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### What is Multi-Agency Working in Safeguarding?

This is where professionals from different agencies collaborate to share information, tasks, responsibilities and goals to support adults at risk of harm, abuse or self-neglect.

The essential elements of Multi Agency working include a shared process of both planning and delivery of support.

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### 3 Common Principles of Multi-Agency working.

**Information sharing** - with the right people at the right time.

**Joint decision Making** - based on information from all relevant agencies and the individual involved.

**Coordinated Intervention** - Sharing roles and responsibilities with relevant agencies and professionals in

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### What Can you do?

Maintain open communication with other professionals.

Share information in timely Manner.

Maintain respect and a willingness to be open to challenge.

Increase knowledge o other agencies escalation routes and policies.

When assessing utilize information from multiple agencies

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### Benefits of Multi-Agency working

Reduced workload pressure- due to sharing of responsibilities and workloads.

collaboration involves sharing the best practices and experiences between different organisations.

Partnership working can improve quality of services and support to the adult.

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### Challenges of Multi-Agency working

Many conflicts and disagreements arise, and reaching a mutually acceptable solution may take time.

It takes more work to coordinate a large number of people performing different tasks.

Practitioners are coming from different Teams and work environments/work cultures and underpinning legal frameworks.

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### What we have learnt

Sharing information is helpful.

Simply holding multi-agency meetings without clear plan of action and delivery is unhelpful.

Professionals should ensure there is continued communication with the adult and their family.

Informal and inconsistent meetings are not recommended.

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### Further information:

For more information check The Luton Tri.X Local Resources and the Pan Bedfordshire Safeguarding space -

<https://panbedfordshiresabs.trixonline.co.uk/>

