



EAST AYRSHIRE CHIEF OFFICERS GROUP: 25 MARCH 2011

CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE: PERFORMANCE AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To inform the Chief Officers Group of the work undertaken by East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee (EACPC) to understand child protection activity in East Ayrshire, identify trends and their impact on strategic planning.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Performance and Quality sub group plays a key role in ensuring that EACPC receives the correct information about child protection activity to enable it to undertake its core function of strategic planning. EACPC receives quarterly performance/management information reports. The content and style of these reports have been subject to review to ensure that the information that the committee receives reflects the multi agency nature of child protection and enables the committee to fulfil its functions and commitment to improving outcomes for children in East Ayrshire.
- 2.2 The Performance and Quality sub group are developing a Performance and Management Framework. The first part of this work has been completed with the development of a multi-agency management information framework (Appendix 1). More work is now required in respect of reporting on the measurement of performance. In addition to the quarterly reports further enquires and audits are undertaken as and when appropriate, such as an analysis of children on supervision requirements which was reported to EACPC in December 2010.
- 2.3 EACPC considered a report based on the agreed framework at its meeting on 08.03.11 covering the reporting period of quarter 3 from 01.10.10 to 31.12.10 (Appendix 2). Following consideration by the committee further development of this report is required, particularly in relation to the workforce statistics to ensure that the information across agencies is both consistently reported and meaningful to the committee. The Performance and Quality sub group will consider this at their next meeting.
- 2.4 As part of EACPC performance cycle each year EACPC considers an annual statistical report. In September 2010 the committee received a 3 year analysis report from Social Work Services (appendix 3) and Scottish Children's Reporters Administration (appendix 4) to enable the committee to consider the patterns in child protection activity.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the Chief Officers Group

(i) Note the contents of the reports

Susan Taylor
Chair of East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee
March 2011

Report compiled by Dianne Burns, Child Protection Co-ordinator



A Framework for Performance and Management information

The Performance and Quality Sub Group has considered what information will assist the Child Protection Committee in fulfilling its functions of :

- Having an overview of information relating to children and young people on the child protection register
- Receiving regular management information reports which include analysis of trends
- Identifying and addressing the implications of these reports for services, and
- Ensuring that these reports inform the interagency child protection strategic planning

Reporting periods

Reporting period	To be submitted to cp co-ordinator	CPC date
01.10.10 – 31.12.10	01.02.11	08.03.11
01.01.11 – 31.03.11	01.05.11	03.06.11
01.04.11 – 30.06.11	01.08.11	06.09.11
01.07.11 – 30.09.11	01.11.11	02.12.11

Quality Indicator	Category/ Type		Type	Source	Report Possible from source	Timescale for reporting	Who will provide	Progress
1. Referrals								
QI 2.3 Children are young people are helped by the actions taken in immediate response to concerns	A. Child Protection referrals to Social Work	Number	Management Information	SW CP module	√			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By child By family 						
		Source	Management Information	SW CP module	√			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police Education Social Work Health Parent Child Anonymous Other 						
		Reason	Management Information	SW CP module	√			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emotional Abuse Failure to Thrive Physical Injury Physical Neglect Sexual Abuse 						
Age of child at time of referral	Management Information	SW CP module	√					
Geographical	Management Information	SW CP module	√					
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North of East Ayrshire South of East Ayrshire 						
		Domestic incidents involving children	Management Information	Police database	√			

QI 5.2 Appropriate information sharing and recording	B Health contacts at initial referral stage	No. of contacts to Child Protection Health team at initial referral stage	Management information	Health database	√			
2. Child Protection Investigation.								
QI 2.3 Children and young people are helped by the actions taken in immediate response to concerns	A. Number of investigations	Total number of investigations (number of CP1s completed)	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Reason <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emotional Abuse Failure to Thrive Physical Injury Physical Neglect Sexual Abuse 	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age of child at time of investigation 0-4 years 5-10 years 10-15 years 16+ years 	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Geographical <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number in North of East Ayrshire Number in South of East Ayrshire 	Management Information	SW CP module	√	EACPC 07.09.10		
	B. Joint Investigative Interviews	Number of Joint Investigative interviews undertaken	Management Information	Police database	√	Currently reported to EACPC		

<p>QI 5.3 Recognising and assessing risks and needs</p>	<p>C. Involvement of health at investigation stage</p>	<p>Involvement of health at the commencement of the investigation/tripartite discussion</p>	<p>Management Information</p>	<p>Health database</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>Following EACPC tripartite process review</p>		
<p>QI 5.3 Recognising and assessing risks and needs</p>	<p>D. Use of Medical examiners in investigations</p>	<p>Number of medical examinations during investigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of forensic medicals • Number of sexual abuse medicals • Number which took place out with office hours • Number of medicals undertaken out with East Ayrshire • Number of children subjected to more than one medical 	<p>Management Information</p>	<p>Health database</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>EACPC December 2010 to receive report of</p> <p>Number of child protection medicals</p> <p>Reason for medical</p> <p>Number of doctors required</p> <p>Where medical took place</p>		
<p>QI 2.1 Children and young people are listened to, understood and respected</p>	<p>E. Views</p>	<p>Number of Initial investigation Reports (CP1s) which contain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parents/carers views • child's views 	<p>Management information</p>	<p>SW CP module</p>	<p>X</p>			

QI 5.3 Recognising and assessing risks and needs	F. Decision of investigation	Decision as a result of investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case conference required • Child protection case discussion • Multi agency meeting • No further action 	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
QI 5.4 Effectiveness of planning to meet needs	3. Case Conferences	Number of Initial Child Protection Case Conference (CPCC) and decision of case conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference continued • Child placed on child protection register • Not register but support plan in place 	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Number of review CPCC	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Number of CPCC attended by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • child • Parent/carer 	Management Information	SW CP module	X	EACPC June 2011		
QI 2.1 Children and young people are listened to, understood and respected		Conference attended by advocacy services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child • Parent/carer 	Management Information	SW CP module	X			

Q2.2 Children and Young people benefit from strategies to minimise harm	4. Child Protection register	Number on child protection register- as at last day of quarter	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Category of registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emotional Abuse Failure to Thrive Physical Injury Physical Neglect Sexual Abuse 	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Age of the child- as at the last day of the quarter reporting period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0-4 years 5-10 years 10-15 years 16+ years 	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Length of time on CP register	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Child Protection register- Geographical <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North of East Ayrshire South of East Ayrshire <p>Based on child's home address</p>	Management Information	SW CP module	√	Reported to EACPC from 07.09.10		
Single Outcome Agreement- More children and young people live in a		Number of re registrations	Performance information	SW CP module	√	Reported to EACPC from 07.09.10		

safe environment.								
<p>QI 2.3 Children and young people are helped by the actions taken in immediate response to concerns</p>	5. Legal Measures	<p>Child Protection Orders (CPOs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of CPO granted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Was the child on supervision at the time the CPO was granted 	Management information	SCRA stats bulletin	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Number of children on supervision requirements in East Ayrshire	Management Information	SCRA stats bulletin	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		Number where emergency police powers used	Management Information	Police database	√	Currently reported to EACPC		
		<p>Number of children under 16 years detained in police custody</p> <p>Number of children aged 16- 18 years who are subject to a supervision requirement who detained in police custody</p>	Management information	Police database	X	Not currently reported to EACPC		
QI 9.2 Leadership and direction	6.Child Protection Workforce	<p><u>Health visiting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of health 	Management	Health	X	EACPC December 2010		

	<p>Health</p>	<p>visitors/school nurses and community midwives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical spread of practitioners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ number of children ○ % workload Intensive-high level need Additional-vulnerable children Core - general <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacancies FTE • Absence Rate 	<p>information</p>		<p>X</p>	<p>EACPC December 2010</p>		
	<p>Social Work</p>	<p><u>Social work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of registered social workers in locality services • Number of specialist and support staff in locality services <p>Geographical split of registered social workers</p>		<p>SW</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>EACPC December 2010</p> <p>EACPC December 2010</p> <p>EACPC December 2010</p>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Number in North • Number in South • Number of vacancies in locality services (FTE) • Absence rate • Agreed average case load • Actual average case load 				<p>EACPC December 2010 EACPC</p> <p>December 2010</p> <p>System in development</p> <p>System in development</p>		
<p>QI 5.3 Recognising and assessing risks and needs</p> <p>QI 5.4 Effectiveness of planning to meet needs</p>	7. Pre birth activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of pre birth referrals • Number of pre birth discussions • Number of pre birth discussions which take place in agreed timescales 	Management information	SW CP module	<p>√</p> <p>X</p>	Reported to EACPC from December 2010		
<p>QI 2.3 Children & Young People are helped by the actions taken in response to concerns</p>	8. GIFREC meeting activity	Number of children discussed	Management Information	GIRFEC Database	√	EACPC December 2010		
		Agency identified as lead	Management Information	GIRFEC Database	√	EACPC December 2010		
		Number of repeat discussions	Management Information	GIRFEC Database	√	EACPC December 2010		

QI 9.2 Leadership and Direction	Trends/Significant contributing factors	Drug alcohol misuse	Management information	SW CP module	X				
		Domestic violence	Management Information	SW CP module	X				
		Parental mental health issues	Management information	SW CP module	X				
		Learning disability	Management information	SW CP module	X				
3. We Can & Must Do Better									
QI 5.3 Recognising and assessing risks and needs	Assessing the health needs of LAC/LAAC	Number of health needs assessments initiated within 4 weeks of NHS notification	Management Information	Health	√	EACPC December 2010			

Definitions

Child Protection Referral (Social Work)	
North of East Ayrshire	Kilmarnock and Northern Area
South of East Ayrshire	Cumnock & Doon valley and Irvine Valley

Initial referral stage	At the initial point when a referral has been received and prior to decision being made whether or not to proceed to a child protection investigation
Number of investigations- Social Work definition	Children where a decision has been made to proceed to formal child protection investigation and a CP1 is completed
Joint Investigation	Child Protection Investigation conducted by the police and social work
Joint Investigative Interview	A Joint investigative interview is a formal, planned interview with a child, carried out by staff trained and competent to conduct it, for the purposes of eliciting the child's account of events (if any) which require investigation.
Child Protection Order	As defined by Children (Scotland) Act 1995 section 57
Emergency Police Powers	As defined by Children (Scotland) Act 1995 section 61 (5)
GIRFEC Meeting	Multi Agency Information and Sharing meeting held on a weekly basis in East Ayrshire to discuss non offence referrals, and to agree lead agency.



EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 8 MARCH 2011

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR PERIOD 1 OCTOBER to 31 DECEMBER 2010

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

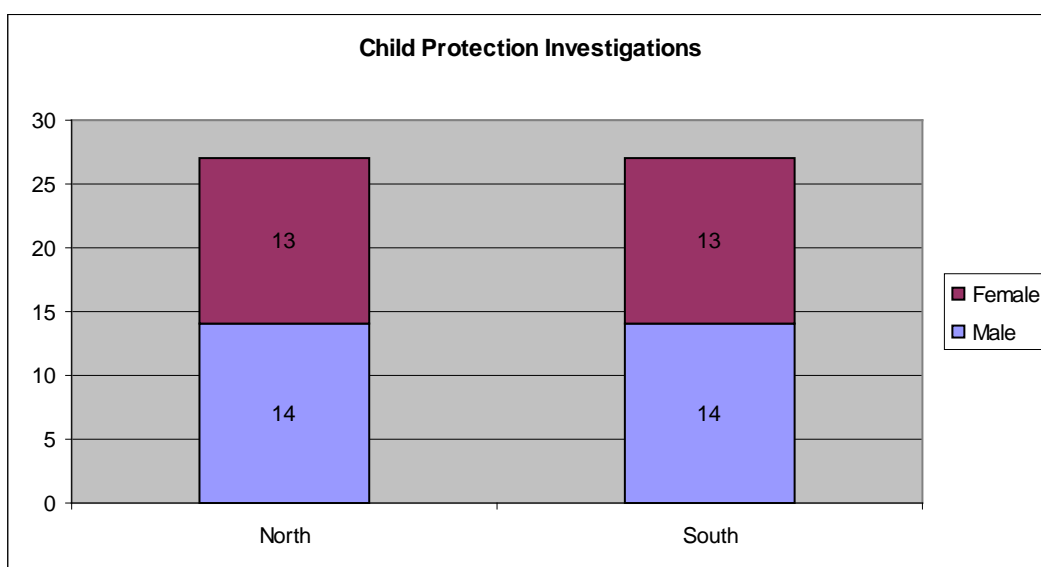
- 1.1 To inform the East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee (EACPC) of child protection activity in East Ayrshire for the period 1 October 2010 to 31 December 2010.
- 1.2 The data informing this report has been formulated taking information from the Social Work Information System and in discussion with the Locality Service Managers.

2 OVERVIEW

- 2.1 For this quarter the number of children on the Child Protection Register had increased by one from the previous quarter, with 55 children's names on the East Ayrshire Child Protection Register making up 28 family groups as at 31 December 2010.

3 FURTHER ANALYSIS OF DATA

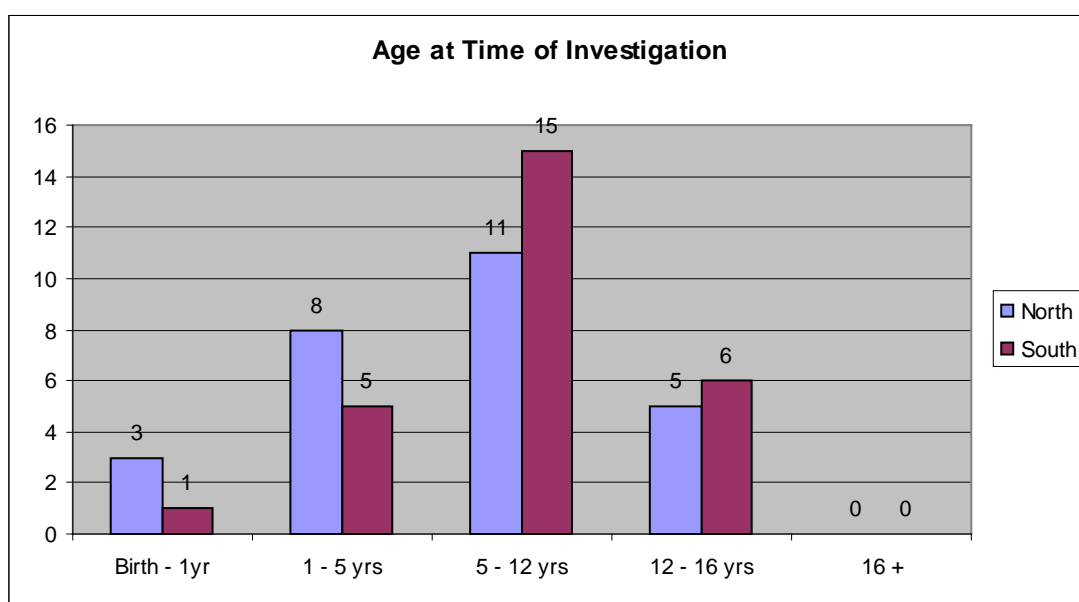
3.1 Child Protection Investigations



During the quarter:

- A total of 54 children were subject to child protection investigations (25 family groups.)
- This represents an increase of 12 children (6 family groups) for the last quarter.
- For the North this was an increase in 3 investigations for individual children
- For the South it was an increase of 9 investigations for individual children
- 27 of the children (14 family groups) in the North of the authority
- 27 children (11 family groups) live in the South of the authority

3.2 Age at time of Investigation

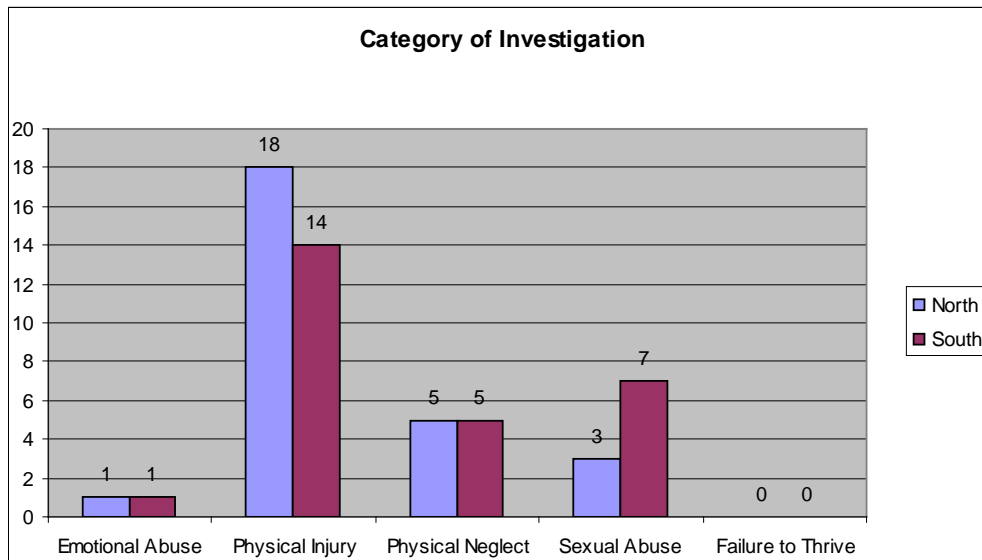


Children aged 5-12 years continued to make up just under half of all investigations, which was consistent with the previous quarter.

Of the 54 investigations the children were the following ages:

- Birth to 1 year : 4 children
- 1 – 5 years : 13 children (nearly double that of the last quarter)
- 5 – 12 years : 26 children (double that of last quarter)
- 12 – 16 years : 11 children
- 16+ : no children

3.3 Child Protection Investigations by category

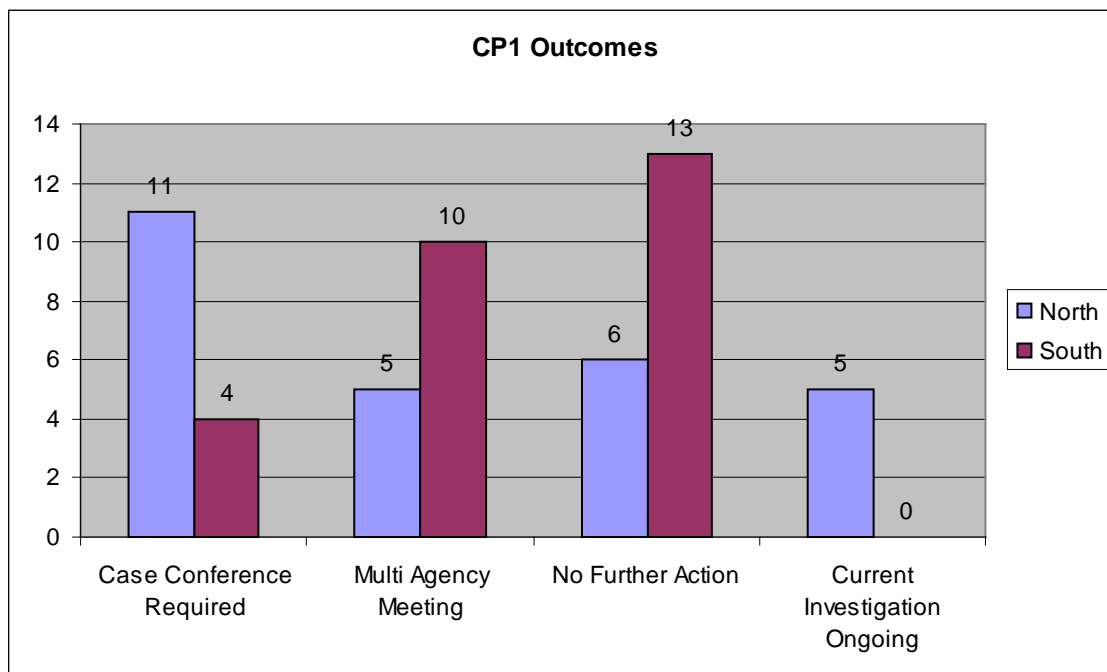


These figures highlight that Physical Injury was the main category of concern during investigations for the North and the South of the authority

The main categories of concern that led to the investigations for the 54 children were as follows:

