



EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 06 SEPTEMBER 2011

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR PERIOD 1 April 2011 to 30 June 2011

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee (EACPC) of Child Protection Activity in East Ayrshire for the period 1 April 2011 to 30 June 2011.
- 1.2 The data informing this report was submitted by Social Work and has been formulated taking information from the Social Work Information System and in discussion with the Locality Service Managers. Data was also submitted from Child Protection Team NHS Ayrshire & Arran, Ayrshire Family Protection Unit, Strathclyde Police and information from the Early Intervention and pre-referrals weekly monitoring (GIRFEC group) database.

2. OVERVIEW

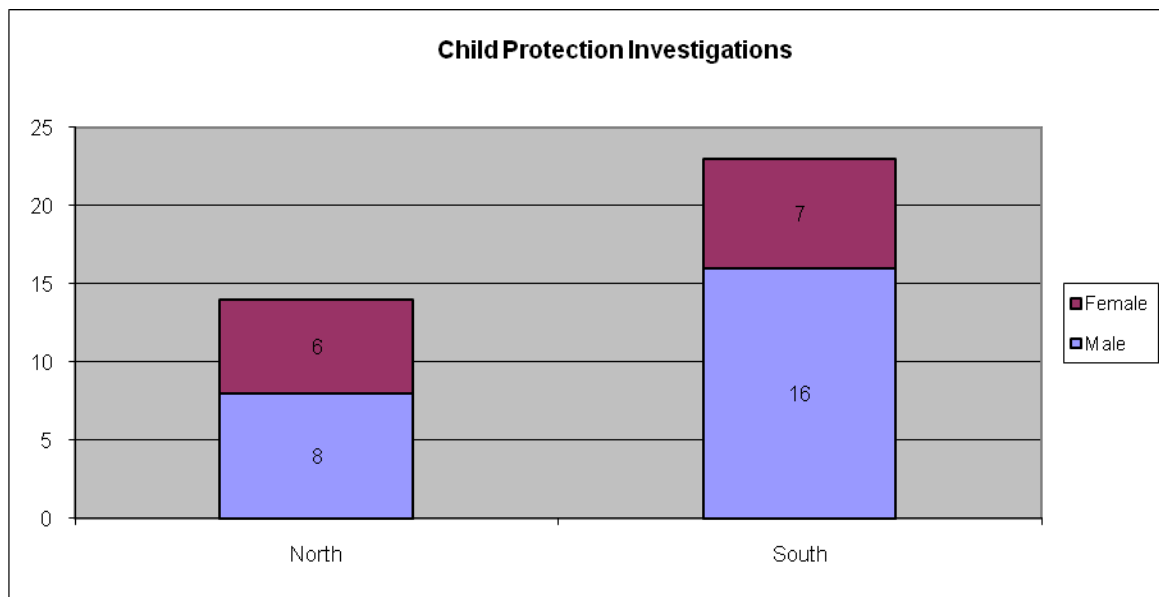
- 2.1 This quarter the number of children on the East Ayrshire's Child Protection Register has decreased from the previous quarter, with 58 children's names on the Register (38 family groups) as at 30 June 2011, compared to 59 children (36 family groups) during the last quarter.

3. FURTHER ANALYSIS OF DATA

3.1 Child Protection Referrals

The agreed EACPC Framework for Performance and Management information details the information in relation to Social Work referrals that we endeavour to present to the committee in the future. Strathclyde Police received 169 child referrals from 01 April 2011 to 30 June 2011. In this quarter there were 241 reported domestic incidents involving children. This is a decrease from 258 in the last quarter.

3.2 Child Protection Investigations



During the quarter:

- A total of 37 children were subject to Child Protection Investigations (20 family groups), 23 less children than the last quarter
- 14 of the children (7 family groups) live in the North of the Authority
- 23 of the children (13 family groups) live in the South of the Authority
- For the North, this was a decrease of 18 investigations for individual children from previous quarter
- For the South it was a decrease of 9 investigations for individual children from the previous quarter

The large decrease in investigations may be in part accounted for by the reduction in contacts made to the department this quarter in relation to child protection concerns:

- For the quarter 1 January 2011 to 31 March 2011 there were 58 contacts made to the department in relation to child protection concerns.
- For this quarter there were 44 contacts made to the department in relation to child protection concerns.

