



## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC GROUP**

Minute of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group held in the Hay Room, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Friday 20 February 2015 at 10.00am.

**Present:** B Malone, Chief Executive, Perth and Kinross Council (Chair)  
Councillor E Maclachlan, Perth and Kinross Council  
Councillor B Vaughan, Perth and Kinross Council  
B Atkinson, Education and Children's Services, PKC  
K Fowlie, NHS Tayside  
A Gerry, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration  
J Kerr, PKAVS (substituting for H Mackinnon)  
J Pepper, Education and Children's Services, PKC  
F Steel, Action for Children Scotland  
Chief Inspector M Whitford, Police Scotland  
P Wilson, Vice Principal Academic, Perth College

**In Attendance:** D Caldwell and A Ericson, (both NHS Tayside), F Mackay, A May and R Drummond (all Education and Children's Services); L Brown, Chief Executive's Service.

**Apologies:** E Devine and J Flynn (both PKCHP); S Hay, Tayside NHS Board; J Mackinnon (PKAVS); Councillor B Band; J Fyffe, J Gilruth, L Swan and J Walker (all Perth and Kinross Council).

B Malone in the Chair

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

B Malone welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies for absence were submitted and noted as above.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in terms of the relevant Codes of Conduct.

### **3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC GROUP OF 5 DECEMBER 2014**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group of 5 December 2014 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minute of the previous meeting.

**5. FOLLOW UP ON ATTAINMENT IN PERTH AND KINROSS SCHOOLS IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14 AND EXPERIENCE IN OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS**

The Group received a presentation from Audrey May, Strategic Lead – Change and Improvement, Perth and Kinross Council providing statistical data on attainment in Perth and Kinross Schools in 2013/14, including the attainment of young carers in S4 to S6. The speaker also outlined the work being carried out by the Change and Improvement and Research and Performance Teams, the experience in other local authority areas and the emerging themes for Education and Children’s Services Transformational Change Programme.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted that closing the gap on attainment and achievement and reducing inequality/inequity for our young people remains a key priority for the Group.
- (ii) Agreed to hold a half day workshop on 22 May 2015 to discuss:
  - Tackling inequalities
  - Closing the gap on attainment and achievement
  - Promoting Wellbeing
  - Future priorities for the Group

AUDREY MAY LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT

**6. PERTH AND KINROSS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE (CPC) BUSINESS ACTIVITY REPORT SINCE 5 DECEMBER 2014**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children’s Services) (G/1534): (1) highlighting the main business activities of the Child Protection Committee (CPC) since the last meeting of the Children and Young People’s Strategic Group (CYPSG) held on 5 December 2014, and (2) appending the Children in Scotland’s Review Report: Safeguarding Scotland’s Vulnerable Children from Abuse: A Review of the Scottish System.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the update on the Children in Scotland’s Review Report: Safeguarding Scotland’s Vulnerable Children from Abuse: A Review of the Scottish System, and in relation to Appendix 1 to Report 15/34 agreed the following:
  - (a) The Council and NHS Tayside submit a joint report to a future meeting of the Group on the impact of the Health and Social Care Partnerships on child protection and wellbeing and to review the impact on front-line workers in children and adult services.
  - (b) Gave a commitment to meet and obtain feedback from staff who have Named Person responsibility.
  - (c) To refresh its approach to public awareness.

- (ii) Noted the forthcoming National Strategic Leadership Summit on Child Wellbeing to be held at the Carlton Hotel, North Edinburgh on 25 February 2015.
- (iii) Noted the recent Perth and Kinross Practitioners' Implementation Seminars.
- (iv) Noted the key activities of the Perth and Kinross CPC.

*The Group agreed to vary the order of business to hear the report on the Annual Review of Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Action Plan 2011-15 next.*

## **7. ANNUAL REVIEW OF SEXUAL HEALTH AND BLOOD BOURNE VIRUS ACTION PLAN 2011-15**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/15/35) providing the Group with an update on the Perth and Kinross Sexual Health Blood Borne Virus (BBV) Action Plan 2012-15 and highlighting the development of the Scottish Government framework to address early teenage conception and support for young parents which will be published in 2015. A Ericson, NHS Tayside spoke to the report.