- Emotional Abuse : 2 children (last quarter there were no children investigated under this category)
- Physical Injury : 32 children
- Physical Neglect : 10 children
- Sexual Abuse : 10 children
- Failure to Thrive : no children were investigated under this category

3.4 CP 1: Outcomes



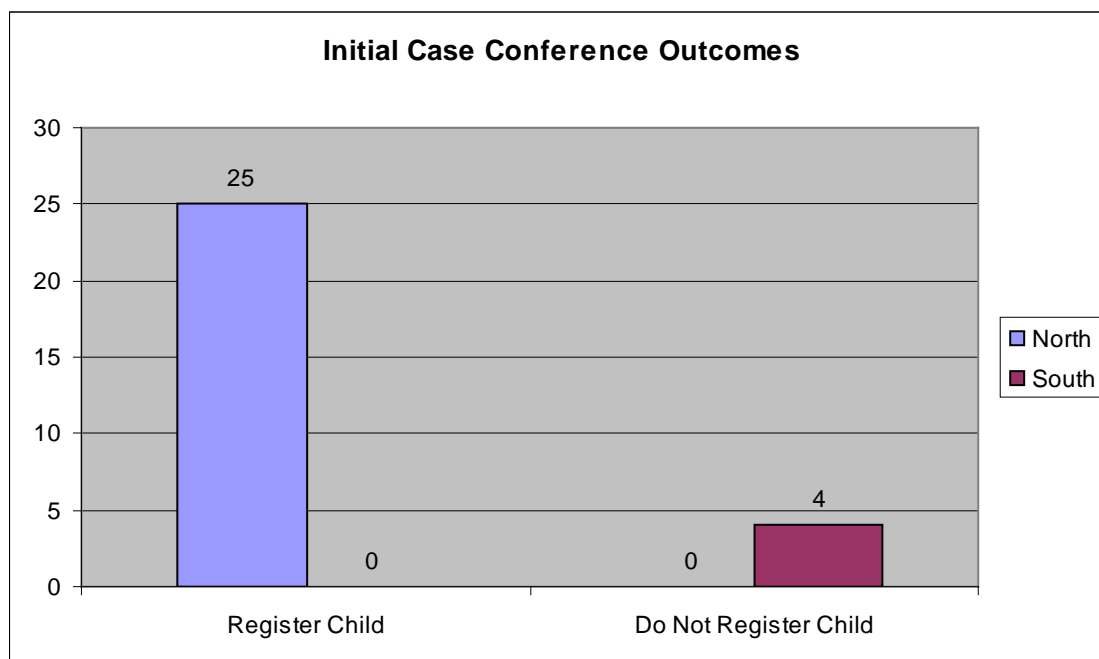
Of the 54 investigations that were carried out:

- 15 of the investigations resulted in a Case Conferences
- 15 children were discussed at a multi-agency meeting
- 19 of the investigations resulted in no further action being taken (an increase of 13 from the last quarter)
- 5 investigations remain outstanding (comprising of 2 family groups). In respect of 3 of the investigations relating to 1 family group investigations has been completed and action has been agreed with the Locality Services Manager. The remaining investigation is still to be completed with an end date set for 11 February 2011.

3.5 Joint Investigative Interviews

In this quarter there were 5 joint investigative interviews conducted by the police and social work.

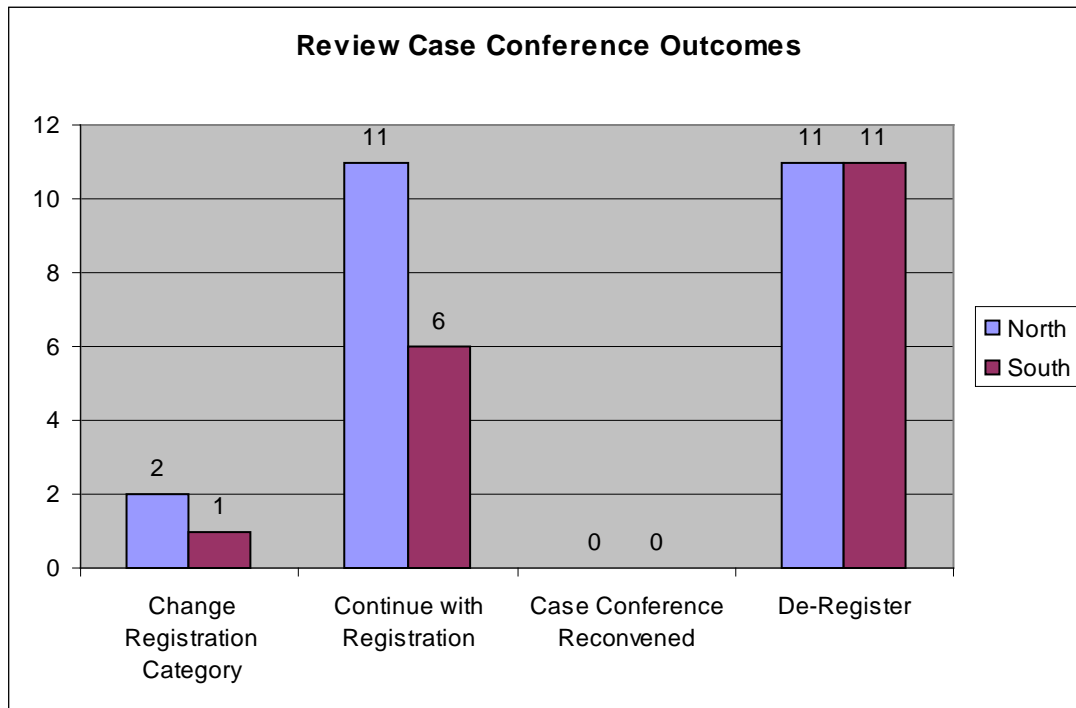
3.6 Initial Case Conference - Outcomes



Of the 29 children discussed at Initial Case Conference this quarter:

- 25 were placed on the Child protection Register, all of whom lived in the North of the Authority
- 4 children were discussed and a decision taken not to place them on the Child Protection Register, all of whom lived in the South of the Authority.
- This was 4 children less than the last quarter.

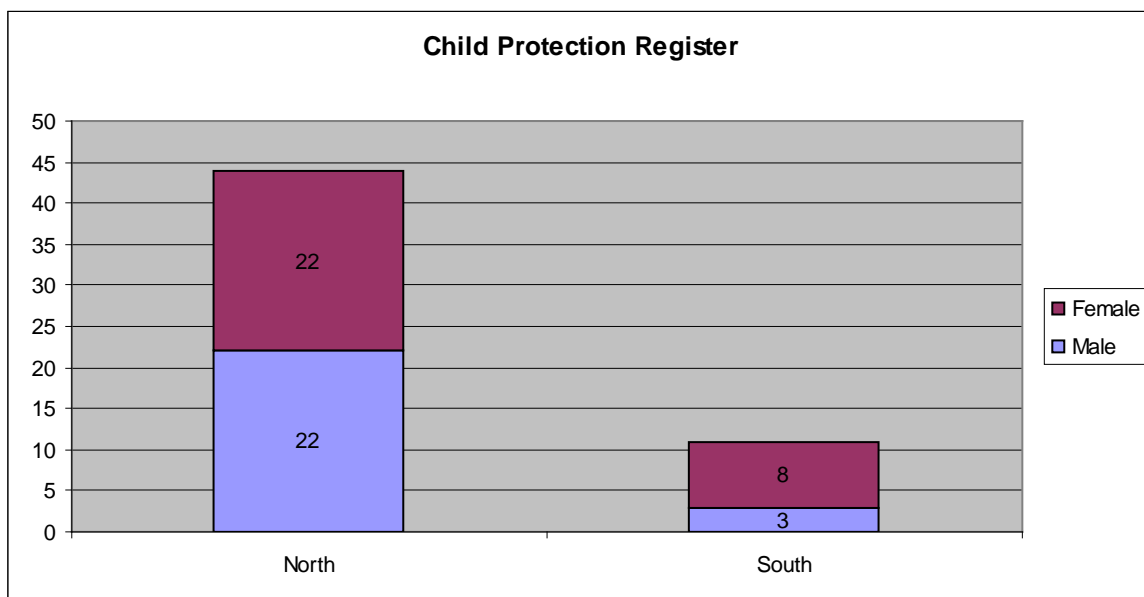
3.7. Review Case Conferences



Out of 42 children reviewed at Case Conference:

- 17 children continued on the Register with the original category of registration.
- 3 children had the category of registration changed.
- No conferences had to be reconvened.
- 22 children were deregistered, more than double the number of children from the previous quarter. The increase can be accounted for by the deregistration of 3 sibling groups comprising of a total of 10 children.

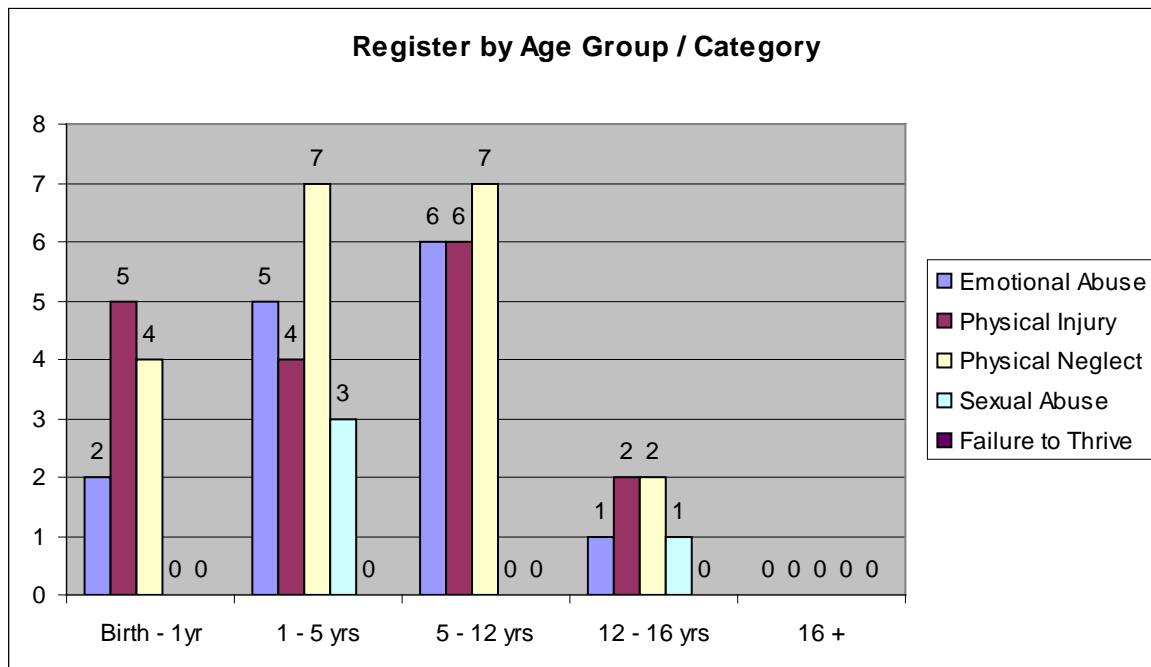
3.8 Child Protection Register as at 31st December 2010



