

HIGHLAND CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on the 29th April 2014, CR4, Highland Council HQ, INVERNESS

Present

DCI Pamela Ross, H&I Division, Police Scotland (Acting Chair)
 DSup Kenny Anderson, H&I Division, Police Scotland
 Mr Tom Boyd, Locality Reporter Manager, Highlands & Islands
 Ms Kath Clarke, Principal Child Protection Advisor, NHS Highland
 Ms Sally Amor, Child Health Commissioner, NHS Highland
 Cllr Linda Munro, Children's Champion
 Mr David Goldie, Head of Housing, Highland Council
 Ms Stephanie Bruce, Director of Keeping Children Safe
 Mr Andrew Laing, Procurator Fiscal
 Ms Suzann Barr, Children's Panel
 Mr Gordon McPhee, HighLife Highland
 Mr Pat Hannan, Welfare Officer, Forces Welfare
 Ms Fiona Malcolm, Legal Manager, Highland Council
 Ms Linda MacLennan-Shareef, Resource Manager, CP & TCAC
 Ms Donna Munro, CP Training Officer, HC
 Ms Pene Rowe, CP Development Officer, HC
 Ms Lisa McClymont, Business Support, HC (minutes)

Apologies

Mr Bill Alexander, Director of Care and Learning (Chair)
 Dr Margaret Somerville, Director of Health, NHS Highland
 Dr Annie Griffiths, Lead Doctor in CP, NHS Highland
 Mr Jim Steven, Head of Education, HC

	Item	Summary	Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	Pamela Ross welcomed members to the first amalgamated meeting of the Child Protection Committee and the Child Protection Delivery Group.	
2.	Revised Membership	The revised membership list of the Child Protection Committee was discussed and Deputies identified where possible. Bill Alexander is now Director of Care and Learning. He will need to identify a Deputy. Members who need to confirm deputies to email Ms Pene Rowe. The absence of the Youth Convener from the new membership list was discussed - the Youth Convener will be updated after CPC meetings and will be asked to attend when relevant. The Committee agreed the new Membership List. A review of the terms of reference will be undertaken by Ms Pene Rowe and Ms Pamela Ross.	<i>BA-to advise of Deputy for Director of Care and Learning</i> <i>PRowe/PRoss - review of terms of reference</i>

