

Department of Educational and Social Services

Executive Director: Graham Short

Head of Service: Children & Families & Criminal Justice: Susan Taylor

If telephoning please ask for:

Direct Dial : 01563 576920

Fax : 01563 553507

E-Mail : susan.taylor@east-ayrshire.gov.uk



Our Ref: ST/JB

Your Ref:

Date: 13 July 2009

Agenda Item 6 (8)

Superintendent Dougie Robertson
Kilmarnock Police Office
'U' Division Headquarters
10 St Marnock Street
Kilmarnock
KA1 1TJ

Dear Dougie

SUBJECT: GIRFEC GROUP

Further to our very helpful discussion on Friday 19 June 2009, I write to confirm our decisions:

- Dougie and May agreed that they would revise the existing protocol and flowchart for the group. This will be in an attempt to evolve into a multi-agency screening group, which will seek to avoid single agency referrals to the Reporter.
- Celia and Marlyn will develop specific guidance for staff which builds on the recently agreed information sharing protocol. We agreed this is required as the group has been increasingly used to ensure information exchange between agencies – the group should not exist for this purpose.
- We agreed that referrals made to social work need to be actioned by social work. This involves information gathering and initial screening. This task should not be delayed to enable the referral to be tabled at the GIRFEC Group. Logically, this means that social work staff will not routinely table referrals at the group, although this is dependent on information being appropriately shared between staff, including Police intelligence.

We also agreed that the primary purpose of the group is to: -

- Respond appropriately to the needs of children/young people at the right time, in the right way, by the right person.
- Ensure early intervention on a single or multi-agency basis which prevents children/young people being subject to compulsory measures of supervision.

Council Offices
John Dickie Street
Kilmarnock
KA1 1HW

Due to the holiday period, we agreed that this work should be completed by the end of August 2009. I will reconvene our group at that time.

In the meantime, I will advise the Chief Officers Group and the Child Protection Committee of our discussion and actions.

I trust this is helpful, and is a fair reflection of our discussion.

Yours sincerely

Susan Taylor
Head of Service: Children & Families & Criminal Justice



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Date: 13 July 2009

Ms Celia Gray
Service Manager (Area Services)
Educational & Social Services
Civic Centre South
John Dickie Street
Kilmarnock
KA1 1HW

Dear Celia

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Date: 13 July 2009

Ms Marlyn Nicol
Child Protection Advisor
East Ayrshire Community Health Partnership
Health Centre
2 The Tanyard
Cumnock

Dear Marlyn

SUBJECT: GIRFEC GROUP

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Our Ref: ST/JB

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Date: 13 July 2009

Ms May Dunsmuir

Authority Reporter

SCRA

35 Carrick Street

Ayr

KA7 1NS

Dear May

SUBJECT: GIRFEC GROUP

Further to our very helpful discussion on Friday 19 June 2009, I write to confirm our decisions:

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