At the end of the reporting period there were a total of 55 children (28 family groups) on the Child Protection Register:

- 11 children were in the 0 -1 age range, an increase of 2 children from the previous quarter
- 19 children were in the 1-5 year age range, an increase of 1 child from the previous quarter
- 19 children were in the 5-12 year age range, an increase of 1 child from the last quarter
- 6 children were in the 12-16 year age range, a decrease of 3 children from the previous quarter
- Graph 3.8 provides a more detailed analysis regarding the age of children on the register
- 44 of the children lived in the North (23 family groups)
- 11 of the children lived in the South (5 family groups)
- This represented an increase of 12 children (5 family groups) placed on the Child Protection Register in the North of the Authority and a decrease of 11 children (5 family groups) for the South of the Authority

3.9 Child Protection Register by Age Group / Category

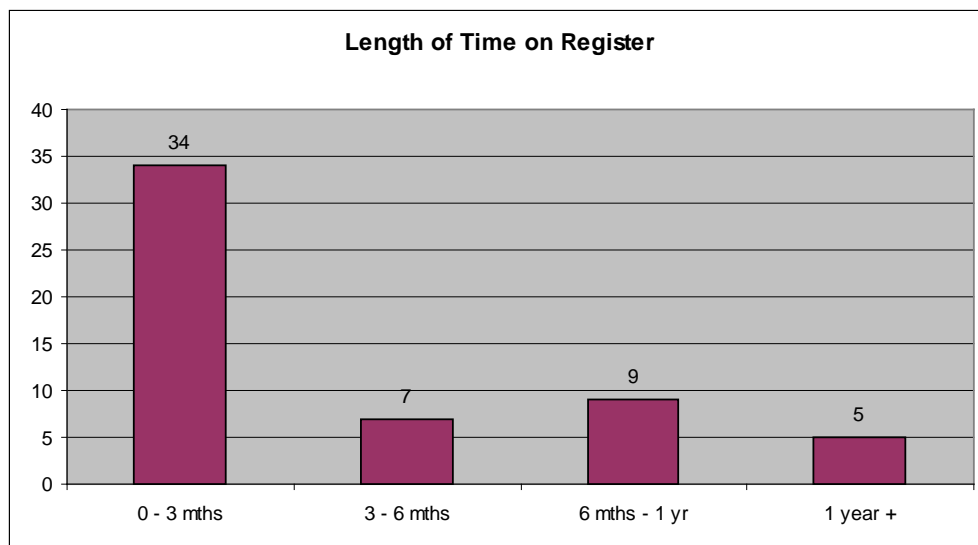


Out of 55 children on the register the registration categories were:

- Emotional abuse : 14
- Physical injury : 17
- Physical neglect : 20

- Sexual abuse : 4
- Failure to thrive : 0
- Children registered under the category of At Risk of Physical Injury had nearly doubled since the last quarter.
- Children registered under the category of At Risk of Physical Neglect had decreased by 9 children since the last quarter.
- Children registered under the category of At Risk of Sexual Abuse had doubled since the last quarter

3.10 Length of time on the Register as at 31 December 2010



Length of time on the register is as follows:

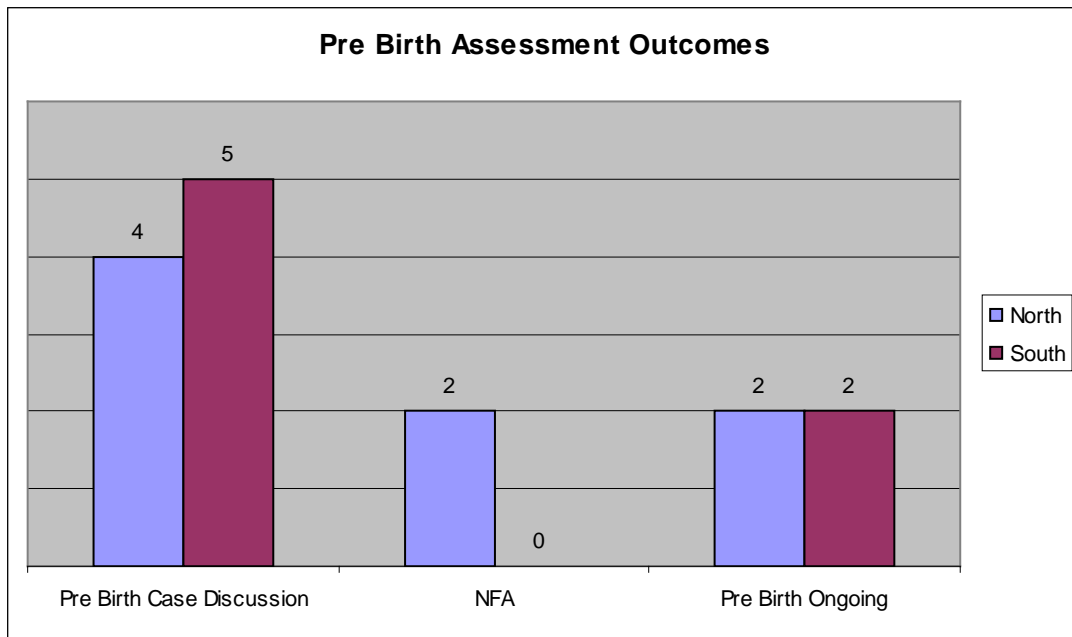
- 0-3 months : 34 children
- 3-6 months : 7 children
- 6mth -1yr : 9 children
- 1yr + : 5 children

There has been an increase in the number of children who have been on the register for more than a year. The five children make up three family groups.

- 2 of the children of one sibling group have been the subject of complex multi agency information gathering from a range of Local Authorities.
- 2 of the children making up a further sibling group have since been removed from the register post 31 December and therefore out side of the reporting date
- 1 child has been accommodated, but due to rehabilitation plans, requires ongoing registration.

4 PRE BIRTH ACTIVITY

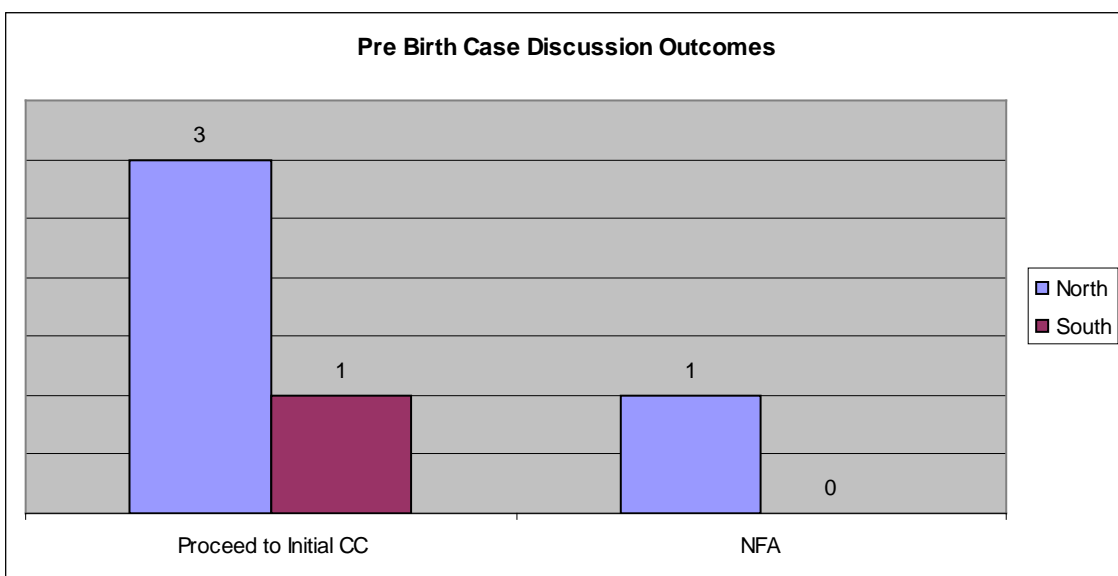
4.1 Pre birth assessments: Outcomes



In this quarter there were 15 referrals regarding concerns about unborn babies. Of these:

- 9 children were recommended to be discussed at Pre Birth Case Discussion. Of these 5 have taken place and the remaining 4 children have a conference scheduled
- 2 did not proceed to full term babies.
- 4 assessments remain ongoing, the mother's being in the early stages of pregnancy

4.2 Pre Birth Case Discussion – Outcomes



- 5 pre-birth case discussions were held in the reporting period.
- It was decided to proceed to an Initial Child Protection Case conference for the 4 children discussed in this forum. 1 required no further intervention.

5 LEGAL MEASURES

5.1 Child Protection Orders Granted between 01/10/10 and 31/12/10

There were no Child Protection Orders applied for in this quarter.

There was no emergency legal intervention required for those children who are subject to statutory orders.

5.2 Police Emergency Powers

There were no incidents in this quarter when police emergency powers were used.

5.3 Detention of children

Changes in Strathclyde Police recording and reporting systems mean that detention of children will no longer be reported to EACPC,

6. EARLY INTERVENTION AND PRE REFERRAL MEETING ACTIVITY

6.1 In the third quarter, October 2010 to December 2010 the group met on a weekly basis and considered 221 referrals in comparison with 200 referrals in the previous quarter. Of these 221 children discussed 128 (58%) had previously been referred to the group in comparison to 48% in the second quarter. The group identified lead agencies for 185 of the referrals. The lead agency identified for 82% of the referrals was Social Work, 9% Education, 6% Health and other 3% were accounted to early years and the police

6.2 A decision for no further action was taken in relation to 33 referrals (15%) in comparison to 18% in the previous quarter.

