



## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC GROUP**

Minute of meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group held in Room 410, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Friday 3 October 2014 at 10.00am.

**Present:** B Malone, Chief Executive, Perth & Kinross Council (Chair)  
 Councillor B Band, Perth & Kinross Council  
 Councillor E Maclachlan, Perth & Kinross Council  
 Councillor B Vaughan, Perth & Kinross Council  
 J Fyffe, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth & Kinross Council  
 B Atkinson, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth & Kinross Council  
 J Flynn, Perth and Kinross Community Health Partnership  
 K Fowlie, NHS Tayside  
 C Gauld, Police Scotland (substituting for M Whitford)  
 A Gerry, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration  
 S Hay, NHS Tayside Board  
 J Kerr, Voluntary Action Perthshire (PKAVS)  
 H Mackinnon, PKAVS  
 J Pepper, Education & Children's Services, Perth & Kinross Council  
 F Steel, Action for Children Scotland  
 L Swan, Education & Children's Services, Perth & Kinross Council  
 J Walker, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care), Perth & Kinross Council  
 P Wilson, Perth College UHI

**In Attendance:** R Drummond, C Mackie and F Mackay (all Education and Children's Services); L Brown (Chief Executive's Service).

**Apologies:** E Devine (NHS Tayside); M Hussain (NHS Tayside Board); B Nicoll (Perth & Kinross Community Health Partnership) and M Whitford (Police Scotland).

B Malone in the Chair

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed J Pepper, Head of Children and Families' Service, Perth and Kinross Council to her first meeting of the Group. Apologies for absence were submitted and noted as above.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in terms of the relevant Codes of Conduct.

## **3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP OF 21 MARCH 2014**

The minute of meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership of 13 June 2014 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

## **4. MATTERS ARISING**

### **(i) STV/Hunter Partnership (item 4(i) refers)**

B Atkinson advised the Early Years Programme Board had met with the Director of Barnados Scotland. The focus for the project in Perth and Kinross will continue to be the area to the north of Perth which is not covered by Evidence2Success (E2S) and will complement rather than compete with E2S work. The appointment of a Project Manager to oversee the work in Perth and Kinross is likely to be made early in the New Year. It is also proposed to appoint a Community Development Worker for north Perth.

The Group noted that a progress report will be submitted in six months' time.

## **5. PERTH AND KINROSS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE BUSINESS ACTIVITY REPORT SINCE 13 JUNE 2014**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (G/14/277) highlighting the main business activities of the CPC since the last meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group (C&YPSG) on 13 June 2014. The report focused on the following issues:

1. Scottish Government's National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014 (Refresh) – Responsibilities of Chief Officers' Groups and CPCs;
2. Perth and Kinross CPC Improvement Plan 2014 – 2015;
3. Care Inspectorate – Validating Child Protection Good Practice Examples in Perth and Kinross;
4. Scottish Child Protection and GIRFEC Working Group;
5. Scottish Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Working Group; and
6. Bullet Point Updates – Other Key CPC Ongoing/Forthcoming Child Protection Policy and/or Practice Development.

In discussing the report the Group acknowledged the need to consider how the effectiveness of work might be assured collectively and individually and how to ensure that there is a consistency in the practice adopted across both Adult and Children's Services.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the work undertaken locally in terms of the Scottish Government's National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014 (Refresh) and considered further the responsibilities of Chief Officers' Groups and Child Protection Committees.
- (ii) Approved the Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee Improvement Plan 2014-2015 attached as Appendix 3 to Report G/14/277.
- (iii) Noted the ongoing work of the Care Inspectorate to validate three Perth and Kinross child protection good practice examples, as detailed in paragraph 1.3 of Report G/14/277.
- (iv) Noted the ongoing work of the Scottish Child Protection and GIRFEC Working Group which is examining the role of the Named Person, Information Sharing and Child's Plan, as detailed in paragraph 1.4 of Report G/14/277.
- (v) Noted the broad range of work underway nationally and locally in terms of protecting children and young people from Child Sexual Exploitation, as detailed in paragraph 1.5 of Report G/14/277.
- (vi) Noted the updates relating to other key Child Protection Committee developments detailed in Report G/14/277.
- (vii) Requested an invitation be extended to Perth College to nominate a representative to the Child Protection Committee.

**6. CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE QUALITY AND STANDARDS REPORT 2013/14**

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Executive and the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/14/278) providing an overview of the key activities of the work of the multi-agency partnership in ensuring that children and young people in Perth and Kinross are protected from abuse and neglect. The report also detailed the findings from a wide range of single and multi-agency joint self-evaluation activities and identified key strengths and areas for further development.

In responding to an enquiry for more information on the 21% increase in the number of child concern reports received in comparison to the previous academic year, J Pepper advised that those reports are fed through a screening group following which agencies consider what action is required. The screening allows agencies to identify children who are repeat concerns enabling agencies to respond at an earlier stage.