### **The Group:**

- (i) Noted the update on actions contained within the Perth and Kinross Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Action Plan 2011-15, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report G/15/35.
- (ii) Noted that in 2015 the Scottish Government will publish a National Strategy for Teenage Pregnancy and Young Parents and that the Perth and Kinross Sexual Health Strategy Group will review local actions in light of this publication.
- (iii) Noted at Appendix 2 to Report G/15/35, the most recent sexual health, blood borne virus and teenage pregnancy quarterly reporting figures from NHS Tayside.
- (iv) Requested that the Perth and Kinross Council Teenage Pregnancy Lead Officer submit a revised Strategy and Action Plan to the Group by November 2015.

## **8. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (G/15/38) providing a summary of the background to and current context surrounding child sexual exploitation (CSE) at UK and Scottish level and detailing the key findings arising from the recent enquiry into CSE in Rotherham and how the Scottish Government intend to tackle CSE in Scotland. The report also proposed a proactive approach to tackling CSE in Perth and Kinross and detailed the establishment of a multi-agency CSE Working Group and the implementation of a comprehensive local action plan.

J Pepper emphasised the importance of establishing a hostile environment for this form of child sexual abuse and advised that the Children and Young

People's Strategic Group had a major role to play in exercising robust scrutiny and challenge to ensure that the systematic failures in Rotherham cannot be repeated.

During discussion of the report Councillor Vaughan suggested that parents would be looking for reassurance that everything that could be done was being done. In response B Malone advised that a statement would be made at the Council meeting on 25 February 2015 of the Council's commitment to taking all necessary actions to ensure a zero tolerance approach to CSE in Perth and Kinross. This would also be followed up in the local press. She advised that collectively, the strength of experience in working together across agencies would be crucial in identifying issues early and in making sure that we keep our children and young people safe. B Atkinson added that parents, carers and professionals had been invited to a partnership event at the Playhouse Cinema in Perth on 5 March 2015. Those attending would have the opportunity to hear presentations from experts on a number of topics including CSE, Cyber Crime, Sexting and the Dark Net, exploring the current challenges in keeping children safe in a digital environment.

**The Group:**

- (i) Endorsed the work being taken forward to tackle CSE within Perth and Kinross as set out in Report 15/38 and the appendices to the report.
- (ii) Requested that the Children and Young People's Strategic Group receive regular progress reports from the CPC and CSE Working Group.
- (iii) Agreed that the Children and Young People's Strategic Group scrutinise and challenge data and information in the CPC Standards and Quality Report for 2014/15 in relation to the quality of the immediate response to children and young people at risk of abuse and exploitation.

## **9. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Education & Children's Services) (G/15/39) providing the Strategic Group with an update on progress made in taking forward areas to improve outcomes for children and families in Perth and Kinross and the progress made in further development of the role, remit and responsibilities of the Group.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the progress made in taking forward areas to improve outcomes for children and families in Perth and Kinross and the specific progress made in relation to the role, remit and responsibilities of the Group as previously reported to the Group on 13 June 2014 (Report G/14/214 refers).
- (ii) Endorsed the proposal to rename the Group the Children and Young People's Strategic Group to the Children, Young People and Families Partnership.

## **10. ESTABLISHMENT OF CORPORATE PARENTING SUB-GROUP**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director, (Education and Children's Services) (G/15/40) detailing the proposed terms of reference and membership for a Sub-Group of the Children and Young People's Strategic Group to lead on Corporate Parenting.

### **The Group:**

- (i) Noted that the response to the Scottish Government consultation on the draft statutory guidance for Part 9 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 would be set out in a separate report following a meeting of key partners.
- (ii) Agreed the Terms of Reference and Membership of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group, as set out in Appendix 1 of Report G/15/40.
- (iii) Requested a further update be submitted in six months' time detailing the work plan for the Corporate Parenting Sub-Group.

