

**EAST AYRSHIRE CHIEF OFFICERS' GROUP  
(CHILD, ADULT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS)**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2009 AT 1500 HOURS IN  
THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S CONFERENCE ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,  
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

**PRESENT:** Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; Susan Taylor, Chair of the Child Protection Committee (Head of Service: Children, Families and Criminal Justice); and Eddie Fraser, Interim Chair of the Adult Protection Committee and Chief Social Work Officer (Head of Service: Community Care) all East Ayrshire Council; Chief Superintendent William Fitzpatrick, Strathclyde Police; and Wai Yin Hatton, Chief Executive and Maureen Bell, Nurse Consultant for Vulnerable Children, both NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

**ATTENDING:** Gillian Hamilton, Administrative Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

**APOLOGIES:** Fiona McQueen, Lead Director (Child Protection), NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

**CHAIR:** Fiona Lees, Chief Executive, East Ayrshire Council (Chair).

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. There were submitted and approved as a correct record minutes of the previous meeting of the Chief Officers' Group held on 5 May 2009 (circulated).

**SIGNIFICANT CASE REVIEW 1**

2. The Nurse Consultant for Vulnerable Children presented a final draft report dated 2 June 2009 (circulated) on a Significant Case Review.

The Chief Executive, NHS Ayrshire and Arran joined the meeting during discussion of this item.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to make further minor amendments to the report as detailed by the Group to the Nurse Consultant for Vulnerable Children;
- (ii) that the Review Panel report back to the Chief Officers' Group on the timescale for completion of an Action Plan addressing issues highlighted by the review;
- (iii) to note that the Action Plan will be taken forward by the Child Protection Committee's Performance and Audit Sub-Group;
- (iv) that the Chief Officers' Group receive a report back from the Child Protection Committee on progress in implementing the Action Plan in 6 months time; and
- (v) otherwise to note the report.

## **SIGNIFICANT CASE REVIEW 2**

3. The Chair of the Child Protection Committee (Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice) reported verbally on progress with a further Significant Case Review.

It was agreed:-

- (i) that the Review Panel will operate on behalf of the Child Protection Committee in receiving the final report from the Review Team;
- (ii) that the Review is reported to the Child Protection Committee and the Chief Officers' Group, with a focus on strategic issues i.e. key findings and recommendations;
- (iii) to note that the Chair of the Review Panel and the Chair of the Review Team are currently reformatting the report to take account of the above;
- (iv) that the finalised report be presented to the Child Protection Committee and the Chief Officers' Group in due course; and
- (v) that the above arrangements provide a basis for any future Significant Case Reviews to be carried out within East Ayrshire.

## **HMIE 3 YEAR INSPECTION CYCLE AND REVISED QUALITY INDICATORS**

4. There was submitted a report dated 7 May 2009 (circulated) by the Chair of the Child Protection Committee (Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice) which provided draft revised quality indicators and details of a new 3 year inspection cycle for the HMIE joint inspections of services to protect children and young people.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note the proposed 3 year cycle of HMIE inspections and revised quality indicators;
- (ii) to note that HMIE would revisit East Ayrshire as part of the next 3 year cycle of inspections;
- (iii) to note the receipt of correspondence from the Clinical Nurse Manager, Community Health Partnership the contents of which had implications for the 0.5 fte (full time equivalent) Child Protection Co-ordinator post currently held by an NHS employee;
- (iv) to note that the Child Protection Co-ordinators are pivotal to co-ordinating inspection activity and recruiting a replacement (on a job share basis) may be challenging;
- (v) that each agency revisit the issues highlighted during the previous inspection and focus on single and multi-agency workstreams which evidenced improvements;
- (vi) that key officers be indentified to drive matters forward, drawing on existing self assessment arrangements; and
- (vii) otherwise to note the report.

## **SELF EVALUATION AND LINK INSPECTOR**

5. There was submitted and noted correspondence dated 8 May 2009 (circulated) by HM Chief Inspector which advised that HMIE would assist Local Authorities in building capacity for self evaluation, leading to a more proportionate programme for inspection, by providing Link Inspectors. The Link Inspector for East Ayrshire would be Fiona McManus. Link Inspectors would contact lead officers within Child Protection Committees to discuss how best to take forward the support offered.

## **HMIE INSPECTION TIMETABLE**

6. There was submitted and noted correspondence dated 8 May 2009 (circulated) by HM Senior Chief Inspector which provided details of the Child Protection Inspection Programme 2009/10.

## **JOINT AREA REVIEW HARINGAY CHILDREN'S SERVICES AUTHORITY AREA AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN ENGLAND: A PROGRESS REPORT**

7. There was submitted a report dated 25 May 2009 (circulated) by the Chair of the Child Protection Committee (Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice) which advised on actions being taken to progress the recommendations of reports on the Joint Area Review Haringay Children's Services Authority Area and the Protection of Children in England Progress Report, both in an East Ayrshire context.

It was agreed:-

- (i) to note that both reports had been considered by the East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee on 19 May 2009 and the Performance and Audit Sub-group were now giving detailed consideration to the recommendations. The specific issues for East Ayrshire would be reported to the next Child Protection Committee;
- (ii) to note that recommendations were receiving wider consideration through a Pan Ayrshire Group and the National Chairs Forum;
- (iii) to note a further opportunity to share learning at a meeting of Local Authority Chief Executives to be held in September 2009; and
- (iv) otherwise to note the report.

## **MAPPA (MULTI AGENCY PUBLIC PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS) AND EAST AYRSHIRE'S ADULT PROTECTION COMMITTEE IMPLEMENTATION**

8. The Chair of the Child Protection Committee (Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice) provided a verbal overview of MAPPA and East Ayrshire Adult Protection Committee implementation and it was agreed:-
  - (i) to note that the MAPPA Co-ordinator has an Ayrshire wide remit;
  - (ii) to note that performance management information on sex offenders is in the early stages of development within the South West Scotland Community Justice area;
  - (iii) that Adult Protection and MAPPA be standing agenda items for future Chief Officers' Group meetings;

- (iv) that the Chair of the Child Protection Committee (Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice) link with the MAPPA Co-ordinator to arrange input to a future Chief Officers' Group meetings;
- (v) to note that a significant case review may require to be initiated within the MAPPA framework following the tragic deaths of a woman and her child in Cronberry, East Ayrshire. This matter will be progressed with Strathclyde Police;
- (vi) to note the challenge of recruiting a Chair for the Adult Protection Committee. Any nominations received would require to be considered by the Chief Officers' Group, however this should be carried out between meetings; and
- (viii) otherwise to note the report.

#### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETING OF THE CHIEF OFFICERS' GROUP**

9. It was agreed that the Administrative Officer liaise with Chief Officers to set meeting dates for the remainder of 2009.

The meeting terminated at 1650 hours.