

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2009 AT 1400 HOURS
IN MEETING ROOM1, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Fiona Lees, Chief Executive; Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services; and Susan Taylor, Chair of the Child Protection Committee (Head of Service: Children, Families and Criminal Justice), all East Ayrshire Council; Detective Inspector David Summerhill, Strathclyde Police; Wai Yin Hatton, Chief Executive; and Fiona McQueen, Lead Director, (Child Protection), both NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

ATTENDING: Diane Burns, Child Protection Co-ordinator and Gillian Hamilton, Administrative Officer, East Ayrshire Council.

APOLOGIES: Elizabeth Morton, Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support, East Ayrshire Council and Eddie Fraser, Interim Chair of the Adult Protection Committee and Chief Social Work Officer (Head of Service: Community Care), both East Ayrshire Council.

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

**EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE – HOW WELL DO WE
PROTECT CHILDREN AND MEET THEIR NEEDS – HMIE SELF EVALUATION
FRAMEWORK REPORT SEPTEMBER 2009**

1. There was submitted the East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee's Joint Self Evaluation Report dated 22 September 2009, together with supporting documents (all circulated) which outlined the Committee's self evaluation journey, and illustrated how agencies worked together on a continuous basis to improve Child Protection Services and arrangements. In addition, the documents highlighted the key improvements which had been made in strengthening Child Protection Services in East Ayrshire since the publication of the last inspection report in January 2008.

Having considered the report and supporting documents, it was agreed:

- (i) to incorporate amendments agreed during discussion at the meeting;
- (ii) that any further revisions be forwarded to the Child Protection Co-ordinator by 7 October 2009 for incorporation into the report and supporting documents;
contact diane.burns@east-ayrshire.gov.uk;
- (iii) that the Child Protection Co-ordinator circulate the revised report and supporting documents to the Chief Officers' Group by 12 October 2009; and
- (iv) that the revised report and supporting documents be submitted to a further meeting of the Chief Officers' Group to be held week commencing 19 October 2009, the arrangements to be confirmed,* prior to submission to the HMIE Inspectors on 26 October 2009.

*** subsequently agreed Tuesday 20 October 2009 at 0900 hours in the Chief Executive's Conference Room, Council Headquarters, London Road, Kilmarnock.**

**EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09
AND BUSINESS PLAN 2008/11**

2. There was submitted the Child Protection Committee's final version Annual Report 2008/09 and Business Plan 2008/11 which incorporated a Progress Report 2008/09 and Action Plan 2009/10 (circulated). It was agreed to forward comments on the Annual Report and Business Plan to the Child Protection Co-ordinator by 9 October 2009.

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT

3. The Chair highlighted that a serious incident occurred on 4 October 2009 when two teenage girls jumped to their death from the Erskine Bridge. The incident was being investigated by the Police, but it is understood that there are no suspicious circumstances surrounding the deaths. It was noted that one of the young people was known to professionals in East Ayrshire as she had previously lived with extended family in the area. The Council had not been involved in making her current placement as an English local authority held legal responsibility for her care, but given that a national inquiry is likely, staff will assist with the inquiry process as required.

The meeting terminated at 1640 hours.