

# Appropriate Adults Consultation Event



1 June 2018

## Easy Read Summary



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot



Supporting  
Offenders  
with Learning  
Disabilities

# What is an Appropriate Adult?



Some people might need extra help when they speak to the police.



Appropriate Adults can help people who need this extra support.



This is to make sure that everyone who speaks to the police is treated fairly.



Appropriate Adults can help:

- People who the police think have committed crimes
- People who have had crimes committed against them
- People who have seen crimes being committed

# Why we had a meeting about Appropriate Adults



The Scottish Government wants to make  
Appropriate Adult services better.



We had a meeting for people to tell us what they  
think about our plans to do this.



The meeting was for people with learning  
disabilities.

People from advocacy groups came along too.

**The people who came to the meeting told us about their ideas for Appropriate Adults.**



**They said:**



It is important to make sure that there are good Appropriate Adult services in all of Scotland.



People should get the same type of help from Appropriate Adults no matter where they are in Scotland



People shouldn't have to wait a long time to get an Appropriate Adult.



People who might need help from Appropriate Adults are:

- People with learning disabilities
- People with mental health issues
- People with autism
- People with brain injuries
- People with ADHD



There might be other people who don't fit into any of these groups but still need help from Appropriate Adults.



Appropriate Adults need to get to know the person they are helping to find out what help is needed.

They need to be able to spend time with the person.

They need to be able to speak to people and organisations who know the person



People must be able to trust Appropriate Adults to tell the police if there are any problems.



There should always be information that is easy to understand for people who get help from Appropriate Adults.



It would be good if the police could learn more about Appropriate Adults.

It would be good if the police could learn more about people who might need help from Appropriate Adults.



It would be good if Appropriate Adults could help in court.

It would be good if Appropriate Adults could help people when they speak to lawyers.

**We asked people what they thought about the plan to make councils provide Appropriate Adults.**



**They said:**



There might be problems if local councils provide Appropriate Adults.



It might be better if there was a national organisation for Appropriate Adults.



An Appropriate Adult should be a job itself.

It shouldn't be something extra which is done by social workers

**We asked people what they thought about the plans to train Appropriate Adults.**

**They said:**



It is important for people who get help from Appropriate Adults involved in the training.



It should be the same training in all parts of Scotland.



Appropriate Adults should be tested to make sure they are good at their jobs.



**We asked people what they thought about the plans to make sure Appropriate Adult services are working well.**



**They said:**



There should be somebody independent to make sure Appropriate Adults are doing their jobs well.



People who get help from Appropriate Adults should be involved in making sure the help they get is right.



There are different ways to find out from people if they had good or bad experiences of Appropriate Adults.

Some ways of doing this are:

- Surveys or questionnaires
- Interviews
- Group meetings

## What happens next...?



We will look at what people have said about Appropriate Adults.



We will write new rules and guidance about Appropriate Adults using ideas that people have told us about.



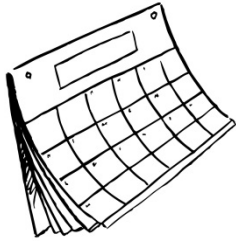
We might not be able to include everybody's ideas in the new rules and guidance.



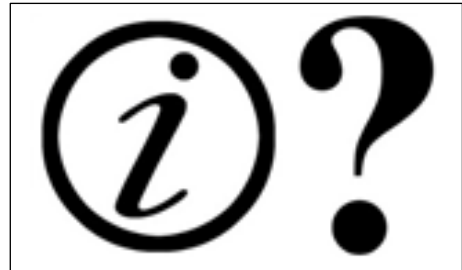
The rules will then be made into laws by the Scottish Parliament.



It will take a bit of time to do all of this because we want to make sure we get it right.



It will be next year (2019) before any new rules are put in place.



If you have any questions about the plans for Appropriate Adults you can speak to:

**Kenny McKay (People First)**



0131 478 7707

**Tony Bowman (ARC Scotland)**



0131 663 444

**Lucy Lawson (Scottish Government)**



0131 244 0700