3.3 Age at time of Investigation

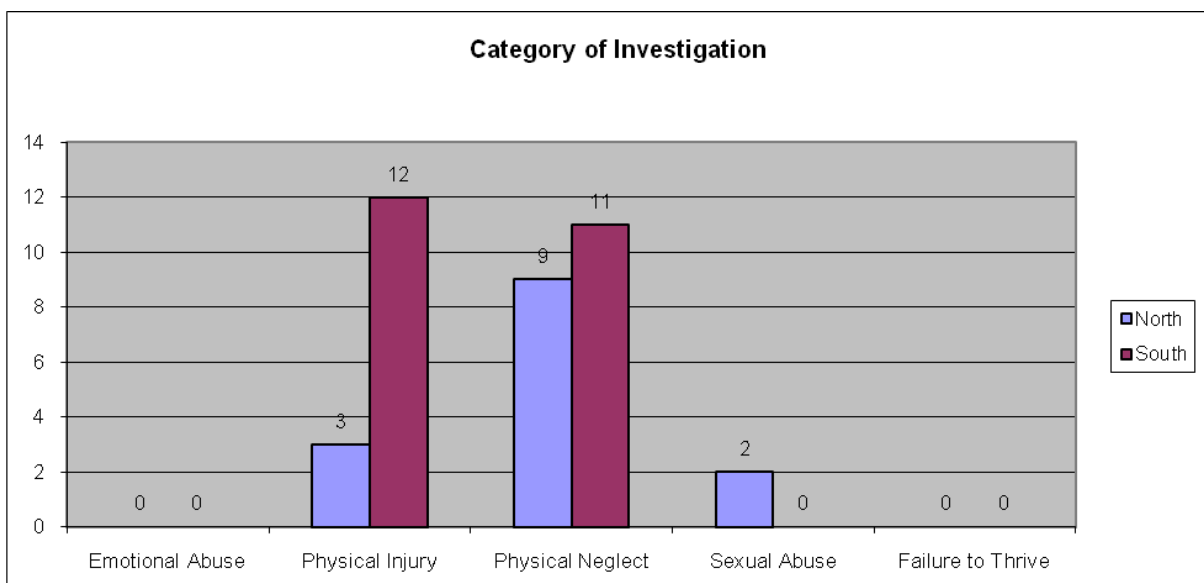


Children aged 1-5 years make up the largest group of children about whom there were concerns across the authority overall.

Of the 37 investigations the children were the following ages:

- Birth to 1 year : 5 children (1 less child from the previous quarter)
- 1-5 years : 16 children (8 less children from the previous quarter)
- 5-12 years : 15 children (the same as the last quarter)
- 12-16 years : 1 child (13 less children from the previous quarter)
- 16+ : 0 children (1 less than the previous quarter)

3.4 Child Protection Investigations by category



These figures highlight that Physical Neglect was the main category of concern across the Authority which is a change from last last quarter when Physical Injury was the predominant concern across the authority.

The identified categories of concern that led to the investigations of the 37 children were as follows:

- Emotional abuse : 0 children were identified for whom this was the overriding concern (there were 3 last quarter)
- Physical injury : 15 children (11 boys and 4 girls, a decrease of 13 children investigated under this category from the last quarter)
- Physical neglect : 20 children (12 boys and 8 girls, an increase of 2 children investigated under this category from the last quarter)
- Sexual abuse : 2 children (1 boy and 1 girls, a decrease of 9 children from the last quarter)
- Failure to thrive : There were no investigations in this category which is in keeping with the last quarter.