7. CHILD PROTECTION WORKFORCE as at 31 December 2010

7.1 STRATHCLYDE POLICE FAMILY PROTECTION UNIT (FPU)

	Number
Number of detective post vacant in the FPU	1
Number of Detective staff absence days in the FPU 01.10.10 to 31.12.10	40
Number of Clerical staff vacant posts within FPU	1.5
Number of Clerical staff absence hours	0

7.2 SOCIAL WORK CHILDREN AND FAMILY LOCALITY SERVICES

Number of qualified social worker posts on the establishment, locality services (Lead Professional for child protection)		40
Number of qualified social workers in post in reporting period		37
Geographical split of registered social workers	North	23
Geographical split of registered social workers	South	14
Number of FTE vacancies in locality services		3
Absence rate		

7.3 NHS AYSHIRE AND ARRAN HEALTH VISITING

2010	October		November		December	
	North	South	North	South	North	South
Health Visitors Headcount	13	10	13	10	14	10
Whole time equivalent (WTE)	10.20	9.20	10.20	9.20	10.20	9.20
Skill mix, headcount						
Band 5 Staff Nurse (SN)	6	8	6	8	6	8
Band 3 Clinical Support Worker (CSW)	7	5	7	5	7	5
Skill mix – WTE						
Band 5 (SN)	4.80	7.60	4.80	7.60	4.80	7.60
Band 3 (CSW)	4.40	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40	4.50
Vacancies	1	0	1	0	0	0
Absence rate approx	4%	3.6%	4%	3.6%	4%	3.6%

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Child Protection Committee is asked to

- (i) Note the contents of this report.

Susan Taylor
Chair of East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee
4 March 2011

Report Prepared by: Carol Wassell, Child Protection Reviewing Officer



**EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 07 SEPTEMBER 2010
3 YEARS STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

1. PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the statistical information relating to Child Protection activity over the three years from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2010.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The following report highlights child protection activity relating to:

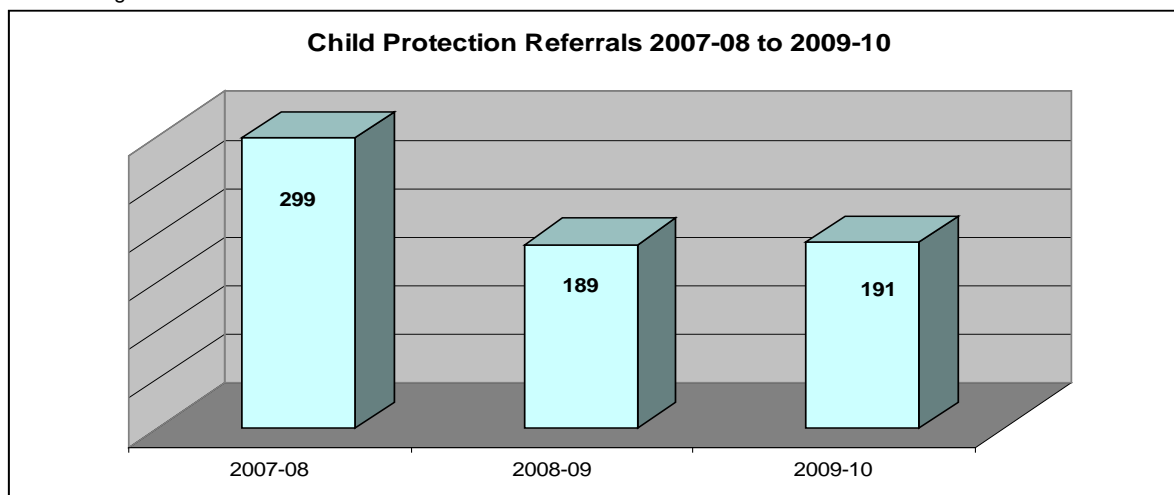
- number of child protection referrals,
- number of child protection referrals that resulted in a case conference,
- number of registrations,
- number of de-registrations
- number of children on the child protection register
- number of child protection orders sought

3. CHILD PROTECTION (CP) REFERRALS

3.1 A child protection referral for the purposes of this report is defined as: a referral received which requires a formal investigation under East Ayrshire Council's Child protection Procedures; subsequently a CP 1 is completed.

3.2 In the period 2007-08 the number of child protection referrals decreased from 299 to 189 before increasing slightly to 191 in 2009-10 an overall decrease of 36% in the period (figure 1)

Figure 1



3.3 East Ayrshire High Risk Pregnancy Protocol has resulted in an increase in child protection activity related to pre-birth assessments as illustrated:

- 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 there were a total of 37 referrals for prebirth assessments .
- 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 there were a total of 4 referrals for pre birth assessments (a recording issue has been highlighted, which brings into question the accuracy of this figure)
- 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 there were a total of 42 referrals for prebirth assessments

3.4 The most common age range for CP referrals is 0-4 years (38% of all referrals). There was a decrease in the percentage of referrals relating to children in the age ranges 5-10, 23% in 2009-10 compared to 31% in the previous year and a decrease from 26% to 18% in the age range 11-15.

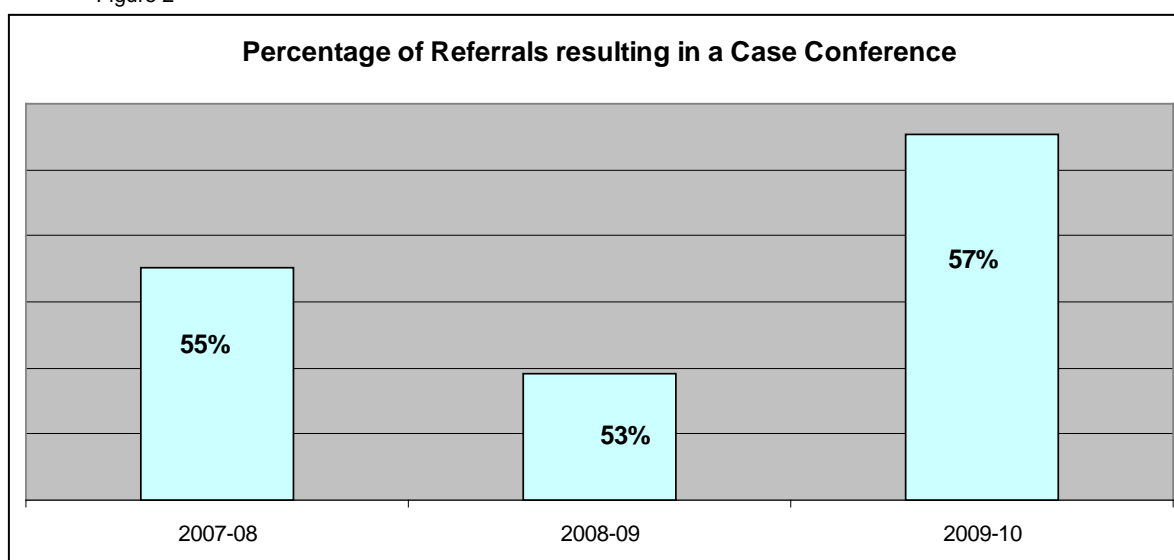
4. CASE CONFERENCES

There has been a significant drop in the number of referrals and their resultant case conferences between 2007-08 and 2009-10.

- 2009-10, of 191 referrals, 108 resulted in case conference.
- 2008-09 of 189 referrals, 100 resulted in a case conference
- 2007-08 of 299 referrals, 163 resulted in case conference.

The increase in the percentage of referrals resulting in a case conference is shown in figure 2.

Figure 2



Decision Not To Place The Child On The Child Protection Register

In 2009-10 27% per cent of Case Conferences resulted in the child not being registered compared to 21% in 2008-09 and 39% in 2007-08.

CHILD PROTECTION REGISTRATIONS/CATEGORY OF ABUSE

In the last 3 year period there has been some variance in the categories of registration. (figure 3). Of the children that were placed on the Child Protection Register physical neglect was identified as the most common risk factor

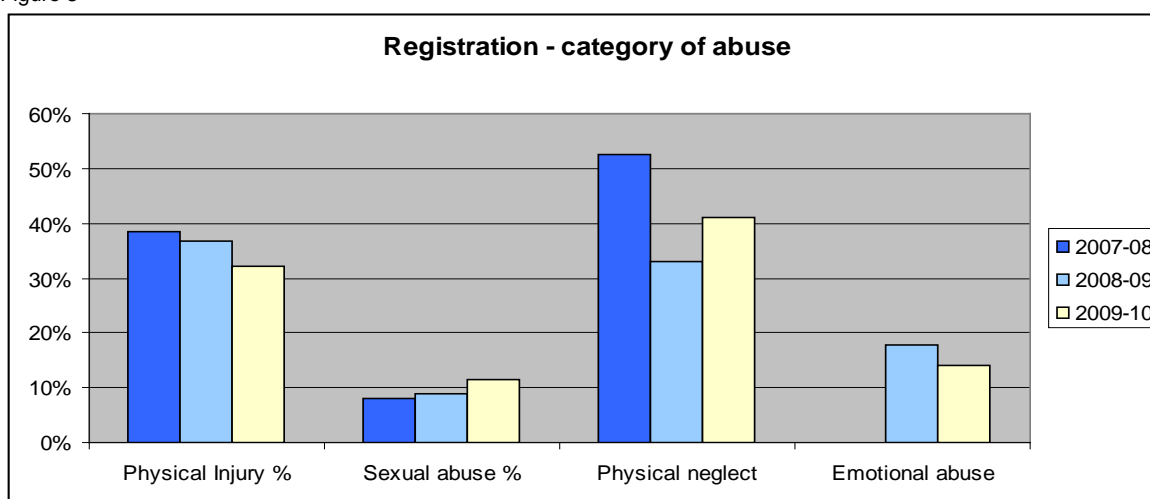
- 2009-10 32 (41%)
- 2008-09 (33%)
- 2007-08 (53%)

Physical injury is the identified risk in around one third of case conferences.

