

CPC

November Learning Review Events

Following on from the successful Learning Review event in 2025, APC and CPC will host two multi-agency Learning Review events on 23 and 24 November. These half day events are open to frontline practitioners, where they can engage in reflective sessions utilising Learning Reviews to delve into practice areas, such as, neglect, professional curiosity and working alongside service users and families.

Details on how to nominate candidates will be released soon.

Complex Case Forum

CPC has approved the establishment of a complex case forum, which will support TACT practitioners to reflect and find solutions where children have been on the child protection register for longer than a year, re-registered within a year of de-registration, and other criteria. The Lead Officer will host online information sessions on 15 and 16 October at 2pm. To book either of these please email [here](#). If you would like further information contact, [Rory Anderson](#), Lead Officer – Child Protection.

Learning Reviews and Updated Guidance

Currently, we have 3 Learning Reviews in improvement planning stage and one Learning Review being undertaking. Learning Reviews are a source of reflection and multi-agency practice improvements, as such, guidance is updated to reflect developments nationally. We have updated our guidance, which you can read [here](#).

Learning reviews that have concluded and Executive Summary Reports published can be viewed [here](#).

Historical Child Abuse Inquiry Update

Lady Smith launched phase 11 of the National Historical Child Abuse Inquiry in July 2026. This had a focus on group-based child sexual abuse and exploitation within care settings.

We have submitted our evidence to Lady Smith and further reports will be published later this year.

August Briefing

National Group-base Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Inquiry

CPC completed our submission to the National Inquiry in May of this year, following this submission CPC members undertook a structured interview with the Inquiry partners.

This process was replicated across the country, and the subsequent report can be viewed [here](#).

Phase 2 of the inquiry has now been paused by the Scottish Government and will recommence next year. During this time CPC has held a workshop to consider how we develop a Risk Outside the Home (ROTH) pathway utilising contextual safeguarding approaches.

Child Protection Activity and Quality Assurance

West Dunbartonshire experienced an abnormally high-rate of Inter-Agency Referral Discussions (IRDs) seeking Child Protection measures in June. There was a 100% increase of IRDs, which was audited by Social Work staff. Key take aways from this audit was that all IRDs were appropriate and there is the potential for 25% of referrals being completely new, this can be an indicator of increased need. There is further auditing and quality assurance work being undertaken to reflect service demand and how we respond to escalating risk.

Neglect Strategy

The Care Inspectorate have made a recommendation to CPC following a Learning Review that we consider a local neglect strategy. Neglect remains a consistent reasoning for Child Protection Registration and has been a contributing factor within Learning Reviews with Adult and Children's services. As such, we aim to develop a strategy that bridges both adults and children, into a comprehensive response to neglect. A working group will be convened to consider the scope of the strategy and oversee the implementation.

Seven minute briefing



West Dunbartonshire
**Child Protection
Committee**

Date: August 2026