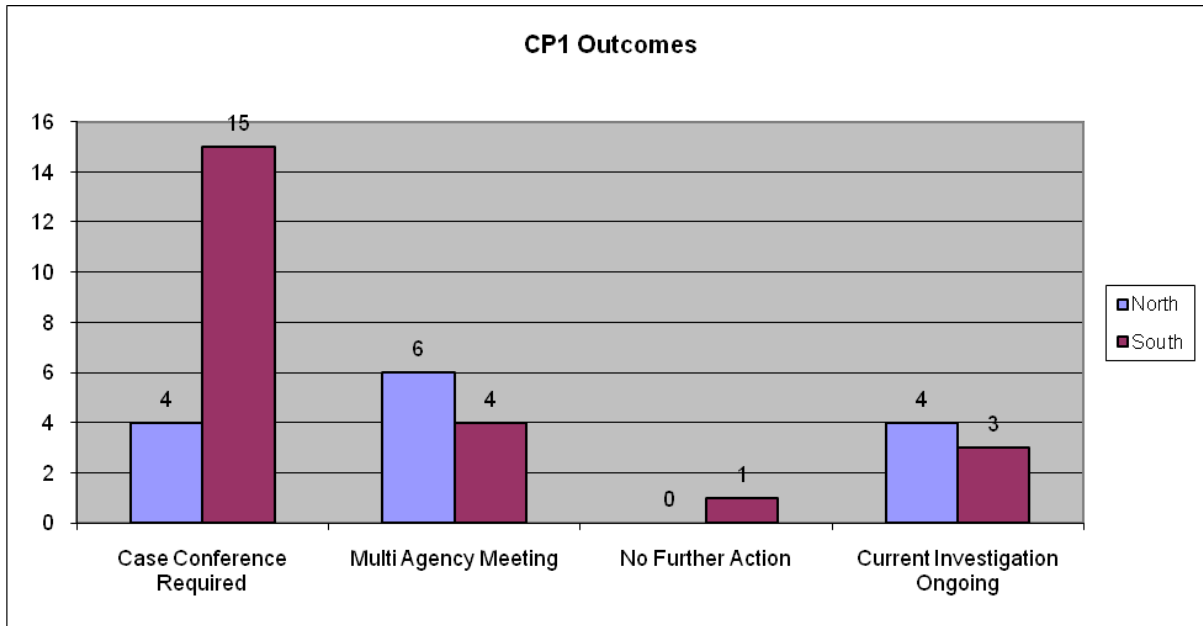
3.5 Medical Examinations

(Data awaited from Health)

3.6 Joint Investigative Interviews (JII)

In this quarter there were 6 Joint Investigative interviews conducted by the Police and social work.

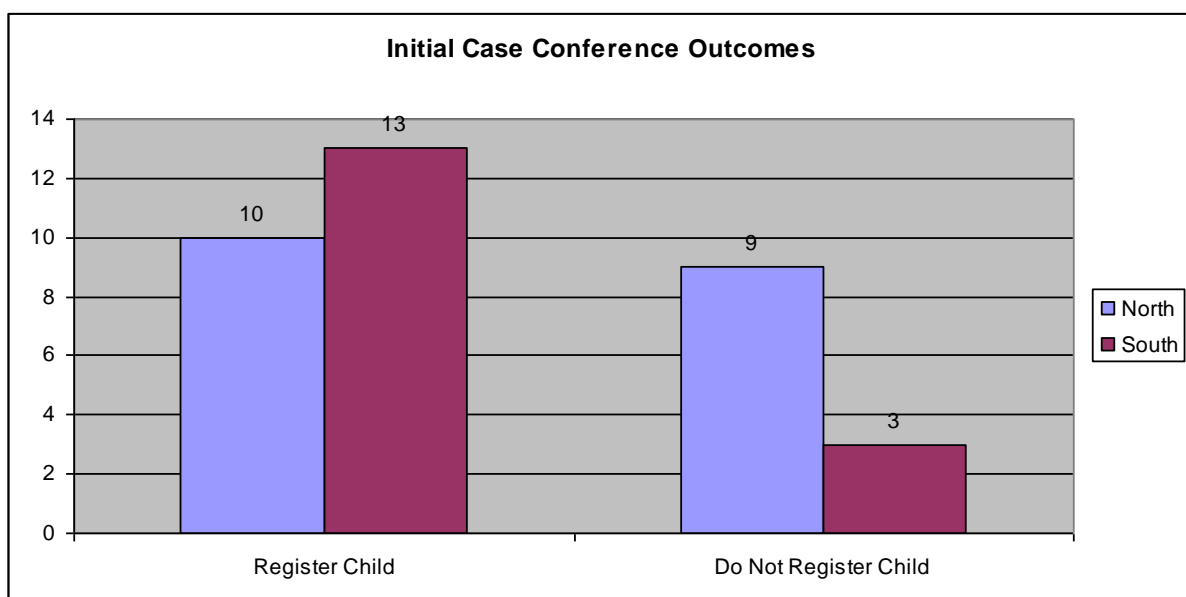
3.7 Initial Child Protection Investigations (CP1): Outcomes