The proportion of case conferences where sexual abuse has been identified has increased year on year:

- 2009-10 (12%)
- 2008-09 (9%)
- 2007-08 (8%)

Figure 3



5. DE- REGISTRATIONS IN THE YEAR

5.1 Of the 115 deregistration in the year 67 (58%) occurred within 6 months of the child being registered. The proportion of deregistrations within 6 months have remained at around 60% for the past three years.

5.2 There has been a significant increase in the number of children registered in the emotional abuse category who were deregistered from 4 in 2007-08 (4% of all deregistration) to 6 (4%) in 2008-09 to 28 (24%) in this reporting period. This recording category is now being used to reflect abuse/risk in cases where domestic violence is involved.

5.3 Thirty children were deregistered in 2009 -10 because they had been placed in care this represents 21% of children deregistered compared to 36% in 2008-09 and 21% in the previous year.

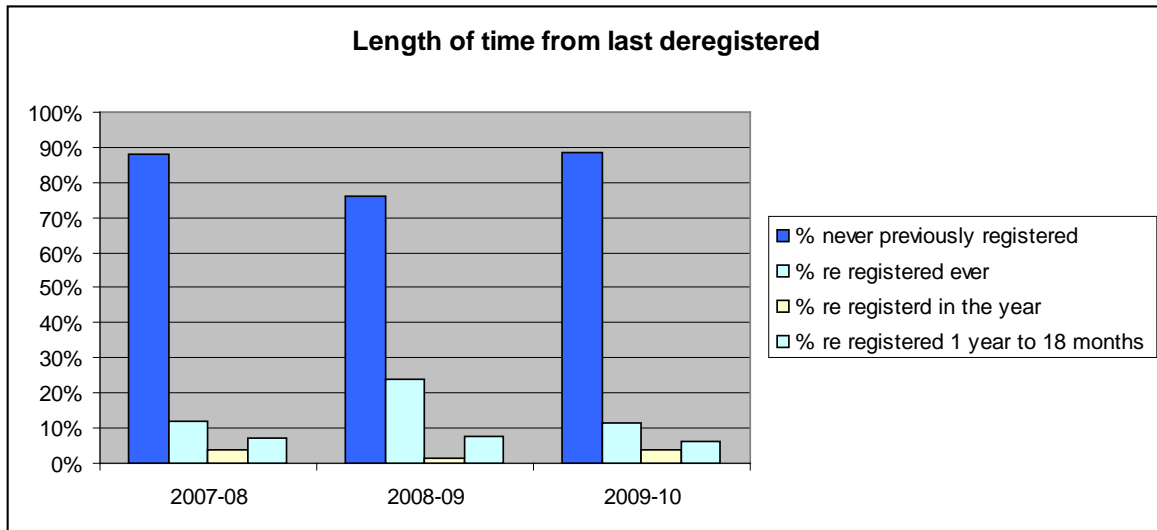
5.4 Seventy five children (65% of deregistrations) were deregistered because the perpetrator was removed, the home situation had improved or the risk had

been reduced compared to 84 children (56%) in 2008-09 and 75 children (65%) in 2009-10.

RE- REGISTRATIONS

There has been an decrease in the 3 year period of the number of children that have been re- registered on the child protection register (figure 4)

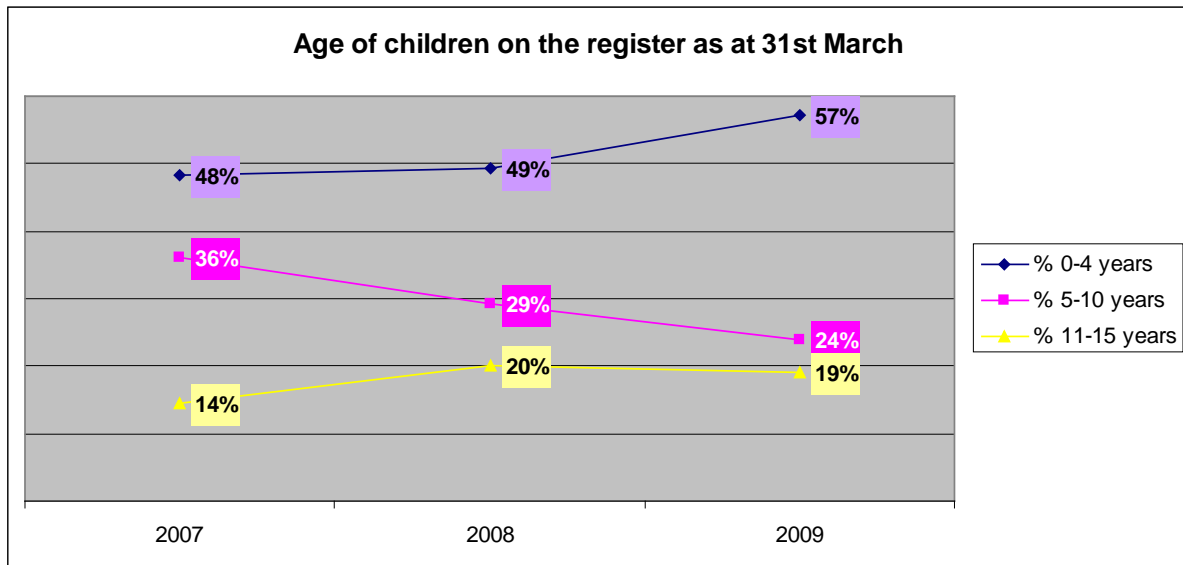
Figure 4



6. CHILDREN ON THE REGISTER AS AT 31ST MARCH 2010

6.1 The number of children's names on the Child Protection Register has fallen in each of the three years from 83 in 2008 to 75 in 2009 to 42 in 2010.

Figure 5

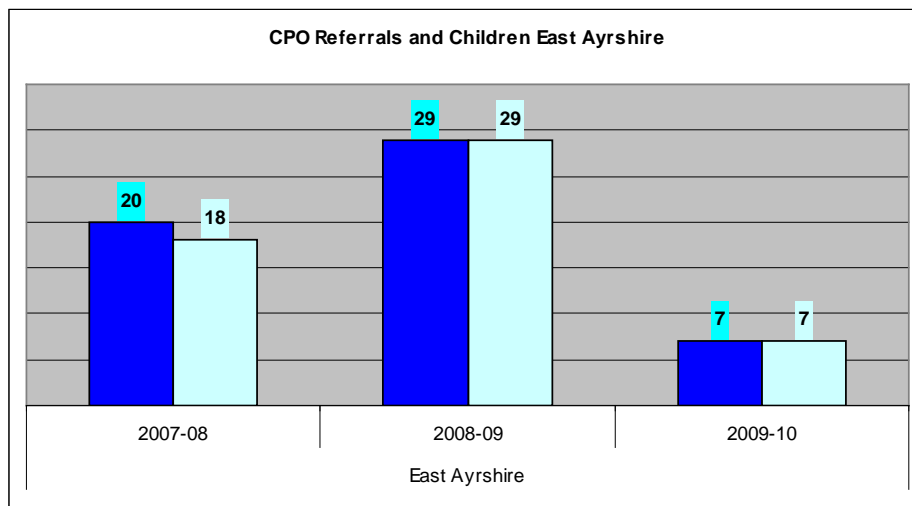


6.2 The main category of abuse/risk identified in this reporting period was evenly split between physical neglect (38%) and physical injury (36%). This split is in contrast to previous years when physical injury predominated (64%) in 2008 and (60%) in 2009. Emotional abuse went down from 19 (25 %) 2008 to 8 (19%) in 2010, there were no instances of emotional abuse recorded in 2008. Sexual abuse fluctuated from 9 (11%) in 2008 to nil in 2009 to 3 (7%) in 2010.

7. CHILD PROTECTION ORDERS (CPO REFERRALS)

7.1 Between 2007-08 and 2008-09 the number of CPOs granted in Scotland increased by 31%. In East Ayrshire in the same period the number of CPOs granted increased by 45% from 20 to 29. In the following year 2008-09 to 2009-10 the number of CPOs granted in East Ayrshire went down by 75% to 7 in contrast to the Scottish total which remained fairly constant with a decrease of less than 1%.

Figure 6



8. ANALYSIS OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

There has been a reduction in child protection referrals over the past three years. A slight increase is noted in the percentage of referrals resulting in a case conference. During this period the Initial response teams have been created and a robust process put in place for screening and carrying out initial assessments, ensuring only the children who need protection are in the child protection system.

The number of children's names on the child protection register has fallen over the 3 year period. The most significant trends relate to the increase in the amount of pre-school children on the register, and the increased registrations relating to physical neglect – the main category use for children living in the household with a parent with alcohol/substance misuse issues. Information regarding de-registrations illustrates that the average time for a child's name to be placed on the register is 6 months,

Cecilia Gray
Senior Manager Locality Services
September 2011



EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 7 SEPTEMBER 2010

3 YEAR COMPARISON OF SCRA STATISTICS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Child Protection Committee (CPC) members with a 3 year comparison of statistics produced by the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10.
- 1.2 To consider trends within the statistics both at local level and with reference to the national position where appropriate.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 SCRA produces a range of statistics at both local and aggregated national level.
- 2.2 Statistical reports for the CPC are prepared by SCRA on a quarterly and annual basis.

