Spotlight on good practice: ASP Case Studies

**Case Study 5**

Jamie has an established diagnosis of Treatment Resistant Schizophrenia, she has been supported by the Adult Mental Health Team for many years. Part of Jamie’s chronic delusional belief system is that she believes a Police Cadet, 'Sophie', lives next door and targets her in the form of; tampering with their belongings, accessing their property uninvited and planting drugs in her property. These delusions are very real to her and regardless of treatment they persist. Jamie regularly contacts the Police complaining about 'Sophie'.

Jamie is fiercely independent and likes to be in control of her care and treatment and focus has always been placed upon supporting them to manage their mental health needs in the community. However, risks do require to be robustly monitored and considered by the MDT and there have been two occasions in the past 3 years when she has been detained under the MHCTA 2003. During more acute phases of her illness, ASP has served no immediate benefit to Jamie with risks being managed via the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003.

There tends to be a very high and consistent level of police concern reports in response to Jamie’s level of contact with the police. We have completed a number of inquiries and progressed to investigation previously, to robustly explore any benefit to the use of the 2007 Act. Normally 3 or more concern reports within 6 months, would require an inquiry under the 2007 Act. However, this would not be of benefit to Jamie or help to assesses risk as this threshold would be met frequently. The MDT has collectively agreed a management plan that is more effective in screening the volume of referrals and managing risk for Jamie.

All concern reports are screened by both health and SW to look for any new indicators of risk and/or increased risk factors. Mental Health services have supported Police colleagues to develop ways to communicate with Jamie in terms of her delusions and risk factors which may indicate a change in risk. This collaborative approach to risk allows for professional judgment and existing relationships with Jamie to give a person centred response, which helps keep her safe and engaging with supports.