



MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2017

COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICE, HIGH STREET, ELGIN

PRESENT

Mrs Susan Maclaren	Head of Integrated Children's Services, Moray Council (Chair)
Mr Sean Coady	Head of Primary Care, Prevention and Child Health, NHS Grampian (Vice Chair)
Councillor John Divers	Moray Council
Councillor Mike Shand	Moray Council
Councillor Allan Wright	Moray Council
Temporary Detective Chief	Police Scotland
Inspector Colin Morrans, substituting for Detective Chief	
Inspector Stewart Sloan	
Ms Phyllis Smart	NHS Grampian (Moray Representative)
Ms Sheila Erskine	Voluntary Sector Representative (tsiMoray)
Ms Jill Richards, via video link	Scottish Children's Reporter Representative
Mr Patrick Hannon	Armed Forces Representative
Mr Laurence Findlay	Corporate Director (Education and Social Care), Moray Council (Ex-Officio)
Ms Vivienne Cross	Head of Schools and Curriculum Development, Moray Council (Ex-Officio)
Mrs Margaret Forrest	Legal Services Manager (Litigation and Licensing), Moray Council (Ex-Officio)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr Iain Macdonald, Children's Wellbeing Manager, Moray Council.

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Jennie Williams, Service Manager – Children and Young People (Health and Social Care Partnership); Mr Stuart Lamberton, Partnership Officer Child Protection, and Mrs Caroline Howie, Committee Services Officer, as Clerk to the Committee (both Moray Council).

1. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 2016 AND MATTERS ARISING

The minute of the meeting of the Moray Child Protection Committee dated 27 September 2016 was submitted and approved.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Mrs Richards advised she had attempted a video conference to link into the previous Committee however a connection had not been established.

Under reference to paragraph 4 of the minute "Matters Arising" the Chair advised that the development day scheduled for 21 March 2017 would be facilitated by someone from outwith Moray and would be considering recommendations for Child Protection, Performance Management and gap analysis.

In response to a query from Ms Smart and under reference to paragraph 11 of the minute "Child Protection – Information for Partner Agencies Leaflet" the Chair advised that this had been circulated and would be made available on the website.

3. REFRESHED ROLE AND REMIT FOR THE CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATING GROUP

A report by the Service Manager Children & Young People, Health And Social Care Partnership advised the Committee of the refreshed role and remit of the Child Protection Co-ordinating Group.

Discussion took place on membership, quorum and frequency of group meetings.

Ms Richards queried if it might be appropriate to have a local Reporter attend as she covered a wider area and it was agreed this would indeed be appropriate.

Mr Hannon sought clarification on the requirement to have both the SSAFA Lead (Armed Forces) and the Army Liaison Officer in attendance. It was agreed that Mr Hannon would clarify who held these roles and he would advise Ms Williams who would attend.

It was agreed to hold not less than 6 meetings per annum and a quorum would be 8 members, however this was to be reviewed once meetings had been established to ensure it is workable.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to approve the refreshed Role and Remit of the Child Protection Co-ordinating Group with the above changes being made and that there would be no requirement to provide a further report to Committee following amendment.

4. CHILD PROTECTION REFORM PROGRAMME

A report by the Chair, Moray Child Protection Committee, advised the Committee of the work of the National Child Protection Reform Programme.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to note:

- i) the work of the Reform Programme to date; and
- ii) the recent draft minutes of Child Protection Committee Scotland.

5. SCOTTISH CHILD ABUSE INQUIRY

A report by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (POCP) advised the Committee on the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry.

During discussion it was agreed that any agency receiving an inquiry should alert all others as a matter of urgency; with all requests for information being channelled through the POCP.

Thereafter the Committee agreed to note the potential impact of the National Child Abuse Inquiry on services in Moray.

The Corporate Director (Education and Social Care) entered the meeting during discussion of this item.

6. QUARTER 2 JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2016 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

A report by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (POCP) advised the Committee of the Quarter 2 July to September 2016 Performance Management Report.