3. ANALYSIS

Hearings

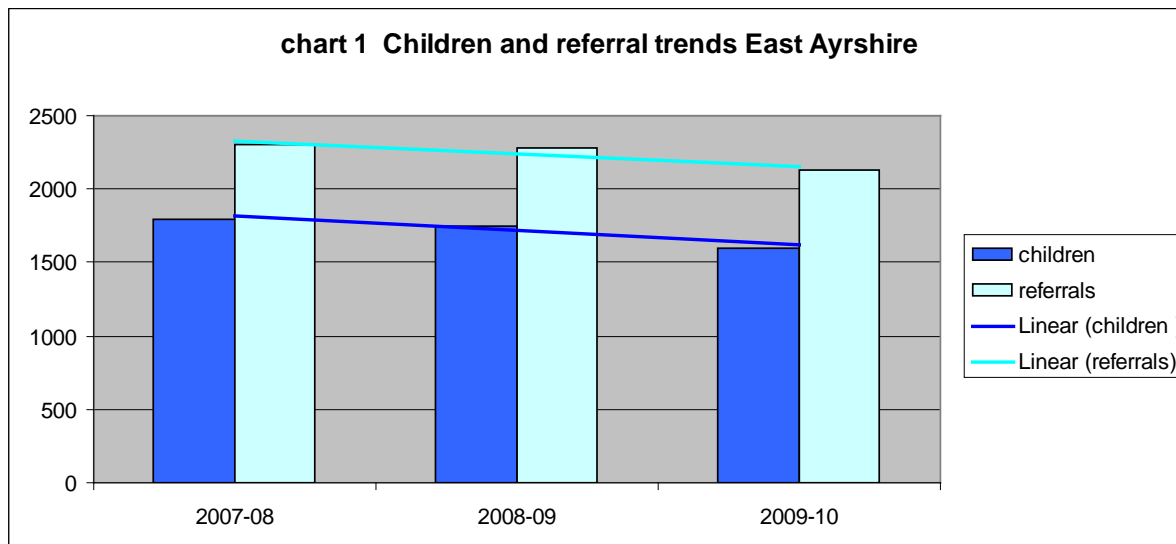
- 3.1 The number of hearings held in East Ayrshire decreased by 5% from 1481 in 2007-08 to 1404 in 2009/10. This was contrary to the national trend where the number of hearings increased by 3% in the same period.

Children Referred

- 3.2 In the years 2007-08 to 2008-09 the number of children referred in East Ayrshire fell by 2% from 1796 to 1752. This downward trend continued into 2009-10 when the number of children referred fell by a further 9% to 1602. This is contrary to the national trend where the number of children referred increased by just under 1% between 2007-08 and 2008-09 and by 8% the following year.

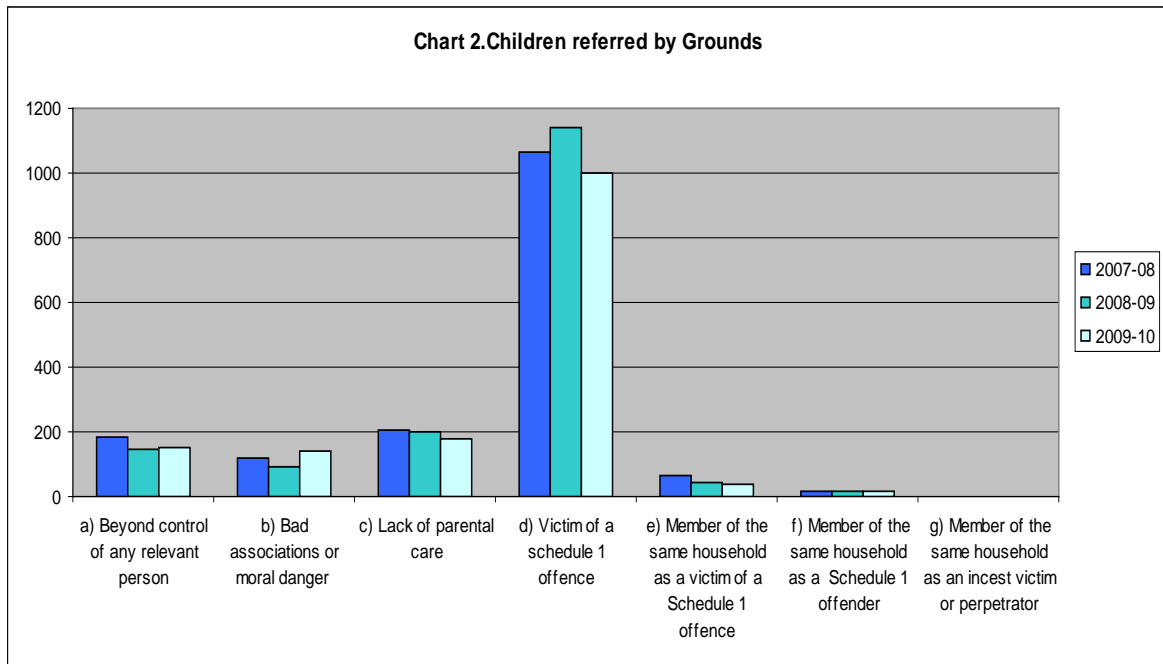
Referrals

3.3 The number of referrals in East Ayrshire went down by 8% from 2305 in 2007-08 to 2125 in 2009-10. Nationally there was a reduction of 12% in the same period. Chart 1 illustrates the trends both in children received and referrals.



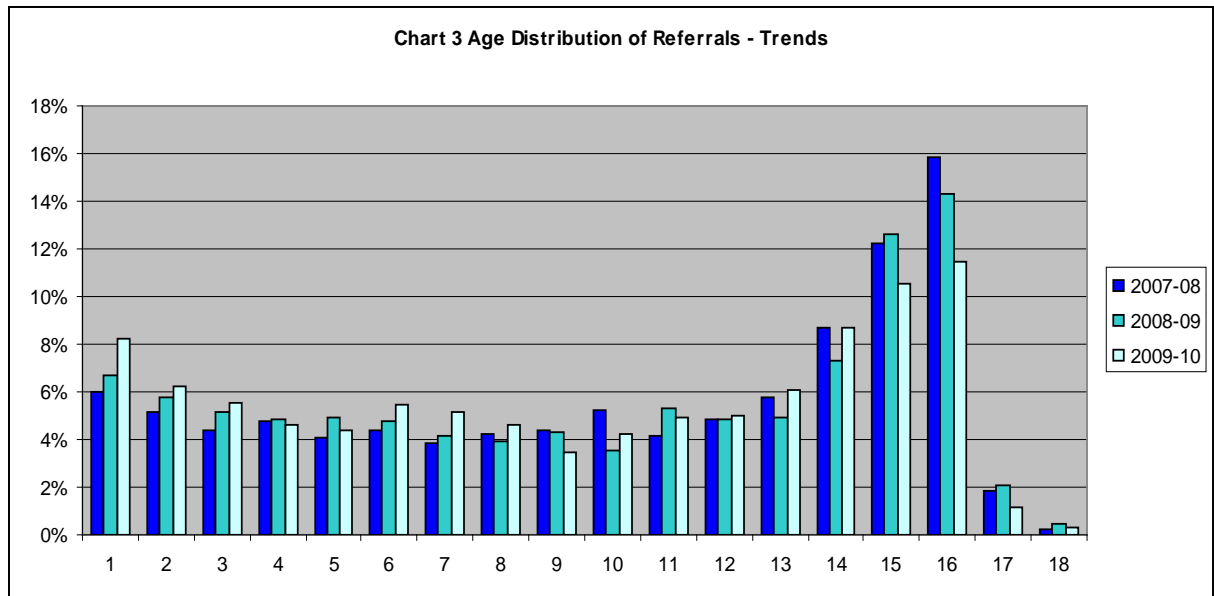
Grounds for Referral

3.4 The most common reason (ground) for children being referred to the Reporter was "Victim of a Schedule 1 offence". Between 2008-09 and 2009-10 the percentage of children referred for this reason decreased from 79% to 74% of all referrals. The number of children referred on the grounds of Lack of Parental Care has fallen by 1% each year since 2007-08 to 13% in 2009-10. The only reason for referral (ground) showing an increase in the period was "Bad associations or moral danger" which increased proportionately from 6% (of all grounds for referral) in 2007-08 to 10% in 2009-10. The changes in grounds for referral are illustrated in chart 2.



Age at Referral

3.5 Chart 3 shows the age distribution of children referred over the three years of this report. While the age distribution has remained fairly constant there has been a slight increase in the percentage of children aged three and under and a slight decrease in the referrals for children over twelve.



Referrals by Source and Offence /Non Offence Grounds

3.6 In 2007-08 there were a total of 3418 referrals. By 2009-10 the number of referrals had decreased by 17% to 2823. The majority of referrals

were for non offence reasons. The number of offence referrals decreased by 38% from 1042 in 2007-08 to 641 in 2009-10. In the same period referrals for care and protection went down by 8% from 2377 to 2185.

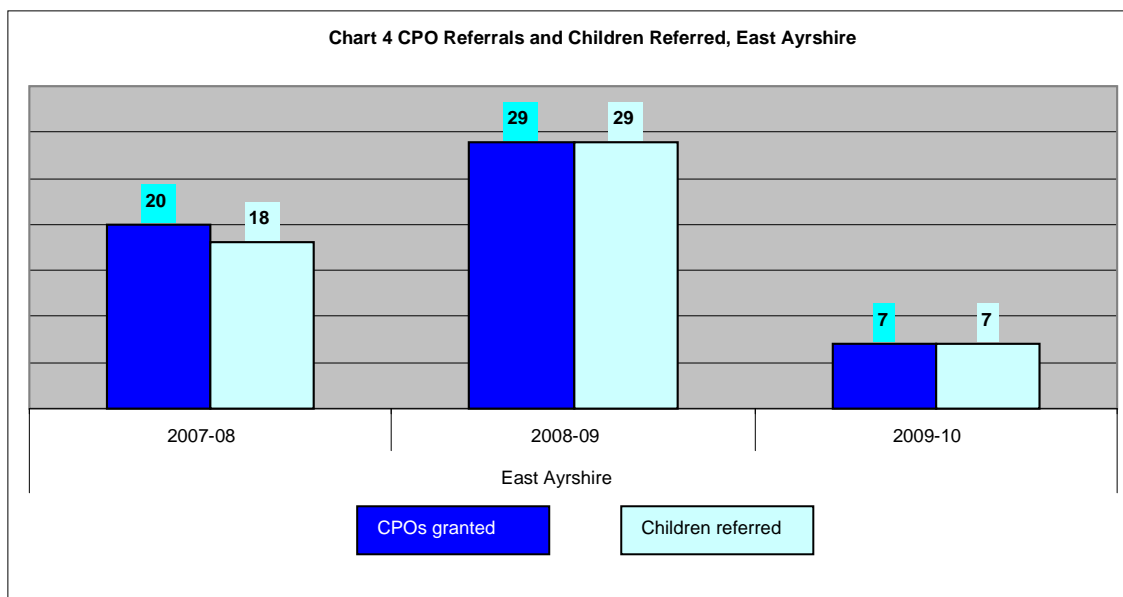
Source of Referrals

- 3.7 The distribution of the referral source has remained constant over the period of this report with the police being the main source of both offence and non offence referrals (91% in 2009-10.) Social Work Services and Education were the next most common sources of referral. The proportion of referrals from Social Work went down from 5% in 2007-08 to 4% in 2009-10 whilst the proportion Education referrals increased from 3% to 4% in the same period. Across Scotland Social Work was responsible for 7% of referrals and Education 3% in 2009-10.

