

**West Dunbarton Child Protection Committee
Monday 02nd December 2019, 2pm
Church Street, Dumbarton
MINUTE**

<p>Present: Paula Godfrey – Chair Designate (Chair) Heather Irving – Public Protection Coordinator, HSCP Tracy King – ESO, WDC Education Kevin Mulvenna – Maureen Scott - Assistant Chief Nurse CPU Laura Smith – Neil Shearer – Watch Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Anne McLennan – Douglas Hill – Locality Reporter Manager S.C.R.A Claire Cusick – SEO WDC Education Annie Ritchie – Manager Fieldwork Services (Social Work) HSCP Heather Milne - Solicitor, Legal Department, HSCP Denise Toner – Public Protection Assistant, HSCP (Minute Taker)</p>	
<p>Apologies: John Kerr – WDC Housing Development and Homeless Manager Laura Mason – Laura Mason – Jonathan Hinds – Head of Service / Chief Social Work Officer HSCP Strategic Lead, Education Learning & Attainment, WDC Sheila Downie - SCS Service Manager/SLT Manager, HSCP Mary Steel – Nurse Team Lead, NHS Selina Ross – WDCVS</p>	
	Action
<p>1. Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>Paula Godfrey opened the meeting and thanked all for attending. Introductions were made and apologies noted.</p>	
<p>2. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising:</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting.</p> <p>Updates were provided on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MARAC: Members were advised that this is nearing readiness to implement with a proposed timescale of January. Jonathan Hinds to provide update by email. Pauline Godfrey to arrange a meeting with Brian Gibson (Police Scotland) to build an understanding of the Safer DIG and 	

the strategic links with CPC to ensure effective sharing of information and respective actions.

Action log-

- **GP out of hours** Maureen Scott agreed to enquire in to the status and provide an update to CPC.
- **Update IRD** – Annie Ritchie and Heather Irving have met and are currently working on a process to monitor IRD's. Annie Ritchie to feedback on progress at the next meeting. Heather Irving, Annie Ritchie & Maureen Scott to arrange to meet to take this forward.
- **Intranet/Internet Access** Heather Irving has been advised that there is limited access to the internet for providing papers of interest /training information to front line staff on the public facing website. At the moment the only option continues to be the intranet and email correspondence. This matter is being reviewed on a corporate basis.
- **Reflective Learning Sessions/Criteria for Identifying SCR** Members discussed combining Adult Protection and Child Protection. Who will lead? Annie Ritchie and Heather Irving to meet to discuss governance and leadership. The committee agreed to the joint working group with Adult Protection to develop and take forward protocols and a joint approach to an SCR protocol/ process.

3. Update: CPC Scotland National Chair and Lead Officer meetings

Members were asked to note the contents of agenda 3's paper while Heather Irving provided a brief overview (See Attached)



CPC national update
2.12.19.docx

Age of Criminal Responsibility

A discussion took place regarding the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 and the potential impact within West Dunbartonshire. As per the legislation, the Police advised that they will continue to report children under 12's to SCRA, with the understanding that it will be taken forward on care and welfare grounds. Given the low numbers of children under 12 being reported for offences in West Dunbartonshire.

4. Public Protection Performance and Assurance Reporting Framework

Annie Ritchie provided members with a brief overview of the child protection figures (See Attached)

Annie advised members that looked after and accommodated figures are

	<p>increasing which could be the contributing to the child protection figures improving.</p> <p>Annie advised members that case discussions were not included in the PARF figures. Members agreed that these should be recorded as there is a great deal of work that goes in to them and many of the young people have highly complex risk and needs .</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>National Suicide Prevention</p> <p>Paula Godfrey advised members that Child and Adult Protection conveners nationally are seeking improved representation around the national suicide prevention agenda.</p> <p>The group discussed the need for clarity within West Dunbartonshire on the governance arrangements to suicide prevention and how these link to the role of both protection Committees.</p> <p>A discussion considered current protocols in place in relation to review and reflection where young people and adults complete or attempt suicide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claire Cusick advised that there is currently a process in place within Education in order to reflect on input from education when the young person is well known to them. • Maureen Scott advised members that health carry out a significant clinical incident enquiry. • Annie Ritchie advised members that social work procedure allow for ICR and also have a reflective practice model that is more likely to be used where the threshold for SCR is not met. <p>A discussion took place regarding the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring a joined up approach • Preventative approach in addition to a reflective approach <p>Members agreed that moving forward a short life working group should be established to develop a multi agency approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claire Cusick – To Lead • Kevin Mulvenna – To provide representation • Maureen Scott – To provide representation • Annie Ritchie – To provide representation 	
<p>6.</p>	<p>West Dunbartonshire Child Protection Committee Improvement Plan</p> <p>Heather Irving advised members that a review of the improvement plan is in progress, with many actions referenced in todays agenda. A further update will be provided at the next meeting.</p>	