The ongoing support given to young carers was noted and it was suggested that a presentation, with input from the young carers, be given to a future meeting of the Group.

**The Group:**

- (i) Approved the Child Protection Committee Standards and Quality Report 2013/14, as appended to Report G/14/278.

- (ii) Requested that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) present the CPC Standards and Quality Report 2013/14 to the meeting of Perth and Kinross Council on 8 October 2014 for endorsement and the Scrutiny Committee on 3 December 2014 for scrutiny and comment as appropriate.
- (iv) Noted the review of the Multi Agency Screening Group (MAGS) and requested an evaluation report be submitted to the meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group on 20 February 2015.
- (v) Requested that a report and presentation on Young Carers be submitted to the next meeting of the Group with an invitation being extended to Young Carers to attend.

## **7. INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2013 – 2018**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/14/279) presenting the third Integrated Children's Services Plan (ICSP) for Perth and Kinross and setting out the strategic outcomes and priority actions for Children and Young People's Services in Perth and Kinross.

J Pepper reported that the ICSP is a key partnership plan for children and young people's services enabling the CPP Board to monitor and review progress for children and young people against the outcomes within the plan. She advised that its impact will be monitored by the Children and Young People's Strategic Group. Further extensive consultation on the plan will be undertaken over the next 2 months, in line with the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

During discussion Councillor Vaughan asked that the high level actions/task within the Plan be broken down to enable the Council's elected members to monitor its performance.

### **The Group:**

- (i) Approved the Integrated Children's Services Plan for 2013-2018.
- (ii) Agreed a programme of consultation be carried out, in line with the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- (iii) Agreed that the Integrated Children's Services Plan for 2013-2018 be reported to the Community Planning Partnership Board.
- (iv) Requested that the Integrated Children's Services Plan for 2013-2018 be presented to Perth and Kinross Council's Lifelong Learning Committee for endorsement.

## **8. BRIEFING ON THE INDEPENDENT ENQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN ROTHERHAM**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/14/280) providing the Group with a briefing on the key findings and important messages arising from the Independent Inquiry commissioned by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough

Council into Child Sexual Abuse in Rotherham 1997-2013 which was published on 21 August 2014.

B Malone underlined the importance of the Group having a clear understanding of the statutory responsibilities of Social Work. There was a need for a forensic examination of practices and recommended that a seminar be arranged with Chief Officers and Councillors to review and discuss the whole approach to child sexual exploitation.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the summary messages arising from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse in Rotherham 1997-2013 as detailed in Report 14/280.
- (ii) Noted that the Child Protection Committee has had a strong focus on CSE and has included the need to continue to raise practitioner, service awareness and understanding of CSE in its improvement plan and that it will monitor and evaluate progress over 2014/15.
- (iii) Requested a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Group on the effectiveness of the approaches to preventing and tackling CSE in Perth and Kinross and making recommendations for further discussion.
- (iv) The Head of Children and Families' Services be requested to provide a report to the next meeting of the Group on the national seminar being held in Autumn 2014.
- (v) The Depute Director (Education and Children's Services) be requested to lead a seminar before Christmas 2014 on his report to Perth and Kinross Council as Chief Social Work Officer.

**9. SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS (CPPs) ON GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD (GIRFEC) IMPLEMENTATIONS – UPDATE ON PROGRESS ONE YEAR ON**

There was submitted an update on progress, one year on, on the self-assessment questionnaire for CPPs on GIRFEC Implementation (G/14/281).

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the national returns as detailed in Report G/14/281.
- (ii) Noted the need for further training and information sharing.

**10. EVIDENCE2SUCCESS UPDATE**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/14/282) outlining progress made to date in the implementation of activity to deliver improvement in the priority areas identified by Evidence2Success (E2S), including the implementation of a portfolio of evidence-based programmes.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the progress made to date in the delivery of Stage 1 of the E2S Improvement Plan activity relating to the evidence-based programmes, developing community assets and the workforce and culture change activity.
- (ii) Noted the activity underway to inform development of Stage 2 of the E2S Improvement Plan.
- (iii) Requested that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) provide a further report to a future meeting of the Group detailing proposals for additional programmes and/or activity to be implemented in Stage 2 of the Implementation Plan once these are identified.

**11. EARLY YEARS COLLABORATIVE UPDATE**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Education and Children's Services) (G/14/283) providing the Group with a further update on the current activity of the Early Years Collaborative.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the progress made in Perth and Kinross in the delivery of the Early Years Collaborative.
- (ii) Supported the planned organisational development activity to extend use of the improvement methodology to support other improvement areas for the Community Planning Partnership

**12. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS IN 2015**

The Group noted the programme of meetings in 2015 as follows:

Friday 20 February  
Friday 22 May  
Friday 21 August  
Friday 6 November

**13. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

There were no other items of business for discussion.

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Group noted the next meeting would be held in the Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Friday 5 December 2014 at 10.00am.