



## **MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICES, ELGIN**

### **PRESENT**

Mrs Susan Maclaren	Head of Integrated Children's Services, The Moray Council (Chair)
Councillor John Divers	The Moray Council
Councillor Mike Shand	The Moray Council
Councillor Allan Wright	The Moray Council
Detective Inspector Malcolm Jones (Substituting for Detective Chief Inspector Stewart Sloan)	Police Scotland
Ms Phyllis Smart	NHS Grampian (Moray Representative)
Ms Sheila Erskine	Voluntary Sector Representative (tsiMoray)
Mr Patrick Hannon	Armed Forces Representative
Mr Laurence Findlay	Corporate Director (Education and Social Care), The Moray Council (Ex-Officio)
Mrs Margaret Forrest	Legal Representative, The Moray Council (Ex-Officio)

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Ms Jill Richards, Scottish Children's Reporter Representative; Dr S Wojcik, NHS Grampian and Ms Vivienne Cross, Acting Head of Schools and Curriculum Development, the Moray Council (Ex-Officio).

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Ms Jennie Williams, Area Operations Manager (NHS Grampian); Mr Sean Coady, Community Health Services Manager, (NHS Grampian); Mr Iain MacDonald, Children's Wellbeing Manager, Mr Stuart Lamberton, Partnership Officer Child Protection and Mrs Caroline Howie, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Committee (all the Moray Council).

## **1. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE DATED 12 MAY 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minute of the meeting of the Moray Child Protection Committee dated 12 May 2015 was submitted and approved.

There were no matters arising.

## **2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR**

Under reference to paragraph 2 of the minute of the meeting of this Committee dated 12 May 2015 the Chair called for nominations to the post of Vice Chair.

There being no other nominations forthcoming the Chair proposed Mr Sean Coady, Community Health Services Manager (NHS Grampian) to the post of Vice Chair and was seconded by Councillor Wright. The Committee agreed to appoint Mr Coady to the post of Vice Chair.

## **3. CHILD PROTECTION COORDINATING GROUP UPDATE – VERBAL REPORT**

The Children's Wellbeing Manager (the Moray Council) advised that the coordinating group meeting had been postponed until Thursday 10 September and that there were no outstanding issues from the previous report.

Ms Erskine (Voluntary Sector Representative (tsiMoray)) joined the meeting at this juncture.

## **4. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT QUARTER 4 (2014/2015) TO QUARTER 1 (2015/2016)**

A report was submitted by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (the Moray Council) advising the Committee of the Performance Management Reports for Quarter 4 (January to March) and Quarter 1 (April to June) of 2015.

Ms Erskine (Voluntary Sector Representative (tsiMoray)) advised attendance by third sector organisations at cases conferences was not recorded and queried if this could be recorded in future.

The Chair advised she would investigate getting this rectified via the electronic system (CareFirst).

During discussion on the high incidence recording of emotional abuse clarification was sought on whether this was due to how forms of abuse are currently recorded? In response the Chair advised she would be attending a Child Protection Committee Chairs (CPCC) meeting week commencing 7 September 2015 where discussions are to take place on how emotional abuse could be recorded as a main factor rather than as part of other forms of abuse and she would advise a future meeting of this Committee on the outcome of those discussions.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note:

- (i) the content of the Performance Management Report;
- (ii) that the Chair would investigate recording the attendance of third sector organisations at case conferences; and
- (iii) that the Chair will report on the outcome of the discussions of the CPCC meeting in relation to how emotional abuse could be recorded to a future meeting of this Committee.

Mr Hannon (Armed Forces Representative) joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

## **5. MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2015**

A report was submitted by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (the Moray Council) advising the Committee of the Moray Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2015. The annual report can be viewed at <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file99889.pdf>

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note the content of the Moray Child Protection Annual Report 2015.

## **6. INITIAL REFERRAL DISCUSSION PROCEDURE REVIEW**

A report was submitted by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (the Moray Council) advising the Committee of the draft Initial Referral Discussion (IRD) procedure review.

The Chair advised that if agreement was reached on the draft IRD this would go live on the internet following this meeting.

During discussion minor changes were discussed which would be reflected in Appendix 2 of the report and the meeting further agreed that should any further minor amendments be required, that these be forwarded to the Partnership Officer Child Protection.

Thereafter the Committee agreed:

- (i) to note the content of the draft review;
- (ii) to approve the updated IRD procedure; and
- (iii) that Appendix 2 of the report be updated to reflect minor changes as discussed and that should any further minor amendments be required, that these be forwarded to the Partnership Officer Child Protection.

## **7. LEARNING REVIEW AND ACTION PLAN**

A report was submitted by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (The Moray Council) advising the Committee of the recent learning review and action plan.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- (i) note the content of the learning review and action plan; and
- (ii) ensure the action plan is completed and that an update be presented to Committee in 6 months.

## **8. LINK INSPECTOR VISIT JULY 2015 – VERBAL UPDATE**

The Committee noted an informative verbal report by the Chair who advised that the Care Inspectorate Inspector had been impressed with the programme of work presented to him during his visit.

She advised that the Inspector raised concerns over possible conflicting responsibilities of the Chair due to the various roles she has. The Chair advised a series of development days were due to take place and asked all Partner Members to consider options for the position of Chair for discussion during development days.

She further advised that the Inspector had also raised concern that agenda input to this Committee was mainly from the Moray Council and the Committee agreed that all Partner Members would look to provide reports in the future.

Thereafter the Committee agreed:

- (i) that all Partner Members consider options for the position of Chair with a view to discussing during the forthcoming development days; and
- (ii) that all Partner Members would look to provide relevant reports for the next meeting.

## **9. MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE SURVEY – VERBAL UPDATE**

The Partnership Officer Child Protection gave an informative verbal report advising a survey had been created and circulated to gain feedback on the effectiveness of the Child Protection Committee and advised that the results of the survey will be tabled at the next meeting of this Committee.

## **10. AGENCY UPDATES**

The Committee noted the following verbal agency updates:

### **NHS Grampian**

Ms P. Smart advised that NHS Grampian were drafting a policy on Female Genital Mutilation and this would be circulated for information.

Ms Williams advised that from October 2015 the new National Universal Health Visiting Pathway would be introduced. This will include Health Visitors making an antenatal visit and all contacts between birth and starting school will now have to be home visits.

Mr Coady advised there had been management changes due to the introduction of the Integrated Joint Board.

### The Moray Council

Mr MacDonald highlighted a change management process in relation to the integration programme was currently being undertaken which was due to go to staff for consultation. He advised they were not looking at major changes but moving towards minimising bureaucracy and strengthening elements of the team.

### Armed Forces

Mr Hannon advised that SSAFA (Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association) were awaiting permission to recruit to a coordinator post. He further advised that they had an experienced minute taker who may be available to assist in minute taking to alleviate workload pressures on others. The Chair asked that he liaise with the Partnership Officer Child Protection (the Moray Council) on this.

### Police Scotland

DI Jones advised DCI Sloan was currently on holiday but that he was fully committed to supporting the work of the Committee. He further advised that although there may be concern over the levels of domestic abuse reported that this was due to better reporting and not to a rise in abuse.