Safeguarding Together

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Today’s focus

- Practice focus – no need for researchers to say ‘it is all very complicated’, ‘more research needed’
- Context of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)
- How to effectively engage with people to agree and negotiate and record their desired outcomes - and via proxies
- Manage dilemmas when working with people when their outcomes cannot be realised
- Focus not on Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (keep eye on this as imminent Law Commission report)
Specifics

1. Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) is this just another fad or fashion? What do we mean by MSP?
2. How do we effectively engage with people to agree and negotiate and record their desired outcomes? what happens when they won't engage?
3. How to work with people when their desired outcomes cannot be realised
4. How does MSP work in circumstances when the adult at risk has made a LPA or other arrangements?
5. What does success look like in working along an MSP ethos?
Back to basics

Putting the person at the centre and asking:
“What do you want to happen next?”

Simple?
1) Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) seeks to achieve:

- A personalised approach that enables safeguarding to be done with, not to, people.
- Practice that focuses on achieving meaningful improvement to people's circumstances rather than just on ‘investigation' and ‘conclusion’.
- An approach that utilises social work skills rather than just ‘putting people through a process’.
- An approach that enables practitioners, families, teams and SABs to know what difference has been made.
MSP – the state we’re in

- Tensions between recording and non-recording
- Unresolved IT problems
- Engagement of partners
- Inconclusiveness
- Potential for drift
- Variability of defining outcomes – ‘I feel safer...’
MSP - a unifying creed?

- Consensus over the concept?
- Feasible – and problems now known (to move from face-to-face to system change)
- Piloting – various forms but Trial (gold standard test) – not on horizon
- Implementation – well underway – emergence as practice wisdom
- Care Act Guidance compliant
MSP data collection ~ analysis
2) MSP is not the total answer to everything

- Problems when access is denied by a third party
- Problems when unable to talk to adult possibly at risk on their own
- Problems of hard to engage becoming impossible
- Solutions? – negotiate soft and hard
2) MSP and modern slavery

• What outcomes are wanted?
• Room for discussion
• Working with new agencies
• Little practice guidance so communication needed
MSP Coercion & Control

- New links of DV and Adult Safeguarding – emphasising dialogues not professional decisions (eg Women’s Aid ‘Change that Lasts’)
- What are the options? Weighing up rights, risks and benefits to increase people’s resilience and self confidence
- Focus on recovery and/or resolution: law on controlling and coercive = another string to the bow

http://coercivecontrol.ripfa.org.uk/overarching-resources/
3) Seeing if MSP exists in practice

- It was established that a Mr A lacked capacity around major decision making such as accommodation and finances; following this an advocate was instructed to support with best interest decisions.

- Mr A wanted to maintain his relationship with his wife and daughter but not his son. He wanted to be in a safe and supportive environment where his care needs could be adequately met. As a result of a best interest assessment (and IMCA involvement), and assessment of all of the risks, the outcomes were negotiated and Mr A moved to a care home.

Questions from this case

• How were the outcomes wanted by Mr A established?
• If you were the social worker’s/IMCA’s supervisor what would you expect them to have done?
• How to consider the position of Mrs A, Miss A and Master A?
Wider MSP - Engaging with an Attorney (proxy)

- Proxy – unusual role in adult services
- New to talk of outcomes
- Experiences of LPAs
- No MSP data
- Some media accounts of conflict or ignorance of professionals
- Some media & Court of Protection accounts of displacement of Attorneys
4) How to work with people when conflict & disagreement – using York case example

• X is married to Z – who has just been released from prison for sexual offences
• X has learning disabilities
• Social workers query her decision making capacity to live with Z
In practice

If yes – X has right to live with Z – what would be a MSP approach?
If no – what would MSP offer?

• NB Court of Appeal ruled yes “We must leave X free to make her own decision, and hope that everything turns out well in the end.”

5 What will MSP look like?

- Be reflected in local stories
- Be reported in Local Outcomes
- Be evident in audits of case & conference recording
- Be mentioned in any Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR)
- Be part of any SAR
- Be ‘business as usual’ in all agencies
- Not be a dead end but evolving.
Afterward

- What does MSP look like for ‘perpetrators’?
- Roles of Mediation and Family Group Conferences
- How to manage when things go wrong
- Challenging and complementing each other
references


MSP Presentations MRC conference 2016, [https://www.beds.ac.uk/research-ref/iasr/mrc/archive/27-apr-16](https://www.beds.ac.uk/research-ref/iasr/mrc/archive/27-apr-16)


Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

This presentation presents independent research funded by the Department of Health. The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Department of Health. Thank you for listening.