7. Profile of Child Protection SCR's

Learning from Mid Lothian Heather Irving provided members with a brief overview of a Mid Lothian SCR. A discussion took place regarding the following:

Key findings:

- IRD process recorded on 3 systems: records did not match
- A number of paediatricians inputting
- Information and 'messages' lost
- Assumptions regarding language
- Assumption of one potential being 'the story'
- Need for verification/ looking to disprove
- Dissent policy – thresholds and prioritisation
- Prominence of certain roles - medical decisions given prominence
- Need for MA assessment, respect to wider assessment, qualitative 'evidence'
- Partners making assumptions about other services
- Over- optimism
- Responding to uncooperative parents

Members agreed it was important to ensure reflective learning opportunities from SCR's. Heather Irving suggested a peer to peer reflective learning session. Members agreed this should be taken to the training sub group for agreement on dissemination of learning.

Heather Irving will email the findings of the review and the national plan to members.

CPIP action

Agreement has been reached through national CPC Scotland that a database of SCR's will be developed and made available on the Knowledge Hub.

Heather advised there is a plan to have a regional learning events led by CPC Scotland in 2020 which will follow the format of the 2019 CSE events. Details will be brought the CPC once available.

8. Refresh of CPC subgroups and short life working groups

Paula Godfrey advised members that a discussion had taken place in regards to the governance and the structure of the Child Protection and Adult Protection Committees. Heather Irving provided members with a breakdown of the proposed restructure (See Attached).



Proposed Child
Protection Committee

The group agreed in principle to the changes.

Paula Godfrey welcomes members views on the proposed restructure. Members to send responses to Denise Toner. Heather Irving advised members that the restructure, if agreed, will be reviewed periodically to ensure it is working well and reaching identified goals. A review of the terms of reference of the groups will take place once the restructure has been agreed.

Update from Sub groups

- **Training & Self Evaluation** – Heather Irving provided an update (See attached) Annie Ritchie advised that a discussion has taken place with Cedar regarding the possibility of running training 4 Trainers. Heather Irving and Annie Ritchie to take this to the training working group.



Self-Evaluation &
Training Summary 21

- **Better Hearings** – Douglas Hill advised members that the group are continuing to gather information. Douglas will provide an update at the next meeting. Douglas asked members to be cautious that the accuracy of information is checked when it is being sent to the Children’s Hearing Panel
- **Vulnerability to exploitation** – written update provided reflecting the progress of this new group with regard to Child Trafficking, underage sexual activity, CSE and missing young people. A detailed update will be provided at the next meeting
- **ACES** - Members were asked to note the content of the ACEs Hub update (See Attached)



CPC ACES update
summary.docx

9. Annual Report Update

Paula informed the group that progress has been made and the plan will be on the agenda for the next Committee

10. National Neglect and Poverty Event

	<p>Paula Godfrey provided members with an overview of the event. Members were provided with slides and reports from the event.</p> <p>The speakers at the event included Mike Burns, Brid Featherstone and Kate Morr Those members who had attended the event all agreed on its value and relevance to West Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>A next step is developing an improved profile of the children at risk community in West Dunbartonshire, using the strategic needs assessment and community planning profile. Work has commenced and will be reported at future Committees. Consideration can also be given to a specific event to enable further discussion and action that we consider appropriate.</p>	
11.	<p>Engagement with Children & Families</p> <p>National CELSIS Report – Members were asked to note the content of agenda item 10. This recognises our responsibility to ensure engagement and involvement with children and families within the Child protection process. The challenge in doing this successfully was acknowledged.</p> <p>North Ayrshire Presentation – Heather Irving spoke to the North Ayrshire: ‘Children’s Experiences of Child Protection Processes’ presentation. A discussion took place regarding the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The model focuses on qualitative information from a small number of young people, with the value of this information accepted despite the small numbers. This is crucial to this approach working. • This model has influenced real change in North Ayrshire. • Claire Cusick advised that the presentation findings mirrored her experience of supporting children through the process • Gathering views within West Dunbartonshire. Members agreed that this should be taken to the self-evaluation group for discussion and moving forward. <p>Agreement reached that this should be taken forward by the evaluation sub group.</p>	
12.	<p>For Information</p> <p>Members were provided the following for information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court training skills course • Launched information and animation for information for adult survivors of child sexual abuse. • Consultation: response to CSE CPCS survey • Response to proposed clinical pathway for children with disclosed sexual abuse • Pride in Practice- call for presentations 	
13.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Paula Godfrey advised members that today would be Heathers last Adult Protection Committee as she is moving on to a new post within a new authority on</p>	

	<p>the 20th December. Members thanked Heather for all her hard work and commitment to adult support and protection throughout her time in post. Members wished Heather well in her new post.</p> <p>Heather thanked members for their well wishes as her time in post had been a pleasure.</p>	
14.	<p>DONM</p> <p>Monday 3rd February 2020 – Church Street, Denny Meeting Room, <u>3pm</u></p>	

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