

EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT
TO LEAD A FULL LIFE,
BUT NO ONE SHOULD
FACE HARM ALONE.



That's why there are Adult Support and Protection services across all Scottish Local Authorities. Here is a story about how it can work.

HARM CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE,
AND IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY
TO SPOT

You
going out
tonight?

Yeah, Kate's
taking me
round to
the Forest
Arms



Easy on the drinks
tonight. Your
diabetes can only
handle so much!

I know, I know.
Relax. I'm finally
having some fun in life.
You worry too much.



BUT LATER THAT EVENING ...

Come on Jamesey,
cocktails are
2 for 1!
Live a little.

Sorry Kate,
I'm out
of cash.



Give me your card and I'll
go round and get another
tenner - we'll just have one
more drink and then go
back to yours.



THE NEXT MORNING JAMES
GETS A CALL FROM HIS SISTER

Ugh! My head!
Not Sam again,
she does my nut in
at the best of
times.



James?
James?
Are you
listening
to me?

JAMES' SISTER IS WORRIED HE IS BEING
TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF SO SHE MAKES
ANOTHER PHONE CALL ...

Is this the Adult
Support and Protection
helpline? I'm worried
about my brother, can
you help me?

Let me take a
few details and
we'll see what
we can do.



A FEW PHONE CALLS LATER AND
PAT FROM ADULT SUPPORT AND
PROTECTION HAS ARRANGED TO
DROP BY AND SEE JAMES:

Why does
Sam always
have to
meddle?

Are you
sure you
want her
here?



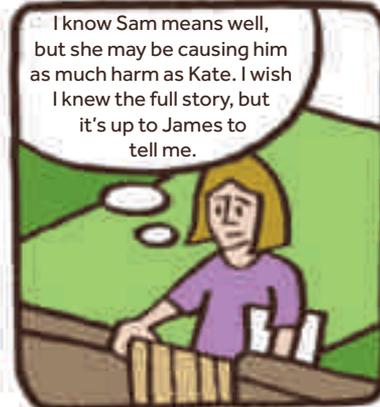
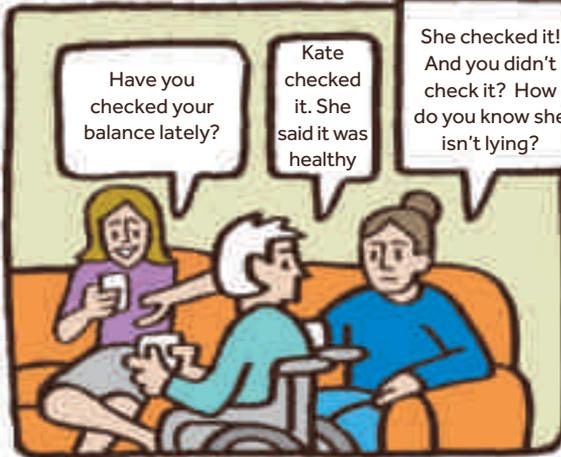
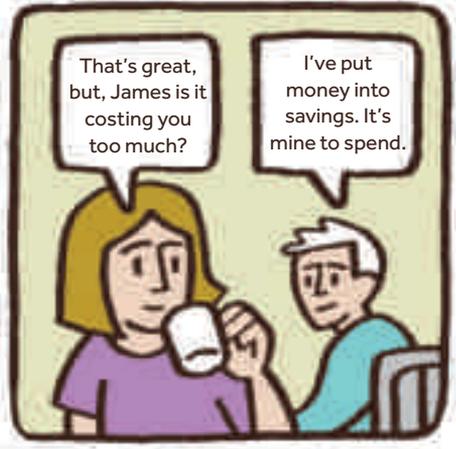
I won't get
any peace
'til I've
spoken to
her, who
knows the
social worker
might help.

Oh. Here
they come!
Do you want
me to put the
kettle on?



Yeah, go
ahead, Might
as well get
this over with.





JAMES HAS A FEW PROBLEMS:

- He can't trust his friend Kate as much as he thought. But he has feelings for her and doesn't want anyone picking on her least of all the police.
- He does get really down sometimes—and this has got him down.
- And his sister either wants Kate moved out of their building, or wants to move him.

If you were in his shoes, what would you do?

What kind of help would you want?

AFTER A GOOD THINK ABOUT THINGS JAMES GETS BACK IN TOUCH WITH PAT THE SOCIAL WORKER...

Look, my sister is never going to let me live this down – do you think you can help me?



There are things we can do so you can keep your money safe and still go out. It'll mean working together. What do you say to a meeting with everyone who can help support you?



If that's what it takes



I don't like telling others my business, but if he can help me stand up to Sam it'll be worth it.

