

National Child Protection Committee Chairs Forum Note of Meeting held on 17th June 2009

1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and New Members

Bill opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. There were lots of new faces at the meeting and changes in membership of the Group. All those present introduced themselves stating their name and Council.

In attendance:

Anderson	Margaret	Falkirk
Atkinson	Bill	P &K
Baxter	Safaa	East Renfrewshire
Begg	Corinne	NESCPC
Bell	Susan	Renfrewshire
Black	Steve	Western isles
Briggs	Mike	D & G
Buchanan	Gillian	Scottish Government
Carsewell	Hugh	South Ayrshire
Carthy	Claire	Edinburgh
Drummond	Ross	Fife
Dunlop	Dougie	Argyll & Bute
Durowse	Melanie	Fife
Eadie	Bill	Stirling
Faggan	Sheila	East Lothian
Frankland	Myra	East Renfrewshire
Gibb	Kate	Shetland Islands
Huntingford	Tim	Renfrewshire
Kerr	Susan	Inverclyde
Laird	Catriona	Falkirk
Laird	Colin	Inverclyde
Lawrie	Adrian	ELBCPO
Ledingham	Don	East Lothian
Libby	Jack	OIC
Lovelock	Sara	Clackmannan

Marshall	Ivor	City of Edinburgh
McKerracher	Colin	NES
Mitchell	Anne	ELBCPO
Myles	John	Fife
Neilly	Bob	North Ayrshire
Nicol	Gillian	Scottish Borders
Norman	Juliet	South Lanarkshire
Ridgway	Jane	West Lothian
Ritchie	Anne	West Dunbartonshire
Robertson	Sharon	Angus
Rowe	Pene	Highland
Russell	Jillian	North Ayrshire
Scott	Louise	Western Isles
Smith	Beth	MARS
Swift	Fiona	North Lanarkshire
Taylor	Susan	East Ayrshire
Telfer	Astrid	ECPC
Walker	Pauline	Scottish Borders
Watkins	Helen	Shetland
Wood	Tom	East & Midlothian

Apologies received from:

Bell	Malcolm	Shetland
Burns	Diane	East Ayrshire
Cilliers	Dierdre	Clackmannan
Dodds	Alistair	Highland
Doyle	Brenda	South Lanark
Fegan	Mary	North Lanarkshire
McCarry	Rena	South Lanark
Milne	Frances	East Ayrshire
Simmons	John	East Dunbartonshire
Smee	Gillian	Orkney
Strang	Elizabeth	Argyll-Bute

2. **GIRFEC Learning Community Presentation**

Jenny Massey from Scottish Government gave a presentation on this item. Jenny outlined her role in this initiative and said she would be happy for anyone to contact her if they wished to discuss anything further. **Jenny's presentation is attached to this minute as a reference for members of the Committee.** Her email address is .massey@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Jenny emphasised that the site is **NOT** designed for protected information and users needed to make sure they recognised this.

Lots of work has gone into this initiative and it has the potential to develop further. GIRFEC has approximately 200 members and SG hoped to have some mini events at Victoria Quay to showcase this initiative. It was asked if membership was moderated. It is but members are generally known. However there is a process followed through whereby emails addresses are checked at random.

Bill thanked Jenny for her presentation. The system was easy to use and was a good model. Bill asked if there was the potential to have it developed for exclusive use of the National Group? Yes it could but that would be a very expensive route.

It was agreed that there would be further discussion on this item in order to decide how to take this initiative forward.

ACTION: ALL AND ITEM FOR NEXT MEETING

3. **Minute of Meeting held on 17.3.09**

The undernoted members should have been marked absent from this meeting:

Malcolm Bell	Shetland Council
Helen Watkins	Shetland Council
Safta Baxter	East Renfrewshire Council

4. Matters Arising

(i) **Data Standards/E-care**

This was on the agenda of the afternoon meeting with the Scottish Government officers. Bill to raise with Maggie prior to afternoon meeting.

ACTION: BILL EADIE

(ii) **Transfer of Children's Records Across Authorities**

This important issue has been on-going for some 12 months. Closure is required and an agreement requires to be reached. A "one more time request" for Councils to sign up to an agreed system will be circulated.

It was noted there was national systems in place for the transfer of health and education files but not for social work files. Each Council had their own system for social work and an agreed national system to cover all Councils must be agreed.

Agreed that Chairs speak to their Senior Officers in social work to establish whether or not they will sign up to an agreed system in order that the Committee can sign this off at their next meeting.

ACTION: ALL

An issue of protocol was highlighted vis a vis from child protection into adult protection. It was agreed that a clear understanding was required on this important area.

ACTION: Tim H working hard to talk to the issue of relationships between APC and CPC at the next meeting

(iii) **Protocol on Missing Child Alerts**

Bill is on the Committee of Children Missing from Education group. Bill updated on the discussions that had taken place at the Group. There is a good system in place for children when they are enrolled in primary schools. A child is allocated an SQA number which follows the child through the education system. However this does not cover under 5s or children in fee paying schools. Health have a system which seems to work.

E-care may be a solution. There are too many systems around and there is a need for a national database.

It was noted that SG would like to develop a national database on this issue but this would take a few years to set up. Noted that this was on the agenda for the afternoon meeting and Bill would report the outcome at the next meeting.

As an aside it was be noted that we do get requests when children are missing but are never told if they are found.

ACTION: BILL EADIE

(iv) Lead Officer: National C.P.C Chairs Forum

Bill hoped to get feedback at the afternoon meeting with SG Officers. It was hoped to secure a 3 year post which may have the potential for a secondment. The location of the Officer was an issue and it was suggested MARS would be a good location. Bill will report the outcome at the next meeting.

ACTION: BILL EADIE

(v) Risk Management of Sexually Aggressive/Aggressive Young People

Responses had been requested to allow a draft paper to be prepared on this issue. However, responses received have been limited. Responses do need to be sent back.

A "one last time request" will be issued to ask for comments to allow this paper to be prepared.

ACTION: ALL

(vi) National Minimum Standards, Guidance and Principles for Child Protection Committees

There is a need to find a mechanism to take this forward.

ACTION:

(vii) Participation in National Group

Bill will write to CPC Chairs about this item.

ACTION: BILL EADIE

5. N.S.P.C.C. National Survey of Child Safety and Victimization

Bill advised the meeting how Stirling Council had received this request. Other Officers at the meeting had received this request and were unhappy about the request.

ACTION: Agreed no action given that this was a general survey

6. M.A.R.S.

Beth Smith gave an update on this project. Beth asked if lead officers would let her have the correct address of who she was to communicate with. Expressions of interest to join the Board of MARS was required.

Beth's email address is .smith1@stir.ac.uk

It was the wish that CPC would be represented on the MARS group. There would be 4 meetings per year and they would be held at Stirling University. The first meeting is on 2.9.09 then December, March and June.

If no one else came forward Colin McKerracher offered to be the representative.

Beth's presentation is attached to this minute for members reference.

ACTION: ALL

7. HMIe Inspections

Feedback from individual CPCs on their inspections as underntoed:

Perth and Kinross	published last week	good
Scottish Borders	published April	positive, good report
Falkirk	due tomorrow	reasonably positive
West Dumbarton	follow through	good

It was noted that the next round of inspections had been announced. The location of the inspection was an issue which will require further discussion. It was agreed to invite a representative of SWIA to a future forum.

8. **Appointment of Vice-Chair of National CPCC Forum**

It was unanimously agreed that Safta Baxter of East Renfrewshire Council be appointed as the Vice-Chair.

9. **Date of Next Meeting**

16th September 2009