Of the 37 investigations that were carried out:

- 19 of the investigations resulted in a Child Protection Case Conference
- 10 children were discussed at a multi-agency meeting
- 1 of the investigations resulted in no further action being taken
- 7 investigations (4 family groups) require to be completed for this quarter

3.8 Initial Case Conference - Outcomes

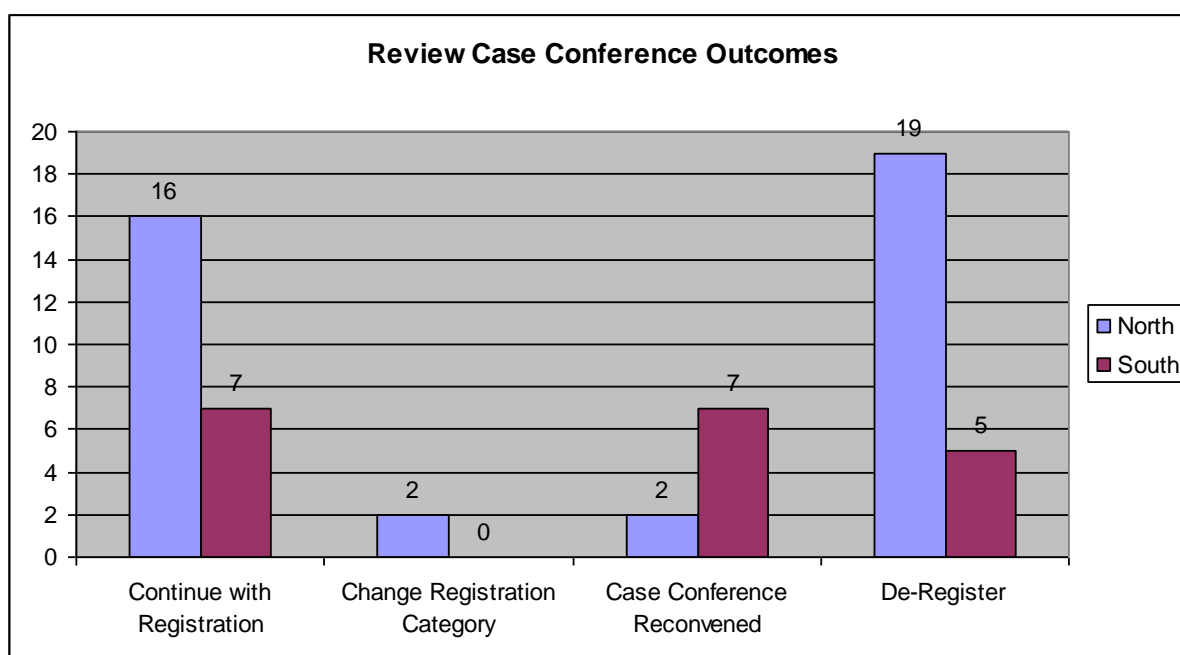


35 children were discussed at Initial Child Protection Case Conference this quarter, a decrease of 6 children from the last quarter. Of these:

- 23 were placed on the Child Protection Register
- 6 of the 23 children registered had previously been the subjects of Child Protection Registration (4 family groups)
- 12 children were discussed and a decision taken not to place them on the Child Protection Register

Of the 6 children who were reregistered the circumstances related to placement breakdown, parental substance misuse relapse and further legal orders needing to be obtained to secure a placement.