PAT AND TED, AN ADVOCACY WORKER, ARRIVE AT JAMES' HOUSE...

Better get the kettle on.



Sorry, I know you need this risk assessment for your file, but all these boxes and questions are doing my head in.

Would it help if I drew this out as a map?



Yeah, it would. That looks like my life plan. Can we include my goals and values?

Something like this?



My goals are to get out and make real friends.

Sure, what do you want me to put?



And what do you value in a friend?

Well honesty for a start.

Too right.

Someone who will stick by you, put up with you through hard times, and someone who is a good laugh.



And James what do you think you need to have in place so friends respect your needs?

It's not my friends, it's my sister that causes me the most hassle. I wish she'd let me live my life.



Maybe we need to have a place on the map that makes a record of what helps you solve problems, and what doesn't?

Good idea!

That's easier for me to make sense of too. I think we should take this to the meeting.

And show Sam what I can do. It might help her remember to listen.

LATER THAT WEEK JAMES HAS TO GET DRESSED UP AND GET A TAXI TO THE CASE CONFERENCE.

Hope I make a good impression, my doctor, the manager of the support service, the housing officer, and the police are all going to be there... Sheesh!

BY THE END OF THE DAY THEY'VE WORKED OUT A PLAN TO KEEP BOTH JAMES AND HIS MONEY SAFE.

AT THE SOCIAL WORK OFFICE ...

So do you feel ready to go into the meeting?

I'm a bit nervous

If you're wanting a break, just slide your report over towards me and I'll suggest it to everybody.

Thanks. It's nice to know I've got a get out strategy.

EVERYTHING DOES GO FINE AND THE MAP HELPS. BUT IT'S HARD WORK.

How does that sound? The CPN, Kathy, will come round and check how you're doing once a fortnight.

Would you like CPN spelled out?

Is she that lassie who comes round and helps me to cope with my mood swings?

That's her. And if I see you again in six weeks, we can make sure your diabetes has settled back down.

Sounds like a plan.

Okay, we'll just get those steps on the plan there.

Frank from the housing association may be able to offer some help. Do you have anything further to report on the options you were looking into.

I'm aware that you'd like us to move Kate out but unfortunately that is not an option.

You're the one that moved the drug addict in there, you get her out!



A FEW WEEKS LATER...

Let's see, that's no sugar, but extra milk.

I think James is doing really well with it.

How's the new routine working out?

How do you feel you're doing health wise?

Yeah, I'm feeling better. I'm still getting out.

You're still getting out, well that's good.

Believe it or not, I'm still seeing Kate.

You're still seeing Kate?

We talked it through and she apologised for getting carried away.

How do you feel about still spending money on Kate?

Well, it's what I want to do.

And you are being a lot more cautious with your money.

She is getting more help too and we're gonna try to make a go of it.

You're still gonna be friends?

We're still gonna be friends.

Ok, that's your decision. I've just got to ask, how do you think Sam is going to react?

I can't let her run my life! Is there any more you can do to help?



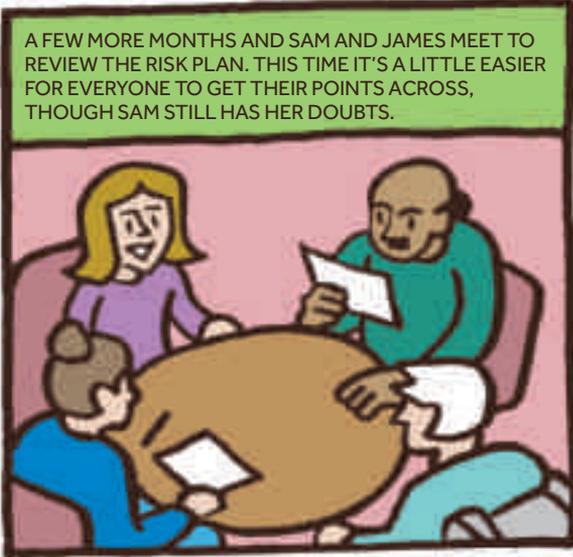
Am I right, you do want her to still be in your life as your sister, just not take over so much?

Yeah, that's right.



Well I think there is something I could look into ...

LATER THAT AFTERNOON PAT CALLS THE LOCAL MEDIATION SERVICE. THEY AGREE TO WORK WITH JAMES AND SAM.



A FEW MORE MONTHS AND SAM AND JAMES MEET TO REVIEW THE RISK PLAN. THIS TIME IT'S A LITTLE EASIER FOR EVERYONE TO GET THEIR POINTS ACROSS, THOUGH SAM STILL HAS HER DOUBTS.



