

2008 Inter-Agency Training & Events Calendar

- ❖ **15 January** *Full*
Inter-Agency Child Protection Training
McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- **14 & 21 January** *Full*
Working Positively with Substance Misuse
McDiarmid Park, 4.30 pm - 6.30 pm
- * **16/17 January** *Full*
Getting our Priorities Right
McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- **5 Feb** *Full*
Introduction to Safeguarding Children & Young People, McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- 26/27 February** *Places Available*
Designated Child Protection Officer Training
McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- ❖ **18 March** *Places Available*
Inter-Agency Child Protection Training
McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- **20 March** *Places Available*
Understanding Self-Harm
Blackfriars, 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
- ◆ **22, 23, 29, 30 April** *Places Available*
Foundation Programme in Childcare & Protection, McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- **6 May** *Places Available*
Introduction to Safeguarding Children & Young People, McDiarmid Park, 4.30 pm - 7.30 pm
- ◆ **9 May** *Places Available*
Foundation Programme in Childcare & Protection, McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- **13 May** *Places Available*
Myths and Links Between Self-Harm & Suicide
McDiarmid Park, 4.00 pm - 5.30 pm
- ❖ **20 May** *Full*
Inter-Agency Child Protection Training
McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm
- ❖ **10 June** *Places Available*
Inter-Agency Child Protection Training
McDiarmid Park, 9.15 am - 4.00 pm

Please contact Training & Development Unit for further information and availability of the above courses. Email tdu@pkc.gov.uk

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion only, a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting Gordon McKay on 01738 476880.



Council Text Phone Number 01738 442573

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility

Resources and Useful Websites

Interagency Child Protection Guidelines

pkc.gov.uk/childprotection/downloads

Child Protection Web Pages

pkc.gov.uk/childprotection/webpages

Child Protection Committee

Membership/Minutes/Messages

Protecting Young People Useful Information

Interagency Protocols, Procedures, Guidelines and Assessment, Working with Substance Misusing Parents, Carers and their children
www.pkc.gov.uk/ChildProtection/downloads

Domestic Abuse

www.domesticabuse.co.uk

Useful Telephone Numbers

Children and Young People

Child Protection Duty Team 01738 476768

Childline 0800 11 11

National Child Protection Line 0800 022 3222

Police

Police 01738 621141

Family Protection Unit 01738 892911

Emergency Services 999

Social Work

Social Work Out of Hours 01382 432270

Education & Children's Services 01738 476200

Substance Misuse

Social Work Drug & Alcohol Team 01382 444433

NHS 24 08454 24 24 24

GUM Clinic 01738 623311

(Sexually Transmitted Infection)

Useful Websites

www.scottishwomensaid.co.uk

www.rapecrisisscotland.org.uk

www.pkdomesticabuse.co.uk

www.pkc.gov.uk

Target Audience Key

- ❖ All staff in agencies who have completed the Introduction to Safeguarding Children & Young People course.
- ◆ Education & Children's Services staff, Criminal Justice staff, Child Protection Designated Teachers, Community Learning staff, Health Professionals to enhance the ability to recognise and respond to suspected/conformed abuse/neglect appropriate to their role in the Services.
- All professionals who have contact with children and young people and their families, including those who have no direct responsibility such as those working with the adults in a family.
- Multi-agency staff who require basic awareness level training.
- * Specialist staff who require more in-depth training, whose work entails engaging face-to-face with substance misusing parents and their families.
- Guidance staff, youth workers, social workers and teachers.
- Multi-disciplinary staff who require enhanced understanding and knowledge and skills of the topic and insight into multi-disciplinary roles and remits related to self harm/suicide.

Perth & Kinross Child Protection Newsletter



Issue 1 - January 2008

We are delighted to welcome you to the first edition of the Perth & Kinross Child Protection Newsletter. The Child Protection Committee has been keen to ensure that practitioners and managers, across all agencies working in child protection in Perth and Kinross, are kept up-to-date on developments locally and nationally.

The newsletter is one way of attempting to do this, and hopefully you will find it informative and helpful. We are trying to give some insight into the work of the Child Protection Committee; sharing some national work which may affect us in Perth and Kinross; alerting you to forthcoming development opportunities and also highlighting some people and their work

in child protection in this area. Communication has to be a two way process and so we would welcome any contributions you would like to make about the newsletter, and any ideas and comments about how we can improve would be gratefully appreciated.

We will publish the newsletter quarterly, at the start of the year, around easter and in the summer when the main feature will be our annual report and business plan. In the autumn we will focus on the forthcoming Inspection of Child Protection Services due to take place in December 2008.

Bill Atkinson, Chair
On behalf of the Child Protection Committee

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Perth & Kinross Child Protection Committee would like this newsletter to be as representative of Services, Practitioners, children and young people as possible. If you have any news or views to share, or would like to suggest a topic for future issues, then please contact us at the Editorial Team. Similarly if you would like further copies of this newsletter sent via email, please contact the Editorial Team via Gordon McKay tel 01738 476880 or email GRMcKay@pkc.gov.uk

Website Developed

A new and more user friendly area of the Council's website is now operational, offering:

- information for the public;
- useful advice for practitioners;
- links to other related sites.



www.pkc.gov.uk/childprotection

Stop Press . . .