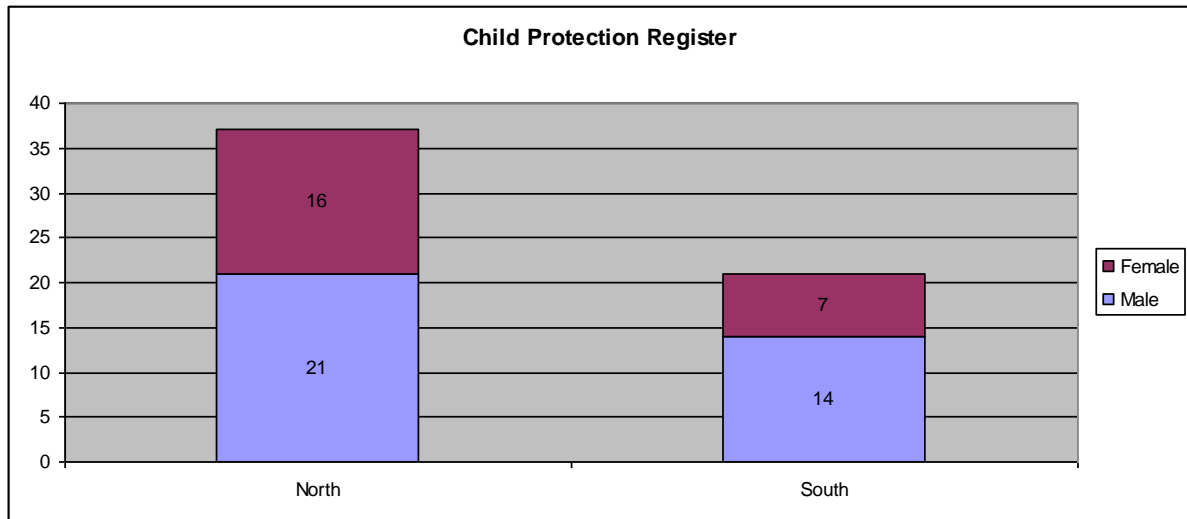
3.9 Review Case Conferences



The Registration of 58 children was reviewed at case conference for this quarter. Of these:

- 23 children continued on the Register with the original category of registration
- 2 children had the category of registration changed
- 9 children had to have their meetings reconvened due to the number of apologies submitted or issues with reports not being available
- 24 children were removed from the register

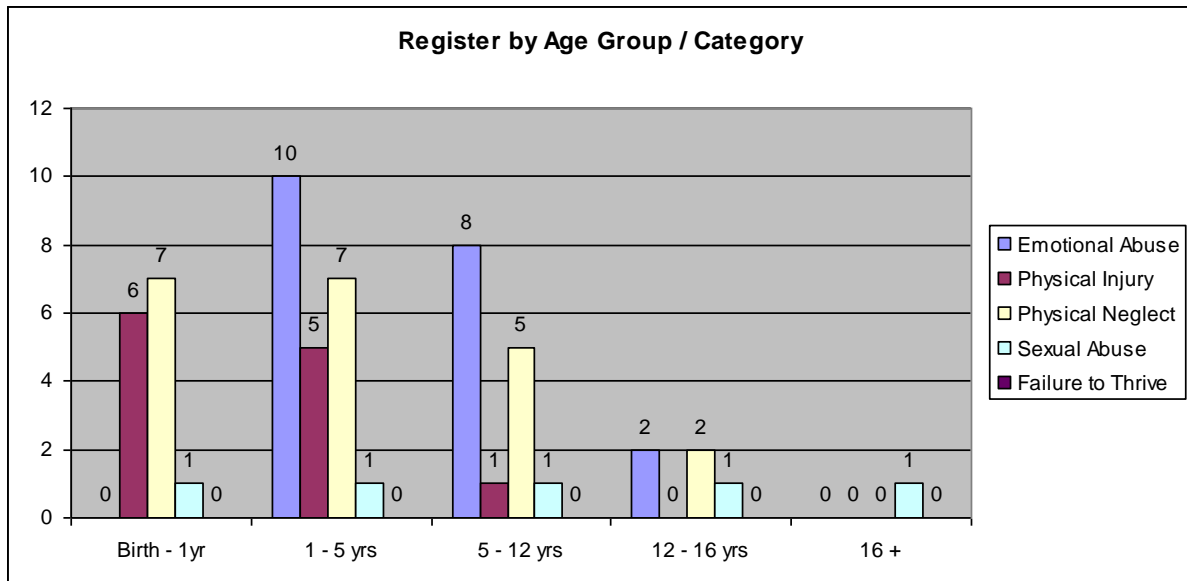
3.10 Child Protection Register as at 30 June 2011



At the end of the reporting period there were a total of 58 children (38 family groups) on the Child Protection Register, the age ranges as follows:

- Birth -1 year : 14 children, an increase of 2 from the previous quarter
 - 1-5 years : 23 children, an increase of 2 from the previous quarter
 - 5-12 years : 15 children, a decrease of 2 from the last quarter
 - 12-16 years : 5 children, a decrease of 4 children from the last quarter
 - 16 + : 1 child, an increase of 1 from the last quarter. This child was considered to be at significant risk from, and perpetrating sexual abuse
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- Graph 3.8 provides a more detailed analysis regarding the age of children on the Register
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- 37 of the children live in the North of the Authority (24 family groups)
 - 21 of the children live in the South of the Authority (14 family groups)

