

<i>item:</i>	5
<i>report:</i>	CYP10/08

NHS HIGHLAND CHILDREN'S CHAMPION

By Jan Baird

Summary

The Joint Committee is asked to note the proposals for Children's Champions across NHS Highland in line with previous recommendations.

1. Background

1.1 The JCCYP is keen to promote the role of Children's Champions which evolved during the life of the previous Council and to expand this to include Non-Executives of NHS Highland.

1.2 At the JCCYP meeting in November 2007 the following was agreed:

- The proposed role of the Children's Champion be "to promote an understanding and recognition of the needs of children and young people within the various strategic and governance forums of which the Children's Champion is a member, and to promote consideration of these needs in policy and strategic developments. As part of this, particular account should be taken of looked after children and children who are deemed to be 'in need' or 'at risk'";
- In principle, that each Council area should have one Children's Champion and that each Community Health Partnership (CHP) and Specialist Services Unit (SSU) should have one Children's Champion, subject to the agreement of the Highland Council and NHS Highland.

1.3 The Joint Committee Chair and Director of Community Care in consultation with the Chair of NHS Highland, have suggested that current membership reflects the CHP/SSU configuration of the Highland Partnership with the exception of the North and subsequently a nominee was sought from this area.

2. Proposal

2.1 Having consulted with all CHPs and SSU, Colin Punler, Non-Executive Director, has been nominated to be the Children's Champion for the North CHP. It is also proposed that Mr Punler assumes the voting rights of the clinical lead post currently vacant.

2.2 This ensures equity of voting rights across the CHP/SSU areas. Clinical membership will be addressed when the clinical leadership

review in children's services is concluded. This will make the full voting membership of the Joint Committee as shown below:

- Ms P Courcha – Joint JCCYP Chair and Children's Champion (Raigmore Hospital)
- Mr I Gibson (Vice-Chair of NHS Board)
- Ms G McCreath – Children's Champion (South East CHP)
- Mrs A Bethune - Children's Champion (Mid CHP)
- Mr C Punler - Children's Champion (North CHP)
- Mr R Gibbins (Chief Executive)

2.3 It is also proposed that the existing JCCYP non-executive members assume the role of Children's Champions.

Recommendation

The Joint Committee is asked to endorse these proposals.

Jan Baird

Director of Community Care – NHS Highland