

Case Study F

MARM Framework. This framework is designed to guide staff on how to manage cases relating to adults where there is a high level of risk the circumstances of which sit outside the statutory adult safeguarding framework but for which a multi-agency approach is needed to manage these risks in the most effective way.

George is 47, he lives alone in a local authority flat. He has recently come out as gay to a few close friends but not his family. He is frequently targeted by young people in his local community and he is scared of them. The police have been involved following numerous reports from neighbours. The police have sent in notifications to children services, a number of these children are children who are 'looked after' by the local authority and 2 are care leavers. The local Lesbian and Gay Liaison Officer (LAGLO) has made contact with him and over a few months has managed to build a trusting relationship with him, although he is very suspicious of professionals.

He has become more of a recluse in the last year and has lost contact with his few friends. He has taken to using social media in his flat and the LAGLO is aware that he has made contact with a man who engages in online sex with him, the LAGLO believes that this man has also linked George into a site on the internet where he is talking to men who ask him to send money, the LAGLO thinks he is sending money on a regular basis, George believes that these men are his friends. Housing continue to receive reports of increasing anti-social behaviour around George's ground floor flat, but George continually refuses to engage with housing and the police are concerned that he is becoming more isolated and more at risk of online abuse and increased risk of anti-social behaviour and concerned that young people may also be targeting him because of assumptions about his sexual orientation.

Decision making

The police have sent to the local authority several Public Protection notices (PPN), children services have been involved, adult social care have assessed that whilst George does meet s42 (1) b, in that he is experiencing anti-social behaviour and is at risk of online abuse, he does not meet s42 (1), (no apparent need for care and support), the local authority could make a decision to undertake 'discretionary' or 'non statutory enquiries' but any agency involved with George could also consider if the risks present as 'unmanageable risks' and following any agencies risk assessment could decide that the Multi-Agency Risk Management Framework criteria is met, the agencies in the first instance that could call a MARM meeting could be the police, housing, children services or adult social care.