PAT THINKS JAMES CAN MANAGE WITHOUT ANY FURTHER HELP FROM THE ADULT SUPPORT AND PROTECTION SERVICE. A FEW DAYS AFTER THE REVIEW MEETING SHE STOPS BY TO SAY GOODBYE.

I must say, you make a good cup of tea

Thanks



And these are great photos, did you take them with your club?

They're not bad, but I've got a lot to learn. The guys at the club are really helpful.



What does Kate think of them?

She's really proud of me. I've taken some of her too - look.



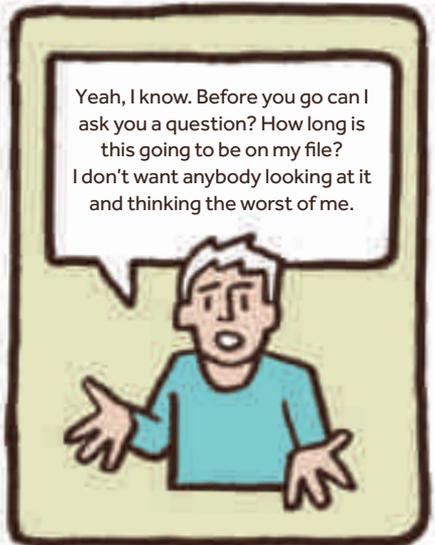
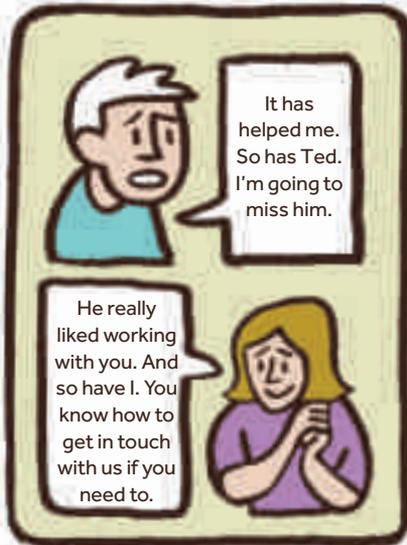
I bet she likes that one. Can I ask - are you still being careful with your cash?

Still only taking cash with me. And my card is in the safe.



That sounds great. What would you say, James, if someone from the camera club asked you to loan them some money?

I think I've learned my lesson. I'd tell my support team.



This is where we leave James' story.
We'd like you to think of a few questions:

- What did you think James did well in this story?
- If you found yourself in a situation where someone was harming you or someone you knew: how would you like social work to work with you? What tools would you need?

For more information on Adult Support Protection go to:
www.actagainstsharm.org/useful-links/index.html

If you or someone you know could use support working through problems like those James has had, here are some useful contact numbers:

Helpline and other services to support people in a crisis:

Voice UK

www.voiceuk.org.uk
Helpline: 08088028686

Act Against Harm

www.actagainstharm.org

Action on Elder Abuse

www.elderabuse.org.uk
Helpline: 0808 808 8141

Domestic Abuse Hotline

Helpline: 0800 027 1234

Victim Support Scotland

www.victimsupportsco.org.uk
Helpline: 08456039213

Rape Crisis Scotland

www.rapecrisisscotland.org.uk
Tel: 08088010302

Dealing with Loss and Grief

Relationships Scotland
www.relationships-scotland.org.uk

BSLD (Bereavement Support for People with a Learning Disability)

www.bereavementanddisability.org.uk

NHS Resource on Learning Disability and Bereavement

www.heron.nhs.uk/specialist_directory/bereavement/ld_bereavement.htm

Information from support organisations on citizenship, keeping safe, and having a say:

InControl

Resources for Safeguarding
www.in-control.org.uk/resources/safeguarding.aspx

InControl Easy Read Resources

www.in-control.org.uk/resources/easy-read-resources.aspx

Citizenship Development Resources from SCLD

www.sclد.org.uk/sclد-projects/citizen-leadership

Advocacy Information from SIAA, Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance

www.siaa.org.uk/content/view/14/27/

Scottish Government Easy Read Resources on Social Services, Law and Adults at Risk

Information about Health and Social Work Services supporting People with a Learning Disability:

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/04/20092341/1

Information about Criminal Justice Social Work Services

www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/04/20092233/1

Easy Read Version of a Life Like Any Other

Human Rights and Adults with Learning Disabilities

www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/jt200708/jtselect/jtrights/40/40ieasyread.pdf

To see more of James and the views of people who access services on Adult Support and Protection go to: www.thistle.org.uk/riskresearchproject/adultprotectionresources

A participatory research project developed by Altrum and the University of Stirling. Hosted by Thistle Foundation. Funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