## **11. CONSULTATION ON DRAFT STATUTORY GUIDANCE FOR PART 9 (CORPORATE PARENTING) OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2014.**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Children and Families' Services (G/15/46) updating the Group on progress made in developing a response to the Scottish Government consultation on the Draft Statutory Guidance for Part 9 (Corporate Parenting) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

### **The Group:**

- (i) Noted the progress made in devising a joint response to the Scottish Government and the key points raised at the consultation meeting as set out in paragraph 1.4 of Report G/15/46.
- (ii) Noted that the draft consultation response as set out in Appendix 1 to Report G/15/46.
- (iii) Agreed that any further comments on the draft consultation be submitted to C Mackie, Service Manager, Perth and Kinross Council no later than 28 February 2015.
- (iv) Requested that the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) submit a final response to the Scottish Government by 2 March 2015.

## **12. REPORT ON SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT STRATEGY TO ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care), Perth and Kinross Council, appending "Equally Safe" a Scottish Government Strategy to eradicate violence against women and girls and describing the proposals for governance and implementation of the Strategy within Perth and Kinross. It was noted that the report had been considered by the Council's Community Safety Committee on 14 January 2015 (report PKC 15/7 refers).

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the contents of the report.
- (ii) Agreed the matter be included as a topic for wider discussion at a future meeting of the Partnership.
- (iii) Requested feedback be sought from front line staff on any issues within their locality.

**13. UPDATE REPORT ON THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2014 AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GETTING RIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Children's and Families' Service, Perth and Kinross Council, (G/15/36) providing an update to the Group on the current position in relation to the phased commencement of the various parts of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, including key elements of Getting it Right for Every Child and state of readiness for compliance with the forthcoming new duties.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the key provisions of the Act which will be subject to statutory guidance and regulations, with full public consultation due in the first quarter of 2015.
- (ii) Noted the establishment of a Corporate Parenting Sub-Group under the governance of the Children and Young People Strategic Group.
- (iii) Noted the work underway in preparation for additional statutory responsibilities for GIRFEC, and the support for young people who are, or have been looked after.

**14. EVIDENCE2SUCCESS**

There was submitted a report by the Depute Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/15/37) advising of progress made to date in the implementation of activity to deliver improvement in the priority areas identified by Evidence2Success; including the implementation of the portfolio of evidence-based programmes.

**The Group:**

- (i) Noted the progress made in each of the priority areas.
- (ii) Noted the rephrasing of implementation of the Strengthening Families Programme.
- (iii) Noted the arrangements for the continued development of the workforce through provision of additional training.
- (iv) Noted the continued development of the E2S Community Partnership.

**15. PUBLIC SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP (PSP)**

J Pepper provided the Group with a verbal update on the Perth and Kinross and Angus PSP. She advised that the PSP initiative has been successful in obtaining transitional funding of £280,018 from the Scottish Government for 2015/16. The initiative is led by Barnardo's Scotland in partnership with Perth

and Kinross Council, Angus Council, CrossReach and Enable and associate partners the Scottish Prison Service, Just Play and NHS Tayside.

The Group were advised that THRIVE is a demonstration project with a focus on children under 5 years affected by parental imprisonment. Between April and December 2014 the project provided direct support to 14 families (20 children) and 4 expectant mothers from Perth and Kinross. Family sessions are held in Perth Prison Visits Room. An evaluation will be carried out by Stirling University. The PSP is currently working on a sustainability strategy.

The Group heard that associated delivery partner, Enable, is developing new models of support for parents with learning disability and has completed a guidance document on supporting parents and will produce a final report in April 2015.

The Group noted the position.

**16. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

There were no other items of business for discussion.

**17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Group noted the next meeting would be replaced by a half day workshop to be held on 22 May 2015.

