

**Introduction:** In order to address the issues facing practitioners on the Isle of Man, an Abuse Pathway has been designed which helps them deliver a consistent and effective service to those who find themselves being subjected to Abuse

<p><b>Disclosure:</b> Offer opportunities. Ask the question. Look for indicators and, while such lists cannot be exhaustive or prove that Abuse is occurring, professional inquisitiveness into reasons behind factual events will assist in detection/disclosure</p>	<p><b>Disclosee:</b> Build confidence. Ensure confidentiality (within Safeguarding policy and procedure). Help them feel safe. Don't underestimate the risk. Help them take control. Reassure.</p>	<p><b>Worker:</b> Empathy. Empowering/Encourage. Belief. Safe environment. Use active listening. Seek informed consent.</p>	<p><b>Place:</b> Quiet. Safe. Secure. Prevent interruptions.</p>	<p><b>Enquiry:</b> Routine enquiry. Targeted enquiry. Police inquiry. Forensic evidence. Information sharing.</p>	<p><b>Avoid:</b> Stereotyping. Making assumptions. Cross examination.</p>
<p>The person experiencing Abuse is willing to engage.</p>	<p>Increased vulnerability? Immediate action? What outcome do they want?</p>	<p>Safeguarding. Contact Independent Abuse Advisor (IAA) MARAC? Information sharing – with whom?</p>	<p>Is accommodation needed? For whom? Person choosing to abuse or person experiencing Abuse? Others?</p>	<p>What solutions are available? Removal. Prosecution. Legal order. Social support.</p>	<p>Doing nothing - This is not an option.</p>
<p>The person choosing to abuse is willing to engage.</p>	<p>Do they recognise/understand their problem? Are they motivated and able to change? Is there a history? Are they trying to manipulate?</p>	<p>Would they attend a group work/ individual programme? Do they think the person they are choosing to abuse would? Seeking help may come in stages. Those choosing to abuse should be given contact numbers to call.</p>	<p>Will he/she have to move out temporarily? Is a cooling off period needed?</p>	<p>Who will support the person being abused? Who will monitor ongoing situation?</p>	<p>Being groomed by the plausible.</p>
<p>The people either choosing to (b) or experiencing (a) Abuse are not willing to engage.</p>	<p>a) It is important to recognise their right to choose, however, a lack of willingness to co-operate maybe short term. As such, information on where and how to access support should be given. b) They should be encouraged to understand the danger of their behaviour and possible negative outcomes.</p>	<p>a) Consider mental capacity, coercion, public interest, risk of significant harm. Is ongoing support and monitoring appropriate? b) Seeking help may come in stages. Those choosing to abuse should be given contact numbers to call.</p>			
<p><b>Safety Planning</b> Needs are a changing phenomenon and therefore ongoing support needs to recognise and address changing need. A person experiencing Abuse should be referred to a range of appropriate emotional, social and practical Support Services.</p>	<p>Who is the person best positioned to deliver positive outcomes? Does the Client need support, advice, mentoring?</p>	<p>In whom do they have most confidence: family, friends, professional, volunteer?</p>	<p>Identify the most appropriate service provider.</p>	<p>Time frame: Immediate. Short term. Long term.</p>	<p>Withdrawing support before resolution, stability and sustainability achieved.</p>
<p><b>Exit Strategy</b> It is important to not create a dependency that did not exist before the Abuse commenced. However, repeat victimisation by a subsequent person is not uncommon. Those experiencing Abuse need to develop confidence, self-esteem and resilience – however, they also need to know they are not alone.</p>	<p>Early intervention. If repeat abuse commences, shout loud and early.</p>	<p>Be aware that some who choose to abuse will target subsequent vulnerable partners.</p>	<p>Self-referral to support network can increase confidence and halt escalation.</p>	<p>When starting a new relationship, ask about the past ones. How have they finished, etc.? If there is nothing to hide, they won't mind.</p>	<p>There should be phased withdrawal, building service users capacity by introducing them to social support networks. Supporting Survivors groups.</p>

