

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2016

COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICE, HIGH STREET, ELGIN

PRESENT

Mrs Susan Maclaren	Head of Integrated Children's Services, The Moray Council (Chair)
Mr Sean Coady	Community Health Services Manager, NHS Grampian (Vice Chair)
Councillor John Divers	The Moray Council
Councillor Mike Shand	The Moray Council
Councillor Allan Wright	The Moray Council
Detective Chief Inspector Stewart Sloan	Police Scotland
Ms Phyllis Smart	NHS Grampian (Moray Representative)
Ms Sheila Erskine	Voluntary Sector Representative (tsiMoray)
Mr Patrick Hannon	Scottish Children's Reporter Representatives
Mr Laurence Findlay	Armed Forces Representative
Ms Vivienne Cross	Corporate Director (Education and Social Care), The Moray Council (Ex-Officio)
	Head of Schools and Curriculum Development, The Moray Council (Ex-Officio)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Ms Jill Richards and Ms Elizabeth Templeton, Scottish Children's Reporter Representatives.

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Pauline Merchant, Clinical Governance Coordinator, NHS Grampian Mr S Lamberton, Partnership Officer Child Protection and Mrs Caroline Howie, Committee Services Officer, as Clerk to the Committee, both the Moray Council.

**1. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE
DATED 24 NOVEMBER 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minute of the meeting of the Moray Child Protection Committee (CPC) dated 24 November 2015 was submitted for approval.

Under reference to Item 8 of the Minute, Agency Updates, it was advised that a Clinical Nurse Manager had been appointed and not a Clinical Health Manager as stated.

With this change the minute was approved.

The Chair issued a letter from Police Scotland which should have been circulated with the papers for the meeting. She advised that agenda setting was the responsibility of all, and members of the CPC should be active in forwarding items for inclusion on the agenda. Circulation of meeting papers was carried out by The Moray Council and any documents for inclusion in the agenda should be stated as such to avoid future omissions. She further advised that the Partnership Officer Child Protection was available to assist in writing reports, but relevant information needs to be provided.

2. CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATING GROUP MINUTE

The Community Health Services Manager, NHS Grampian, provided the Meeting with a verbal update on the Child Protection Co-Ordinating Group.

He advised representatives were now attending from the Reporter and the Third Sector.

The Partnership Officer Child Protection advised work was ongoing in developing training and although attendance at the Group had increased there was still a requirement for a representative from Education.

3. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Due to Detective Chief Inspector Sloan being delayed the meeting agreed to defer Item 5 of the agenda, Risk and Concern Project, until his arrival.

4. CHIEF OFFICERS GROUP

The Chair, in her capacity as Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO), the Moray Council, provided the meeting with a verbal update on the Grampian Chief Officers Group (GCOG) and advised she had presented a paper to the Group to request clarification around the future of the GCOG and recommending that each local authority area establish a COG as per the National Child Protection Guidance.

Discussion took place on information not being forthcoming from the GCOG and what the priorities should be.

The CSWO advised the budget from the GCOG for next year was still unknown.

Councillor Wright raised his concern about the number of verbal reports coming to this Committee and stated a single page describing emerging issues would be helpful.

In response the CSWO advised that in respect of the GCOG a paper had been expected but had not been produced.

It was agreed the Chair would write to the Chair of the GCOG in respect of issues raised.

Detective Chief Inspector Sloan entered the meeting during discussion of this item.

5. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Detective Chief Inspector Sloan to his first meeting of this Committee.

6. RISK AND CONCERN PROJECT

Detective Chief Inspector Sloan introduced himself, advising he has been appointed as Head of Public Protection, thereafter he provided the meeting with a verbal update of the Risk and Concern Project.

During discussion concerns were raised over the project as there was a perception that Police Scotland had decided to change practices without wider consultation.

The Chair advised Moray had no admin staff working weekends and that the out of hours team should be contacted if Police Scotland had any concerns; any developments should be progressed with the Getting It Right For Every Child lead officer.

The meeting agreed this would need further discussion outwith the meeting to get the right processes in place.

7. CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE'S SCOTLAND

The Chair provided the meeting with a verbal update of a meeting held the previous week and undertook to circulate the Government's update.

The Chair advised funding would be withdrawn from June 2016 from With Scotland, a national resource to help improve outcomes for children in need of protection. The meeting agreed this could have a significant impact on work already undertaken.

8. MORAY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The Partnership Officer Child Protection, the Moray Council, provided the meeting with a verbal update on the Moray Learning & Development Group.

He advised a calendar of training events was being produced and would be presented to the next meeting.

9. DEVELOPMENT DAY FEEDBACK

A report by the Partnership Officer Child Protection advised the Committee of feedback from the Development Day.

Discussion took place on the feedback contained in the report. It was highlighted that there was a sense that agendas for this Committee are dominated by The Moray Council.

During further discussion it was agreed to remit the Child Protection Co-Ordinating Group to collate key themes to identify where we are doing well and where improvement is required.

In response to a query from Councillor Wright the Chair advised it was hoped another development day would be held.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to note the feedback from the Development Day.

10. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

A report by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (POCP) advised the Committee of the Performance Management Reports for Quarter 3, October to December 2015.

The Chair asked that consideration be given to which performance indicators (PIs) were required going forward and asked all to email the POCP to advise which PIs they felt were no longer required and the POCP would report as required.

The POCP advised the format of the report would change to remove some of the figures that, without narrative, did not give a clear picture of what was happening.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to:

- (i) note the content of the Performance Management Report; and
- (ii) email information on reviewed performance indicators to the POCP.

11. CHILD PROTECTION IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A report by the Partnership Officer Child Protection updated the Committee on the Child Protection Improvement Plan.

Following consideration the Committee noted the progress of the Child Protection Improvement Plan.

12. CASE REVIEW – NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE GRAMPIAN REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Service Manager – Children And Young People advising Moray Child Protection Committee (CPC) of the National Health Service Grampian (NHSG) report on a recent case review.

Following consideration the Committee noted the content of the feedback from NHSG regarding the case review.

13. AGENCY UPDATES

The Committee noted the following verbal agency updates:

NHS Grampian

The Community Health Services Manager, NHS Grampian, advised the Child Protection specialist nurse was due to retire in 3 months' time and a replacement is being sought.

14. AOCB

The Chair advised that due to legislation requirements the Care Inspectorate had advised of the death of a former Looked After Child. She stated that due to the circumstances surrounding the death this did not require a significant case review. However the Minister's officer were interested in exploring the issues between Child Protection and Adult Protection, the Chair will be discussing this with them.