



EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

DEVELOPMENT DAY 22 JUNE 2009

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN EAST AYRSHIRE

Early Information and Pre Referral (GIRFEC) Group

- Implemented in June 2008.
- Weekly meeting allocating a Lead Agency to all children discussed.
- The meeting fully implements the GIRFEC principles helping address the needs of children and young people timeously.
- 19.06.2008 to 18.06.2009, 1943 cases have been considered by the GIRFEC group which involved 1297 individual children as some children have been discussed at more than one meeting.
- Enhanced information sharing at the weekly meetings have enabled more informed decisions to be made to maximise opportunities for safeguarding the wellbeing of children referred to the group.
- Excellent examples of all agencies working together which has ensured a more positive outcome for the children in East Ayrshire.
- ADAT funding has now been secured for a three year period to support activity of the group.

Annual Conference on 'Protection': 'Listening to Children's Voices and Corporate Parenting'

- Second Annual Conference took place on 25 February 2009.
- 113 delegates attended from various agencies across East Ayrshire.
- Key topics:-
 - 'These Are Our Bairns: a guide for community planning partnerships on being a good corporate parent', September 2008,

- 'The Authentic Warmth' approach to children and young people who have been rejected, neglected and abused;
 - The Carer's Perspective of being a Corporate Parent;
 - 'Who Cares' – Independent Advocacy Service for all Looked After Children and Young People in East Ayrshire;
 - The Voices of Children who have experienced Local Authority Care;
 - We Can and Must Do Better.
- The Conference evaluated very positively by all agencies.

Corporate Parenting Events

- Number of corporate events raising the profile of Looked After Children and Young People in East Ayrshire and the Corporate Parenting responsibilities of all agencies working with Looked after children and Young People in East Ayrshire.
- The feedback from these events was very positive.

Opening of the new SUNNYSIDE Children's Residential House in Auchinleck

- Unit opened in July 2008.
- Purpose built 6 bed unit that gives young people their own privacy while living in a supportive and caring environment.
- The facilities are 6 en suite bedrooms; education room; bathroom; lounge; activity room; kitchen; dining room; and, large garden.
- First inspection by the Care Commission in November 2008, Sunnyside received a very positive report which included:-

Excellent'	for Quality of Environment
Very Good'	for Quality of Care and Support
Very Good'	for Quality of Staffing
Good'	for Quality of management and Leadership

Expansion of 'Break the Silence' Project

- 'Break the Silence', a support group for female and male adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, has now expanded in staff and relocated to new premises within East Ayrshire.
- This year's figures standing at 153 females, 32 males and 16 families having been referred and benefited from the service.
- 'Break the Silence' also deliver specific training to the multi agencies within East Ayrshire and over the last year have delivered 11 training

days on sexual abuse, 6 on mental health first aid, 4 on mental health awareness and 15 presentations about the service to professionals across East Ayrshire.

Solihull Approach to Parenting in East Ayrshire

- East Ayrshire Integrated Children and Young People's Service Plan 2008/11 a key aim is '*to build the capacity of individuals, families and communities to secure the best outcomes for children and young people which reflect the universal and targeted approaches*'. This is founded on the principles of early intervention to ensure every child gets the best start in life.
- Two initiatives were implemented in the North and South of the East Ayrshire Authority based on the Solihull Approach to good parenting. This is an intervention measure to assist Health and Care Professionals who work with families and pre-school children with sleeping, toileting and behaviour difficulties.
- Staff from Education; Social Services and Health trained in this approach.
- Approach audited very positively and the findings are being considered by the Parenting Support Strategy Group. Recommendations will inform the wider parenting strategy work.

Practitioner's forum

- Multi agency forum meeting 4 times a year to discuss key issues and developments.
- Reviewed membership to strengthen representation.

Youth on line survey

- Online survey taken place to gather the views of children and young people.
- Survey results currently being compiled.

Multi- agency training calendar

- CPC training calendar has been reviewed and expanded.
- Calendar available on CPC webpage.