



Danny Quigg

Designated Adult Protection Officer,
Adult Protection Gateway Team

Introduce yourself. Where do you work? What is your job role?

I'm Danny Quigg, and currently, I serve as the Designated Adult Protection Officer at the Belfast Trust Adult Protection Gateway Team.

What does your job entail?

A significant part of my role involves screening referrals to the Adult Protection Gateway Team and determining whether they meet the threshold for a person in need of protection, as defined in the Regional Adult Protection Policy. If the threshold is met, we allocate the case within the team. If it doesn't meet the threshold, we liaise with the appropriate individuals who need to be involved and request an alternative safeguarding response, or we screen the referral out as inappropriate. Furthermore, my role entails providing support to Trust Investigating Officers during investigations following allegations of abuse against Older People and Service Users with a Physical or Sensory Disability. Initially, we discuss the allegation and establish an interim protection plan until the investigation formally commences. We then agree on the approach the investigation will take, which may involve referral and coordination with the Police on how it will proceed.

How did you get into this line of work?

I volunteered in my local community association and established connections with Extern. Subsequently, I became a member of staff in their Omega Project and Youthlink. The Omega Project focused on the rehabilitation of long-term offenders.

Outline your career to date?

After qualifying as a Social Worker, I became the manager of the Social Work Team at Belfast City Hospital, a position I held for fourteen years. In 2004, I joined the Adult Protection Team, where I am still a member today.

Tell us about your qualifications and training?

I obtained a Diploma in Social Work from The University of Ulster at Jordanstown in 1990. Since then, I have pursued additional training, including becoming an Approved Social Worker, a Practice Teacher, and a Specialist Interviewer for the Joint Protocol with PSNI.

What qualities are required for your job – personal and professional?

The ability to remain calm when challenges arise and to treat others as you would expect to be treated yourself. Facing all challenges with an open mind and impartiality.

What is the best advice you have ever received?

It's nice to be important, but it's important to be nice. Getting to know and building a network of fellow professionals. Knowing who's who pays dividends.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Spend time with family and take time to relax.

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself?

I never take myself too seriously.

Who has inspired you most in your life?

Before social work, I was an apprentice in a garage. My "Journeyman" at the time was a pillar of reason and wisdom, a lot of his advice still resonates to this day.

What advice would you give your 16-year-old self?

Absorb knowledge being imparted to you. Everyone makes mistakes. Learn from them.