



CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

JOINT SELF EVALUATION REPORT

Development of Child Protection Committee

DEVELOPMENT OF CPC

Overall Evaluation

GOOD

Evaluation of current service and practice

How good are we now?

- The EACPC is committed to ongoing self evaluation and has promoted the use of the quality indicators as a framework for evaluating practice since they were published by HMle in 2005. The committee has adopted a rigorous approach to self evaluation, with reflection, learning and improvement being central to this activity. We have recognised that self evaluation is an evolving process which takes place at all levels – at a strategic level, at a management level and at an operational level.
- Of key importance in the self evaluation process is ongoing review of the workings of the CPC. This ensures further refinement of the practices and processes in place progress and ensures strengthened strategic leadership, improved co-operation and better connectedness.
- One of the methods that the committee has used in its own self evaluation was to hold two development sessions in 2009.
- The first development session reviewed the: -
 - o The constitution of the committee, its objectives and purpose
 - o The vision statement of the committee was reviewed and agreed as being 'working together to keep children and young people safe'
 - o Role of the chief officers Group, its relationship to the Child Protection Committee and the reporting arrangements
 - o Chairing arrangements- options were explored in relation to an independent chair, joint chair of the adult and child protection committees or a key agency chair. It was agreed that a key agency chair was the most beneficial option. The chairs appointment should be reviewed every two years and based on person specification rather than rota. It then confirmed Susan Taylor in her new position as chair of the CPC.
 - o Membership- the membership of the committee was reviewed and agreed that it would be strengthened by membership from Criminal Justice Social Work and representation from the Alcohol and Drug partnership. Agreed needed to look at individual member's responsibilities and involvement with other structures/strategies. This has been completed and clarifies the links the CPC has with other planning structures. It was agreed that membership would be reviewed every 2 years to evaluate individual contribution to Child Protection Committee.
 - o Engagement with the voluntary sector. The committee recognised that this was an area for further development. Piece of work taking place to highlight the options for development in this area
 - o The committee also discussed the practical matters in relation to

administrative support, agenda, minutes and meetings. It has subsequently been agreed that members papers will be available via the development of a CPC portal. This ensures members access to papers and documents as soon as they are available.

- o Budget it was agreed that a financial plan be established for the CPC.
- The Child Protection Committee also reflected on achievements to date and development of the 2009/10 work plan, with a strong focus on continuous improvement activity.
- A second development session took place in August 2009 involving members of the Chief Officers group and the CPC. This was the first joint development session to take place in East Ayrshire. One of the key benefits of this time was to strengthen the links between the CPC and the COG. The session looked at further development of the annual report and business plan, a joint self evaluation exercise and information in relation to the forth coming inspection.

OUTCOMES

- Strengthening of joint leadership and planning
- Strengthening the links between the Child Protection Committee and the Chief Officers Group.
- Clear partnership working in the development and reviewing of work plans

How do we know? What key outcomes have we achieved? Impact and benefits
Please include evidence of policies, procedures, protocols, minutes of meetings, publicity material, reports, etc.

- CPC minutes
- COG minutes

Examples of Good Practice

- Development of the CPC newsletter to be sent to practitioners in East Ayrshire and placed on the CPC webpage to increase awareness of the work of the child protection committee
- Rolling programme of CPC road show briefing sessions to highlight the work of the committee to take place throughout the East Ayrshire area.
- Annual Conference to highlight the work of the committee and to promote good practice, this years theme was 'listening to children's voices' and 'Corporate Parenting', next year planning an event in relation to risk assessment.
- Annual cycle of CPC development sessions

How Good Can We Be? Areas for Improvement

- Strengthen links with practitioners via links between the CPC and the practitioners forum
- Strengthen links between CPC and voluntary sector