

Welcome



People First (Scotland)

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Glasgow Disability Alliance

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Who we are:  PEOPLE FIRST (SCOTLAND) 
An independent organisation run by our members, for our members

- People First (Scotland) works for the human rights of people who have the labels of Learning Disability or Intellectual Impairment.
- People First (Scotland) is controlled by its members, who all identify themselves in that way.
- People First (Scotland) campaigns to establish and protect the same freedom, choice, dignity and control held by other citizens across all areas of life.

Who we are:



Glasgow Disability Alliance
Confident Connected Contributing

- Disabled Persons Organisation – Run By and For Disabled People
- Pan- Disability
- GDA Provides Free Accessible Learning & Training Programmes and Events – Building Capacity and Connections
- Campaigning & Influencing Policy & Practice through Disabled Peoples Voices



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What is SURG and who does it include?

Membership:

- The membership will consist of representatives of organisations that support individuals affected by disability, mental disorder, illness of physical or mental infirmity.

The definition of an Adult at risk of harm is any individual aged 16 or over who:

- Is unable to safeguard their own well-being, property, rights or other interests
 - Is at risk of harm
 - Is affected by disability, mental disorder, illness of physical or mental infirmity, and is more vulnerable to being harmed than adults who are not affected.
- This is commonly known as the 3 point test. For an adult to be at risk in terms of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, the adult **must** meet all three points above.



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What is SURG and what do we do?

- SURG (Service User Representative Group) is a sub group of the Glasgow City Adult Protection Committee. It was set up to make sure the service user's voice is heard and has an opportunity to inform the work of the Adult Protection Committee. The sub group
 - Seeks to influence the Adult Support & Protection Committee
 - Questions the main committee about policies and procedures
 - Makes recommendations
 - Influences practice and has input on training
 - Commissions pieces of research



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Roles & Responsibilities

- It is important that members have knowledge and understanding of the Adult Support and Protection processes and legislation. Therefore members should be supported to undergo an induction and training. Welcome Pack for new members. Members can be slotted into training sessions and this should be organised through the Training Officer.
- The sub group wants to avoid inappropriate representation on the group that would be unfair to the individual concerned. Representatives who are members of the group should have a level of knowledge of ASP and be supported by the organisation they represent so that they are able to contribute meaningfully to the work of the sub group.
- A letter will be sent to organisations who have reps on the sub group explaining the requirements and responsibilities of the reps who have been put forward. If it is felt that if a rep is not able to meaningfully participate then the organisation will be written to outlining the concerns. If the initial concerns are not acted upon then this could be escalated to the next level and ultimately an individual could be asked to leave.



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What SURG does and how:

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- Preventing situations escalating:
 - Advice on prevention, protection and safety
 - More accessible information and education on our rights
 - Support to leave an abusive situation
 - Relationship advice
 - Someone to talk to and emotional support
 - Access to Advocacy
 - Support to make our own decisions



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Main aims of Report:

- Explore the views and experience of service users
- To use their feedback to improve services

Main findings of Report:

- Most people feel safer and more in control as a result of their ASP journey
- 2/3 of people felt like the support they received was good
- Every person who accepted advocacy support found it beneficial



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- **SURG Research Recommendations:**
- The individual should always be reminded that they have a choice about consenting to the support offered by the act. But if it is determined that there is serious risk or undue pressure on the individual then the process of protective measures that can be put in place should be clearly explained.
- All individuals should be given a full explanation of the role of advocacy support services and the benefits of engaging with such support.
- Every effort should be made to support the individual going through the ASP process to attend and participate fully in meetings. This could be done through a variety of approaches including: having meetings in the person's home or a suitable alternative venue; offering assistance with transport to attend meetings; providing personal assistance and ensuring all communications are in the preferred format, i.e. large print, easy read etc.



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- **SURG Research Recommendations Cont:**
- The individual should always be given an opportunity to speak first at meetings to express their hopes and expectations with regard to the ASP process and potential outcomes.
- People should be fully involved in drawing up their protection plans and it should be evidenced that an individual has received a copy of their protection plan and that they understand this document.
- Efforts should be made to improve the communications the individual receives during the ASP process: from why someone is worried through to protection plans and advocacy support. The default position should be to use clear, accessible, and easy read versions of written communications.



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Thank you for listening

Happy to take any questions 😊