

7. Partnership working and holistic assessment

Professionals should consider:

- The involvement of the adult, their strengths and how to capture them as individuals in care plans
- Appropriate communication with the adult's family communication and involvement in key decisions

6. Keeping high-risk adults safe from exploitation

- Professionals should understand the particular risks associated with adults with autism.
- Where professionals identify that an adult may be vulnerable to coercion and exploitation then they must also put in place plans to mitigate these risks in order to safeguard them.

5. Risk assessment and risk management processes

Professionals must consider:

- Incidents that take place once care has been transferred.
- How to mitigate the risks that are introduced when assessments are carried out remotely.
- Care providers must ensure that incidents are communicated to the relevant professionals.

About Damien (pseudonym)

- Damien had a long history of contact with mental health services, and diagnoses of Asperger's Syndrome, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and a learning difficulty.
- He misused a variety of substances, and his vulnerability was exploited by others.



1. Finding appropriate accommodation

Professionals should consider:

- How is a decision made that a placement is able to provide appropriate care?
- What checks can be made to assess suitability?
- What is regarded as good practice in identifying and securing a placement?
- Who should visit possible placements?

2. Once accommodation has been identified

Professionals should ensure:

- That discharge processes are not unnecessarily delayed by the process of securing funding.
- The process should involve the adult and, if appropriate, their family.
- That they have determined the lawful basis on which the person will live in the accommodation.

3. Discharge/ transfer of care processes

- How will the adult be involved?
- Ongoing monitoring/ follow up: who by and when?
- What are the daily activities that the adult needs, and what help do they need to do them?
- Is the pace of discharge appropriate? Is a phased discharge needed?

4. Mental capacity assessments

Professionals must consider that adults with complex needs and/or subject to coercion and exploitation may not have the capacity to make some decisions, and if there is doubt or conflicting information they may need to carry out and document a mental capacity assessment in relation to the decision(s).