CPO Referrals and Children Received

- 3.8 Between 2007-08 and 2008-09 the number of CPOs granted in Scotland increased by 31%. In East Ayrshire in the same period the number of CPOs granted increased by 45% from 20 to 29. In the following year 2008-09 to 2009-10 the number of CPOs granted in East Ayrshire went down by 75% to 7 in contrast to the Scottish total which remained fairly constant with a decrease of less than 1%.
- 3.9 The number of children referred as a result of CPOs in East Ayrshire increased from 18 in 2007-08 to 29 in 2008-09 before falling to 7 in 2009-10. In Scotland in the period 2007-08 to 2008-09 the number of children referred decreased by 31% compared to 61% in East Ayrshire, between 2008-09 and 2009-10 the number of children referred increased by 4 (0.6%) compared to a 76% decline in East Ayrshire.
- 3.10 In East Ayrshire in 2007-08 90% of CPOs resulted in the child being referred this was below the Scottish figure of 97%. In 2008 - 09 and 2009 -10 100% of CPOs resulted in the child being referred compared to 97% and 98% respectively in Scotland. Charts 4 illustrates the trend in East Ayrshire.

N.B. The East Ayrshire percentage figures require to be considered in the context of the small numbers which means that any individual change will have a significant impact on the percentage.

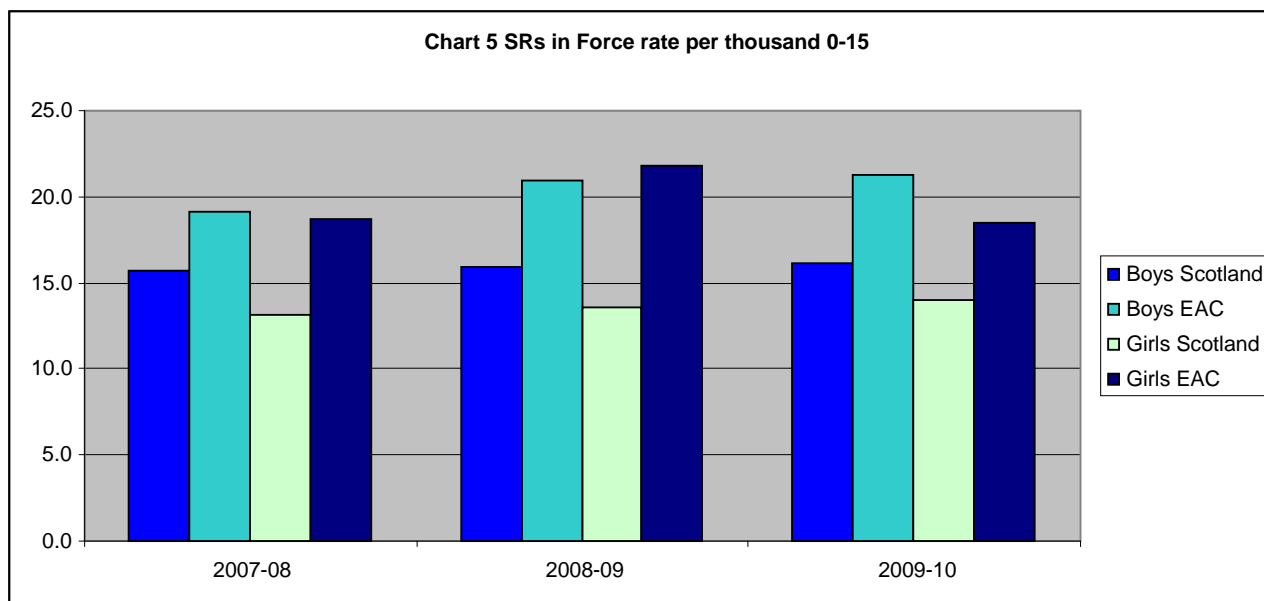


The Number of Children with Supervision Requirements in Force

3.11 In East Ayrshire the number of children with a Supervision Requirement (SR) in force increased by 25% from 408 in 2007-08 to 510 in 2008-09 and then fell by 16% to 428 in the following year. In the same period the number of children with SRs across Scotland rose by 2% each year to a total of 13817 children in 2009-10.

The rate of children with SRs in force per thousand of the population aged 0-15 showed a slight increase nationally from 14.5 in 2007-08 to 15.1 in 2009-10. The East Ayrshire rate was higher than the national rate at 19 per thousand in 2007-08 rising to 21 per thousand before falling again to 19.9 per thousand in 2009-10.

Chart 5 illustrates the difference in the rates per thousand by gender in the three years reviewed.



Secure Supervision Requirements

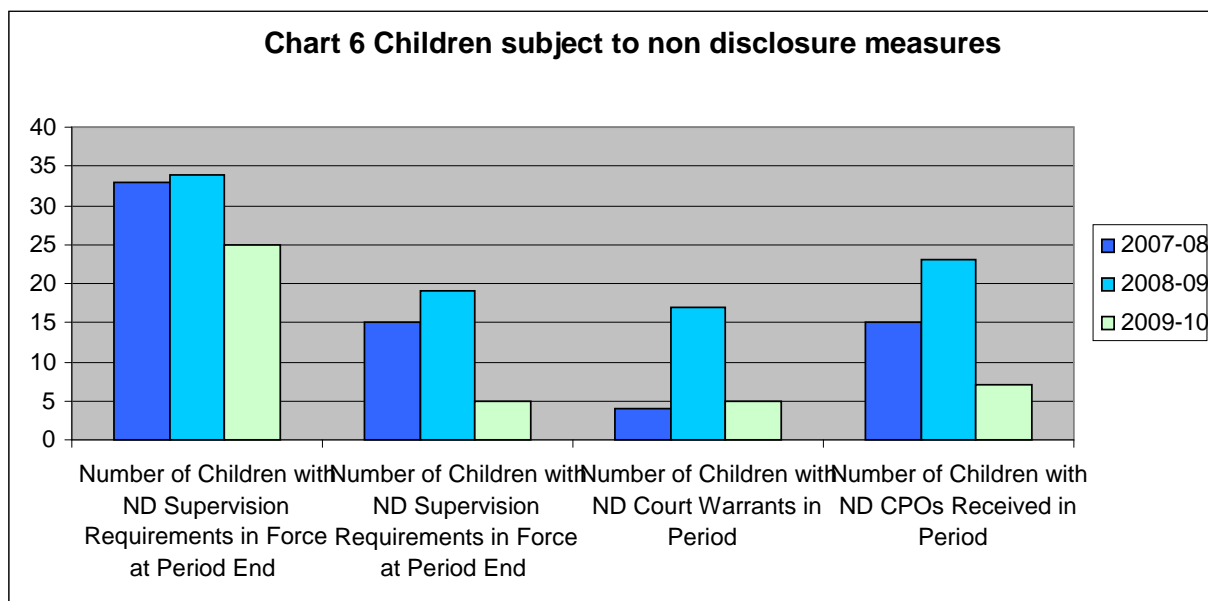
- 3.12 There was one secure SR in force in East Ayrshire in 2007-08 and 2009-10 and two in force in 2008-09.

The number of children with a Place of Safety warrant from the Hearing

- 3.13 The number of children with a Place of Safety warrant from the Hearing fell by 31% from 67 in 2007-08 to 46 in 2009-10, this was in contrast to the national trend where there was an 8% increase in the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 followed by a 2% fall in 2009-10. In terms of rate per thousand East Ayrshire at 2.1 per thousand was close to the national average of 2.2 per thousand in 2009-10. The rate per thousand for East Ayrshire in 2008/09 was 3 per thousand compared to the Scottish average of 2.3.

The number of children subject to Non Disclosure Measures

- 3.14 Chart 6 shows the trend in numbers of children subject to non disclosure measures. In East Ayrshire between 2007-08 and 2008-09 there was an increase in the number of children subject to non disclosure orders from 51 to 56 (10%) the Scottish average increased by 11%. In the following year the number of children subject to non disclosure orders decreased from 56 to 31 (49%) in East Ayrshire while the Scottish average fell by 8%.



4. HIGH LEVEL FINDINGS

4.1 The analysis of the data identifies the following high level findings.

- In contrast to the national position the numbers of hearings held decreased over the period.
- In contrast to the national position the number of children received decreased over the period.
- Whilst the number of referrals in East Ayrshire decreased over the period the rate of decrease was not as steep as the decrease nationally.
- “Victim of a schedule 1 offence continued to be the most common ground for referral although this declined from 79% to 74% in the period.
- There was a slight decrease in the number of referrals on the ground of “lack of parental care”.
- There was an increase in the number of referrals on the ground “bad associations or moral danger”.
- The referral age distribution pattern has not changed significantly. There was a slight increase in the percentage of children aged three and under and a slight decrease in referrals for children over twelve.
- The Police continued to be the main source of both offence and non offence referrals (91% in 2009-10).
- The number of referrals from Social Work services reduced from 4% in 2009-10. The national rate of referrals from social Work was 7%.
- The number of CPOs granted across Scotland in the period rose at a 1% rate whereas within East Ayrshire the number increased significantly between 2007-08 and 2008-09 and then decreased sharply between 2009-10. However the small numbers involved

means that it is not possible to draw any conclusions from this variation.

- There were significant variations in the number of children with Supervision Requirements in force compared to a steady 2% rise across Scotland. However, the rate per thousand of children with supervision Requirements within East Ayrshire has consistently been significantly higher than the national position.
- Although there were variations in the numbers of children with a place of safety warrant from the hearing, overall the rate per thousand was close to the national average.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 CPC members are requested to:

- (i) Consider the findings of the report.

Susan Taylor
Chair of East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee
September 2010