5.	Improvement Plan-cont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children of Substance Misusing Parents- Ms Dawn Grant and Ms Donna Munro will look at the wording of this action and advise Ms Pene Munro. Ms Dawn Grant advised that beyond training there is a need to look at guidance for adults working with these families as it is about the parents who are substance misusing, there is some confusion that it is about children who are substance misusing. Ms Donna Munro questioned how adult services will be involved in training as they have already backed out of previous training. The Committee went on to discuss record gathering as it seems that, although this is done, it is unclear what is done with the information gathered? Confidentiality was also discussed as a barrier to sharing information. Ms Sally Amor reported that the new Children & Young People's Act will be a game changer in this respect as how to share and when to share will be covered. • Risks to children affected by domestic violence- Ms Pene Rowe talked through this action, again the issue is how and when to share information. Ms Donna Munro to take this forward and get back to Ms Pene Rowe with timescales. • Child Sex Abuse and Exploitation – needs to be in the Sexual Abuse training. Ms Donna Munro agreed wording of this action point and went on to report that at the National Training meeting the neglect of bread and butter local training in favour of this type of training was brought up as an issue. The national idea is that short tutorial videos should be created that practitioners can quickly access as and when the need arises. The Committee went on to discuss training priorities in terms of not wanting to overload training days that already exist. Mr Kenny Anderson raised the issue of identifying the threshold for risk across agencies and suggested that there needs to be a planning day to look at this to enable gaps to be closed. • Children absconding from Care-Ms Pamela Ross advised that this is covered in the new National Missing Persons Protocol. • Health needs considered- Ms Kath Clarke needs to clarify who will take this forward and report back to Ms Pene Rowe. Ms Pamela Ross queried whether the mechanism was there. Ms Kath Clarke advised that it was for medicals but not for assessments. • E-Safety- There is an action point for the E-Safety Group and therefore a need to find out if the group still exists. This was discussed further. It was felt that if anything the group should be enhanced rather than reduced. • Young People and non-conventional Communication - Children with autism – Anne Kyle only Social Worker at the moment. Amelia Wilson identified by Ms Linda 	<p><i>DM/DG-to reword action</i></p> <p><i>DM—to take forward and advise PRowe of timescale</i></p> <p><i>KC-to identify someone to take this forward and advise PRowe</i> <i>Fiona Malcolm to check current status of e-safety group</i></p> <p><i>LM-S/AW</i></p>
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		<p>Maclennan – Shareef to take this forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the use of CPOs for new-borns-It was agreed that the wording of this action point was not appropriate. Sally Amor advised that this is about improvement not taking down the numbers. It was further agreed that this should come out of the Improvement Plan for now and should be taken forward by QUAG. • Cultural differences and Child Protection issues and training- wording discussed. Further discussion ensued with regards to existing guidance. Kenny Anderson advised that Police Scotland have toolkits which would be appropriate here. Ms Linda Maclennan - Shareef advised it should be about awareness raising and links rather than training- need to involve the Equal Ops Lead Rosemary Mackinnon. Ms Pene Rowe agreed to make amendments to this action point and take forward. • Evasive Families- outcome to be changed to 'Staff are supported to work with Evasive Families' "use of legal measures" to be taken out. Ms Pene Rowe to update this section. • Practitioner Confidence- Ms Donna Munro reminded members that it was agreed at the last meeting that this would not be against CPTO as lead but rather an Agency responsibility. Ms Pene Rowe to look into this. • Models of Learning – Ms Donna Munro to take forward. • Engagement of Evasive Families – Ms Pene Rowe to take out Team Managers and replace with District Managers. <p>Committee members agreed to look at the phrasing of actions they are responsible for and then advise Ms Pene Rowe of any changes to be made, including any changes required in respect of the recent Inspection recommendations. Ms Pene Rowe will then reissue this document for review.</p>	<p><i>PRowe—to amend action point</i></p> <p><i>PRowe—to update section</i></p> <p><i>PRowe DM-to take forward PRowe-amendment to wording</i></p> <p><i>ALL-any further changes to wording to be forwarded to PRowe</i></p>
6.	Inspection of Children's Services	a) Issues for CPC - The report, which had been circulated prior to meeting, was noted and it was agreed that any recommendations for the CPC would be incorporated into the Improvement Plan.	
7.	Care Inspectorate:	<p>a) Information return – The content of the information return to the Care Inspectorate was noted.</p> <p>b) Request for CPC observer status – It was noted that the issue of Care Inspectorate membership is to be taken up by the Scottish CPC Chairs Forum and it was agreed to await the outcome before responding to the request for observer status.</p>	BA

8.	I.C.R-protected minute	I.C.R regarding a recent child death was discussed. There are 13 recommendations and these will be circulated to committee members and incorporated into the Improvement Plan. This committee agreed that this should be progressed to a Serious Case Review.	<i>PRoss/PROwe</i>
9.	Information Sharing Protocol	Ms Dawn Grant suggested that there needs to be an additional section on "How to Share Information" using the Child Concern Form and referencing the Highland Practice Model. Any further comments to be sent to Ms Pene Rowe by May 19 th 2014. If there are no comments received it was agreed that this would be endorsed as is.	<i>ALL-comments to PROwe</i>
10.	Information Leaflets	Further comments received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacts on leaflet to have sticky label • Should be 'read and understood' rather than 'read' To be run past youth Forum and Youth Voice then signed off.	<i>PROwe-amendments</i>
11.	Standing Items	a) Safer Highland Update- Kenny Anderson advised that the structure has now been streamlined. He will forward a copy of the new structure to Ms Pene Rowe and Ms Pamela Ross. He also reported that Mr Julian Innes has now taken over the Chair of the Drug and Alcohol Forum from Ms Margaret Somerville. b) National Groups- notes and update distributed by Ms Pene Rowe c) NHS CP Coordinating Group - no update	<i>KA</i>
12.	Information for Noting	There was no information for noting.	
13.	A.O.C.B	None.	
14.	Date of next meeting	The date of the next meeting of the Highland Child Protection Committee is: <i>1st July 2014 in the ECS Meeting Room at Highland Council HQ, Glenurquhart Rd, Inverness.</i>	