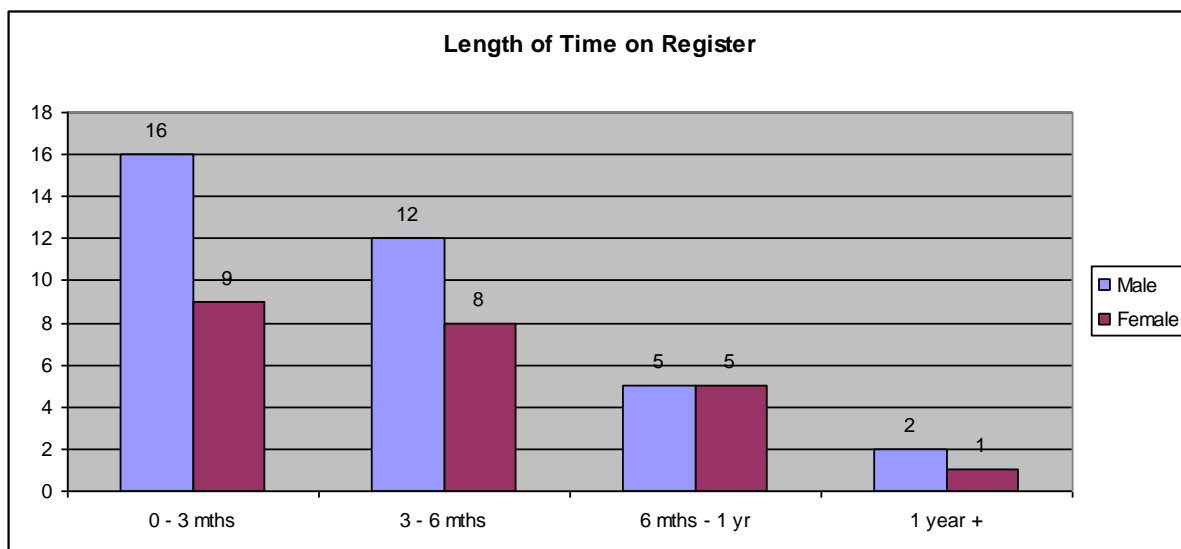
3.11 Child Protection Register by Age Group / Category



Out of 58 children on the Child Protection Register the registration categories were:

- Emotional abuse : 20
 - Physical injury : 12
 - Physical neglect : 21
 - Sexual abuse : 5
 - Failure to thrive : 0
- The categories of Emotional abuse, Physical Injury and Sexual Abuse all increased within this quarter compared to the last
 - The number of children registered under Physical Neglect decreased by 7
 - As in the previous quarter Failure to Thrive was not the main presenting concern for any children
 - Whilst the number of children referred in respect of child protection concerns has dropped by more than a third over the quarter, the number of children on the Child Protection Register has remained almost the same