- Child Protection Inter-Agency Co-ordinator to be appointed shortly - this is a new post to lead and support Child Protection work in Perth and Kinross.
- Inter Agency Inspection of Child Protection will take place in December 2008 - January 2009.

The Perth & Kinross Child Protection Committee

The Child Protection Committee (CPC) is made up of representatives from all agencies who work with children and families in Perth and Kinross. We meet every two months to discuss and plan services to ensure children in this area are kept safe and protected. There have been several very significant national reports concerning child protection issues. Two in particular are driving improvement. 'It's Everyone's Job To Make Sure I'm Alright' - concerning national reform and 'Getting Our Priorities Right' - concerning parental substance misuse.

Some key issues identified by the Committee are:

- *Raising Public Awareness*
- *Improving Communication Between Agencies*
- *Impact of Substance Misusing Parents on Children's Lives*
- *Improved Training Opportunities for those who work with children and families in child protection.*

Perth & Kinross CPC have produced a Business Plan to take forward the Child Protection Agenda and several multi-agency sub groups have been set up to report progress to the full Committee.

Training Sub Group

The function of this group is to provide inter-agency Child Protection Training for staff who work with children. The Training Sub Group believes that the provision of joint training and a better understanding of each other's roles through this training will help meet the needs of Perth and Kinross children.

Voluntary Sector Forum

This group brings together voluntary agencies with a common interest in services for children and young people and has a strong child protection focus. It exists to provide appropriate opportunities for the voluntary sector to engage in the dissemination of best practice.

Audit & Review Group

A sub-group set up to drive the Self-Evaluation and Improvement agenda for CPC through examining in different ways service delivery, and highlighting current good practice from Inspections in other parts of the country.

System Sub-Group

The Systems Sub-Group was created to review, on an inter-agency basis, cases where agencies have not acted together as effectively as they should to protect a child. Referrals of cases for such attention can be made through an agency representative on the CPC. The group also undertakes inter-agency audits of practice and, where areas of good practice are identified, these are incorporated into subsequent training events and, where weaker aspects are discovered, an audit action plan is devised to address any shortcomings.

DAAT Sub Group

This is a cross-cutting group between the CPC and the Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) focusing on children affected by parental substance misuse, and also on young people with substance misuse issues.

Self-Harm Group

This group was created to develop awareness and define good practice related to self-harm/injury and suicide. It strives to enhance understanding, knowledge and skills relative to supporting young people who self-harm and promote multi-disciplinary networking in relation to self-harm, injury and suicide.

Child Protection Messaging Group

This group was formed to assist in the delivery of a strategy which enabled electronic information sharing for child protection purposes across all agencies systems.

It's Everybody's Job

"My name is Susan Smith and I work as a Community Midwife in Perth and Kinross. I have been a midwife for twenty-seven years. My role is to provide care and advice to women during the antenatal, labour and postnatal period.

When pregnancy is confirmed, an appointment will be sent to the woman inviting her to the booking clinic and to have a scan. Prior to this appointment a midwife from the team will arrange to meet with the woman preferably at home. Midwives may also carry out this initial assessment in the GP surgery. However it is often in the more relaxed home setting that discussion takes place regarding medical and social history, which may give the midwife insight into circumstances that may require extra support and attention.

If there is an indication that the woman's unborn baby may be at increased vulnerability, midwives in Perth and Kinross will make referral to the Senior Nurse Child Protection via the Unborn Baby Policy. This referral would normally lead to a multi-agency meeting where information is shared and a plan of support is agreed. The issues that would prompt such a referral may be to do with domestic violence, parental substance misuse, learning difficulties, social isolation and previous child protection concerns. Since becoming involved in these meetings, midwives in Perth and Kinross have had the opportunity to work with different agencies to protect unborn babies and infants. Midwives routinely attend Case Conferences, Core Group Meetings and Discharge Planning Meetings. Working in this way brings home the importance of professionals working together and sharing information appropriately.



Midwifery care is tailored to take account of a woman's individual needs. The vast majority of pregnancies are of low risk. If any irregularity is detected the woman will be referred quickly to the Day Care Unit at Perth Royal Infirmary or be seen by a Consultant Obstetrician.

There are a number of initiatives that midwives in Perth and Kinross offer, for example, the 'Baby Bumps' group that is designed to offer parenting and health education information to teenage mothers. Women who have attended this group report that they find the support from other young mothers helpful. Midwives will also offer one-to-one sessions for women who find it difficult to attend groups.

Perth Royal Infirmary's Midwife Unit offers the opportunity to low risk women to deliver their babies in a homely setting. There is a pool for water labour and birth. In the Unit a team of experienced midwives give women the support during labour to deliver their babies at their own pace. Following delivery, women are supported by midwives to feed and care for their babies confidently, before they are discharged home. Following discharge midwives will visit new parents up until ten days after delivery. As the service is organised into small teams attached to GP surgeries, women know their midwives from the time of booking until care is transferred to our health visiting colleagues.

As a midwife having knowledge of parental characteristics, which may impact on a family's ability to care for their baby, is important. The early identification of problems allows for a considered response from a variety of disciplines. Child protection will continue to be a priority for midwifery staff in Perth and Kinross."

Thanks Susan : in the next issue the duties of a police officer in the family protection unit will be outlined.