

## combating violence against adult social care staff and volunteers

Skills for Care has been working with the Department of Health (DH), the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and Local Government Employers (LGE) to update the work of the Department of Health's National Task Force on Violence against Social Care staff, originally published in 2001.

Violence against social care workers (both staff and volunteers) remains a major concern and there is therefore a need for both employers and individuals to ensure effective risk reduction and appropriate responses whenever a violent incident occurs.

The original taskforce materials, published in 2001, included an employers' self-audit toolkit and a checklist for employees. These are now being replaced with **new guidance for employers** and **new guidance for individuals**. Also included are a range of examples of policies and procedures, assessment tools, training frameworks, ways of responding to violent incidents and information for workers. These provide a starting point for others to build on to meet the needs of their own organisations.

### guide for employers

This will provide clear and practical guidance to employers to enable them to assess and reduce risks and respond positively to any incidents of violence.

The guide is designed for employers of all types and sizes, from people who employ their own assistants directly, through small and medium sized independent and voluntary sector organisations, to local authorities and large national organisations.

### guide for individuals

It is intended that employers use the individuals' guide in conjunction with the employers guide and distribute it widely to raise awareness of the subject and provide specific guidance on individual responsibilities, thereby promoting best practice.

The guide provides information on what individuals can do to reduce risk and what they should do following an incident.

### policy and procedure examples

A range of examples of policies, procedures, training and approaches to dealing with incidents are included. They don't necessarily reflect best practice, but provide a starting point that can be built on by employers to meet their specific requirements.

### ADASS contribution:

- To be aware that this work has now been completed and can be accessed in the developing skills section of the Skills for Care website - [www.skillsforcare.org.uk](http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk)
- To encourage colleagues to use the information available and share the information with colleagues who are not familiar with the updated material.