3.12 Length of time on the Register as at 30 June 2011



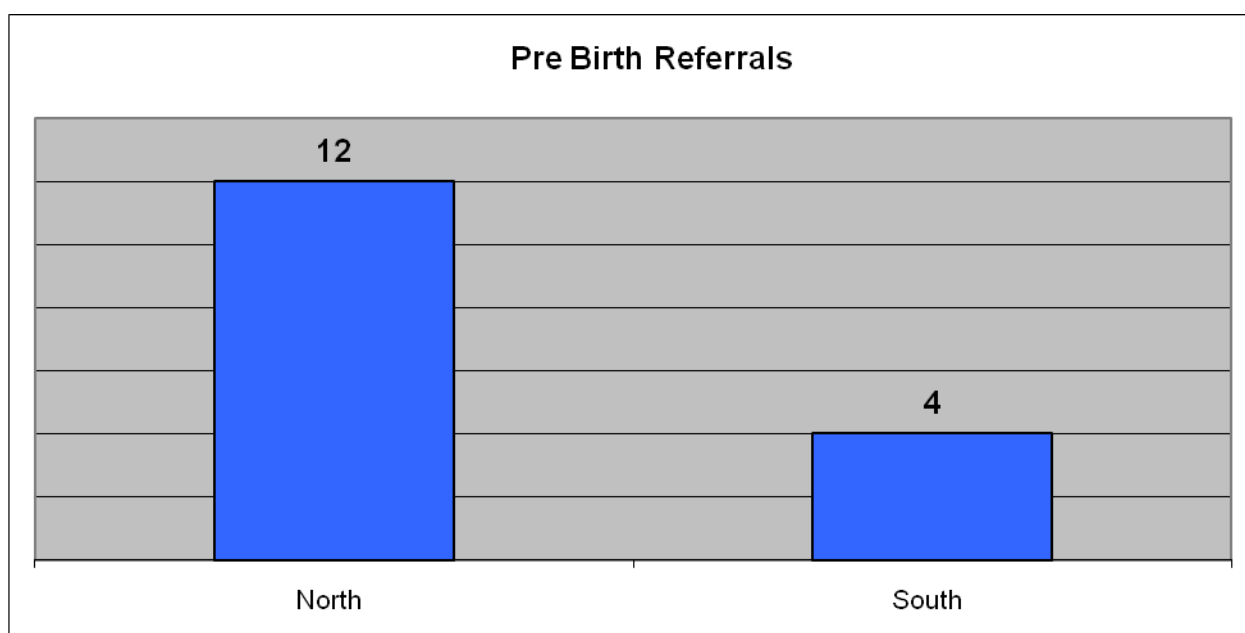
Length of time on the Register is as follows:

- 0-3 months : 25 children, compared to 37 last quarter
- 3-6 months : 20 children, compared to 13 last quarter
- 6mth -1yr : 10 children, compared to 4 last quarter
- 1yr + : 3 children, compared to 5 last quarter

Registration of 3 children (3 family groups) for more than a year was due to the completion of an AIMS assessment, parental incarceration and ongoing concerns which led to the child being accommodated.

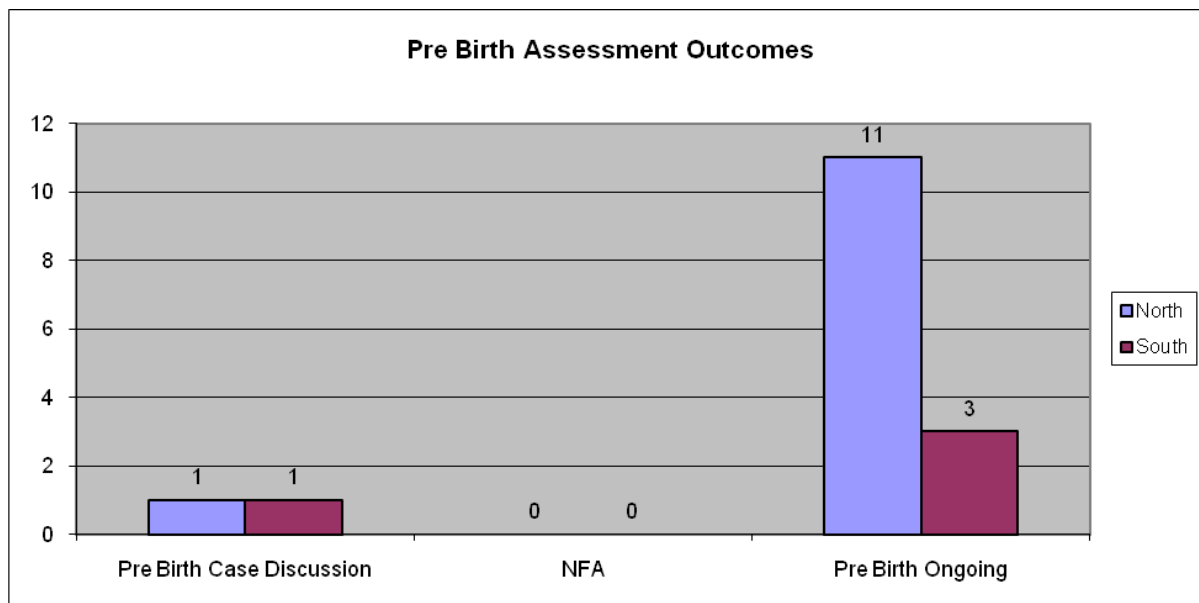
4. PRE BIRTH ACTIVITY

4.1 Pre birth referrals



16 pregnancies were referred to the local authority for this quarter under the Vulnerable Pregnancy Protocols. All of these pregnancies were subject to the Child Protection Alert System and will be, or have been, the subject of investigation

