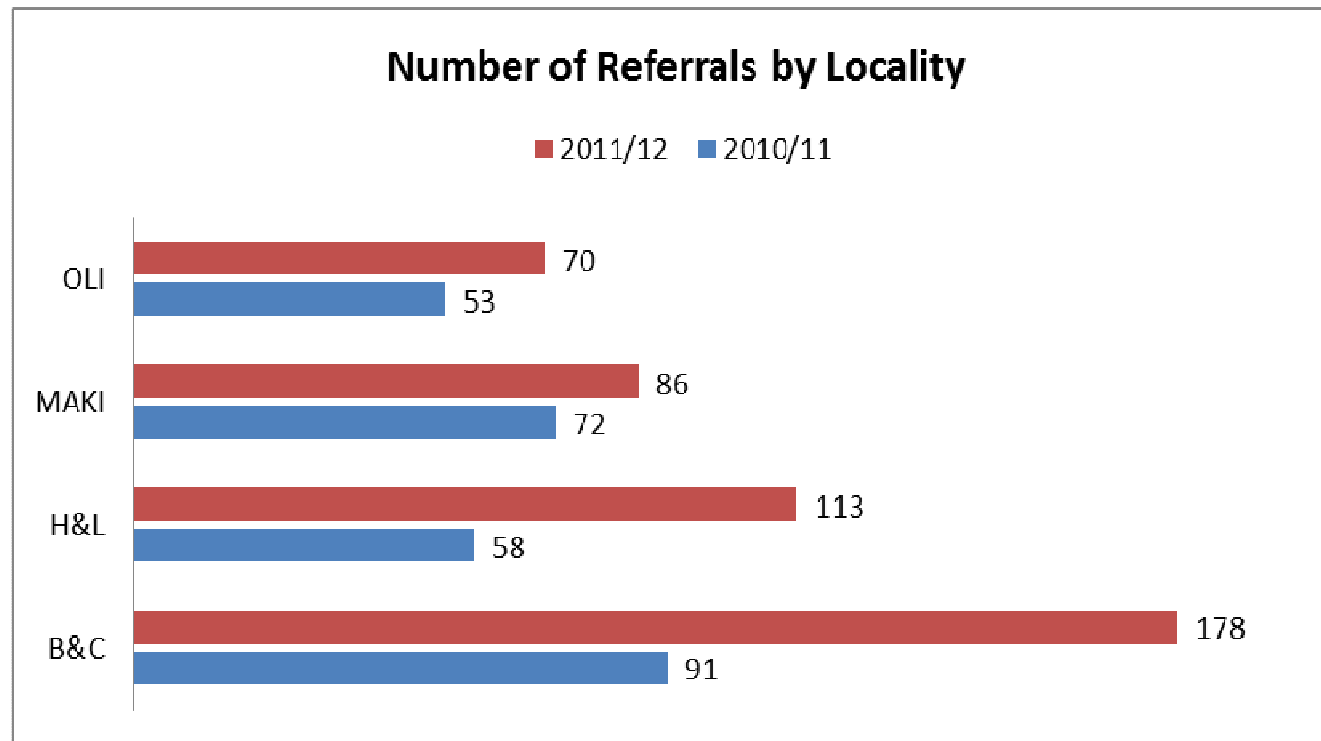
Who is an adult at risk?

Anyone 16 or over who meets all of the following 3 points:

- They are unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests
- They are at risk of harm (from another person or self-harm)
- They have a disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity that makes them more vulnerable to being harmed than people without such a condition

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Since the implementation of the Act Argyll and Bute have deal with over 1000 referrals



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The number of referrals in MAKI is rising, as in all other areas:

- 72 in 2011 up to 86 in 2012
- Last quarter 22% of referrals were for self-harm
- Most are not taken forward under adult protection procedures

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Who is making referrals in MAKI?

- The Police are the highest referrer: 65%
- 2 referrals from NHS staff
- 3 from care and support providers
- None from adults themselves, family members, neighbours or the public

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There are currently 5 national priorities:

- Financial harm
- Harm in residential care settings
- The development of a national dataset
- The engagement of NHS staff in adult protection
- Service user engagement

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What can you do to help?

- Be aware that harm to adults can happen
- Help us to publicise adult support and protection: do you have links with the press?
- Talk to people about adult support and protection when you meet them

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