
Will safeguarding be all that's left for social workers in adult services? (And does that matter?)

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Abstract

This presentation asks if social workers in adult services will be left with a residual role of adult safeguarding as aspects of their care management roles and other tasks whither away. The basis for this argument lies in developments around local government reorganisation to take into account legislative and organisational changes; to meet resource restrictions and increases in demand; and to respond to legislative imperatives that are changing public services in major ways. In an almost parallel universe there are developments in adult safeguarding that are giving rise to fundamental changes in social work practice. These include new opportunities to make decisions on the basis of best interests, to engage with advocates and to address the needs of people who are often described as perpetrators as well as victims. This presentation draws on a number of research projects and makes some connections across their early findings.