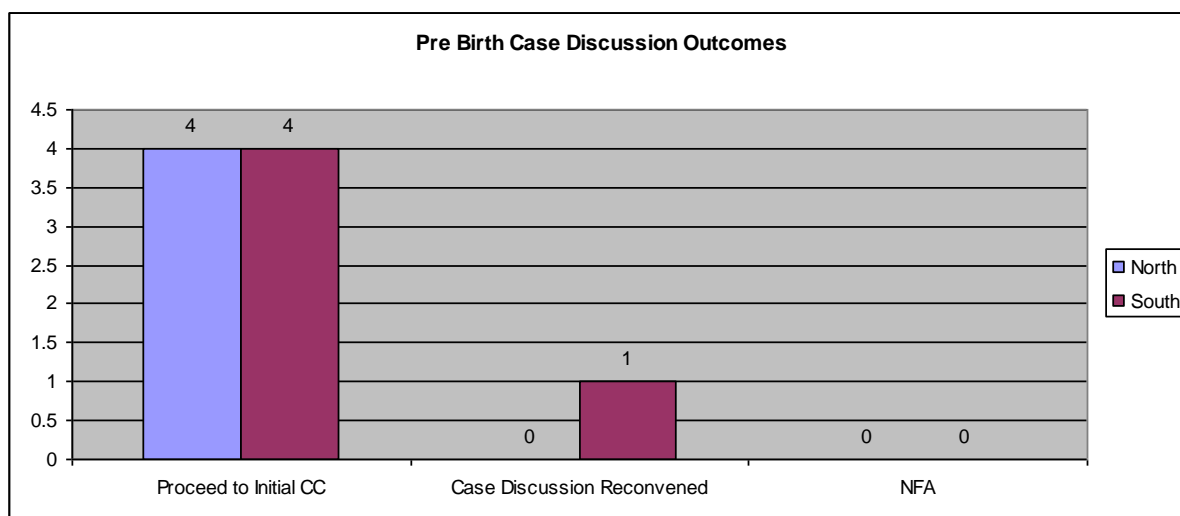
4.2 Pre birth assessments: Outcomes



Of the 16 referrals received during this quarter:

- 2 unborns went on to be discussed at Pre Birth Case Discussion.
- 14 unborns are subject to ongoing assessment. All of these pregnancies have dates scheduled for Pre Birth Case Discussions at 30 weeks gestation with the pre birth report due for completion at 28 weeks gestation. These dates fall after 30 June 2011

4.3 Pre Birth Case Discussion – Outcomes



9 pre-birth case discussions were held in the reporting period. Of these:

- It was decided to proceed to an Initial Child Protection Case Conference for 8 of the children discussed in this forum
- 1 Pre Birth Case Discussion was adjourned. It was later established that there had not been a pregnancy

5. LEGAL MEASURES

5.1 Child Protection Orders Granted between 01/04/11 and 30/06/11

There were 2 Child Protection Orders (CPO) granted this quarter. Neither child was subject to Compulsory Measures of care.

- 1 child was referred to SCRA as a recommendation of the Initial Child Protection Case Conference on the 15 April 2011. A CPO application was then made, and granted, on the 11 May 2011
- 1 child was the subject of report submitted to SCRA on the 19 April 2011 in response to a request of the 13 March 2011. A CPO application was then made, and granted, on the 20 April 2011

5.2 Police Emergency Papers

There have been no incidents this quarter where Police emergency powers have been used.

6. EARLY INFORMATION AND PRE-REFERRAL MEETING ACTIVITY

6.1 In quarter first quarter of 2011-2012 the group met on a weekly basis and considered 169 referrals. This is a decrease in referrals in relation to 256 referrals in quarter 4. Of the 169 children discussed 77 (46%) had previously been referred to the group, in comparison to 54% in quarter 4 last year.

A decision for no further action was taken in relation to 52 referrals (31%) which is an increase from 15% in the last two quarters of 2010-11.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee is asked to;

- (i) note the contents of this report.

Susan Taylor

Chair of Child Protection Committee

July 2011

Report Prepared by Carol Wassell, Child Protection Reviewing Officer