Attendance at case conferences was discussed and it was agreed that the POCP would issue information as to who had been invited and who actually attended following each future case conference.

The lack of attendance from the Housing Department was queried and the Chair undertook to discuss this with the Head of Housing & Property in an attempt to increase the level of attendance.

The rate of registrations were discussed and it was advised 3 large family groups, a total of 15 children, had been added to the register.

The Chair advised there had been an increase in the number of cases on the Child Protection (CP) Register and the Committee agree to remit investigation to the CP co-ordinating group with a request for a report to a future meeting on this Committee.

Thereafter the Committee agreed:

- i) to note the content of the Quarter 2 July to September 2016 Performance Management Report;
- ii) that the POCP would issue information on attendance following each case conference;
- iii) the Chair would discuss attendance from Housing with the Head of Housing & Property; and

- iv) that the CP co-ordinating group examine the increase in numbers on the CP Register and produce a report for CPC.

7. INTERIM UPDATE FOR THE INTER-AGENCY REFERRAL DISCUSSION PROCEDURE

A report by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (POCP) advised the Committee of the Interim Update to the Inter-Agency Referral Discussion (IRD) procedure.

Prior to the introduction of the report the Chair advised there had been some confusion as to whether this should be called Initial Agency Referral or Inter-Agency Referral. Following discussion it was agreed it should be Inter-Agency Referral, as per the title, and that to avoid confusion the procedure should be followed as stated.

The Chair sought clarification on why appendix 2 of the report advised the contact number for the Police Scotland IRD desk is 01224 306918 whereas appendix 4 of the report had 101 as the number to be contacted. The POCP advised this was a formatting issue on appendix 4 as the use of 101 would be by the public and undertook to amend this prior to issue of the procedure.

Thereafter the Committee agreed:

- i) that the POCP would amend appendix 4 of the report and issue the procedure; and
- ii) the updated IRD procedure.

8. DRAFT MORAY SIGNIFICANT CASE REVIEW PROCEDURE

A report by the Partnership Officer Child Protection (POCP) advised the Committee of the draft Moray Significant Case Review (SCR) procedure.

The POCP advised Committee that the Community Planning Partnership had organised an event for 1 March 2017 to consider the National Guidance for this although as yet timings were not available.

During discussion of membership of the group the Legal Services Manager (Litigation and Licensing) advised that as per the Committee's agreed Business Rules a Vice-chair was to be identified by the group to which they are appointed rather than for this Committee to nominate a Vice-chair.

It was agreed to note this as an exception and that the Vice-chair would be nominated by this Committee.

Discussion took place thereafter on the membership of the group and it was agreed that Mr Coady would assume the role of Chair and Ms Cross the role of Vice-chair. Temporary Detective Chief Inspector Colin Morrans volunteered to be a group member and thereafter others were requested to submit names of suitable members to the POCP by 13 January 2017.

Thereafter the Committee agreed:

- i) to the creation of a SCR group;
- ii) the appointments of Mr Coady as Chair and Ms Cross as Vice-chair for the SCR Group;
- iii) Temporary Detective Chief Inspector Colin Morrans as a Group member;
- iv) names of other group members to be forwarded to the PCOP by 13 January 2017; and
- v) the Moray draft SCR procedure.

9. AGENCY UPDATES

The Committee noted the following verbal agency updates:

NHS Grampian

Ms Williams advised the Committee she had attended the Health Visitor and School Nurse Forum on 20 December 2016 and there had been a very positive presentation received on the Child Protection – Information for Partner Agencies Leaflet.

Scottish Children's Reporter

Ms Richards advised that Ms Templeton had retired in December 2016 and her replacement was currently on maternity leave with an expected return to work in May 2017.

Ms Richards asked if the Child Protection Committee quarterly report was something the Committee would find of interest and offered to forward this when ready.

The Chair agreed this would be of benefit to the Committee and asked that Ms Richards liaise with the Partnership Officer Child Protection to ascertain timescales for Committee reports.