The majority of the harm to adults reported in North Ayrshire in 2018-2019, took place within the adult’s own home.

For more information on Adult Support & Protection, visit the Adult Support & Protection page on the North Ayrshire Council website:

www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/asp

If you are concerned about yourself or another adult, and believe there is a risk of harm, please get in touch:

Tel: 01294 310300

Email: adultprotection@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
The Adult Support & Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 was introduced to protect adults who are at risk of harm in Scotland. An adult is a person aged sixteen or over. The following information summarises key information in relation to North Ayrshire in 2018-2019.

**Adult Protection Committee (APC)**

APCs have a central role to play in taking an overview of Adult Support & Protection activity within each Council area. North Ayrshire’s APC has multi-agency representation, including North Ayrshire Council, North Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, Police Scotland, and other relevant organisations. The APC has an Independent Convenor, not allied to any other agency.

**Adult Support & Protection (ASP)**

An Adult Support & Protection referral is made when someone is concerned that an adult is at risk of harm and unable to safeguard themselves, possibly due to a physical or mental infirmity. The ASP Act promotes partnership working between all of the relevant agencies who have a role to play in supporting and protecting adults.

Anyone can make an Adult Support & Protection referral for an adult they are worried about.

The graph below shows the top five agencies who made ASP referrals in North Ayrshire in 2018-2019.

Some care homes were making referrals that did not actually meet the criteria for ASP. Work has been ongoing with them to raise awareness of what constitutes an ASP referral and to encourage only referrals that meet the criteria for ASP referrals. This has resulted in fewer, but more appropriate, ASP referrals from care homes over the last two years.

**Protection Orders**

Although most referrals result in the protection of adults without the need for Court interventions, this is sometimes necessary. There are three different Protection Orders, all of which have to be issued by a Sheriff.

**Assessment Order**

If there is a need to see and speak to an adult directly (and privately) to find out if they are being harmed, the Sheriff may be asked to issue an Assessment Order. This allows the adult to be moved to be interviewed or to be medically examined (if they agree to this).

**Removal Order**

If it is believed an adult may be seriously harmed if they stay in a particular place, the Sheriff can be asked to allow the adult to be taken to a place of safety, for a short period of time.

**Banning Order**

An application can be made to the Sheriff to ban a person from a particular place or places, or from making contact with a person, to ensure that any adult they might harm can be kept safe. This ban can be for up to a period of six months and can then be renewed if necessary.

Below are the Protection Orders issued in North Ayrshire during the last three years.