



Agenda Item 5.1

EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 07 DECEMBER 2010

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR PERIOD 1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

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 July to 30 September 2010.
- 1.2 The data informing this report has been taken from the Social Work Information System. The information in the report has been divided between the North and South of the authority to allow for analysis of key themes and demand in the specific areas. The South area includes the Irvine Valley. Future reports to the EACPC will include a comparative analysis with the previous quarter.

2. OVERVIEW

- 2.1 During this quarter, the number of children on the child protection register has increased from the previous quarter, with 54 children's names on the East Ayrshire Child Protection Register (28 family groups) as at 30 September 2010. This increase is primarily due to the registration of two families who have sibling groups of 4 and 5 children.

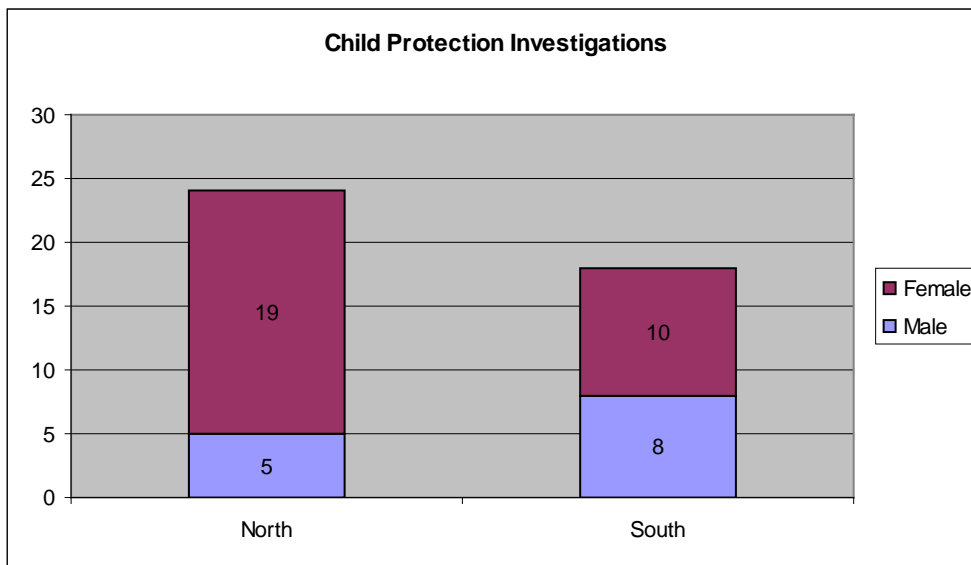
3. FURTHER ANALYSIS OF DATA

3.1 Child Protection Referrals

The agreed EACPC framework for Performance and Management information details the information in relation to child protection referrals to Social Work that we endeavour to present to the committee in the future.

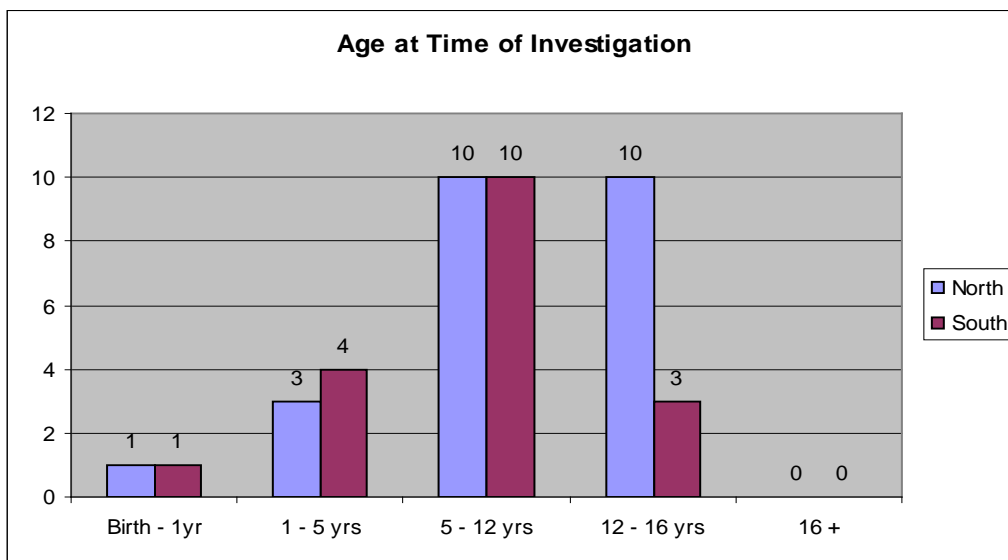
Strathclyde Police received 132 child referrals in the quarter from 01 July 2010 to 30 September 2010. In this quarter there were 251 reported domestic incidents involving children.

3.2 Child Protection Investigations



- A total of 42 children were subject to Child Protection Investigations (19 family groups.)
- 24 of the children (10 family groups) in the north of the authority
- 18 children (9 family groups) in the south of the authority.

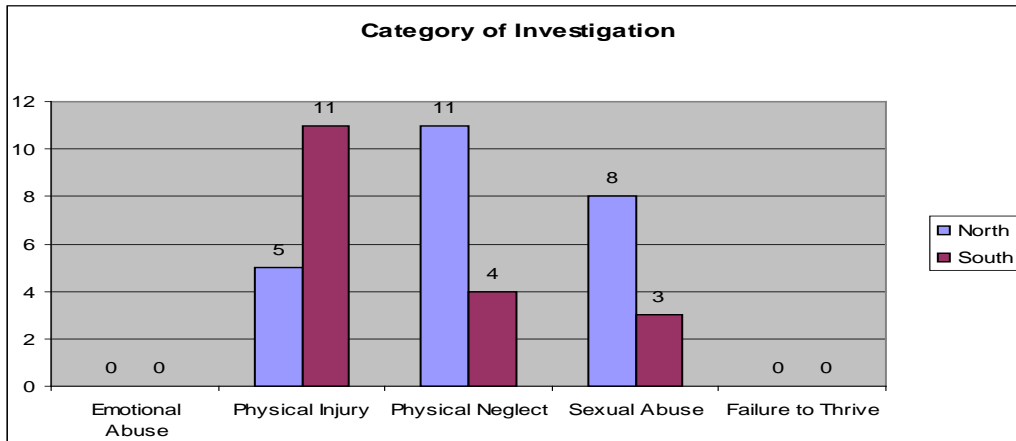
3.3 Age at time of Investigation



Children aged 5-12 years makes up just under half of all investigations. Of the 42 investigations the children were the following ages:

- Birth to 1 year : 2 children
- 1-5 years : 7 children
- 5-12 years : 20 children
- 12-16 years : 13 children
- 16+ : no children

3.4 Child Protection Investigations (CP1s) by category



This figure highlights physical neglect as the main category of investigation in the North locality, and physical injury in the South locality.

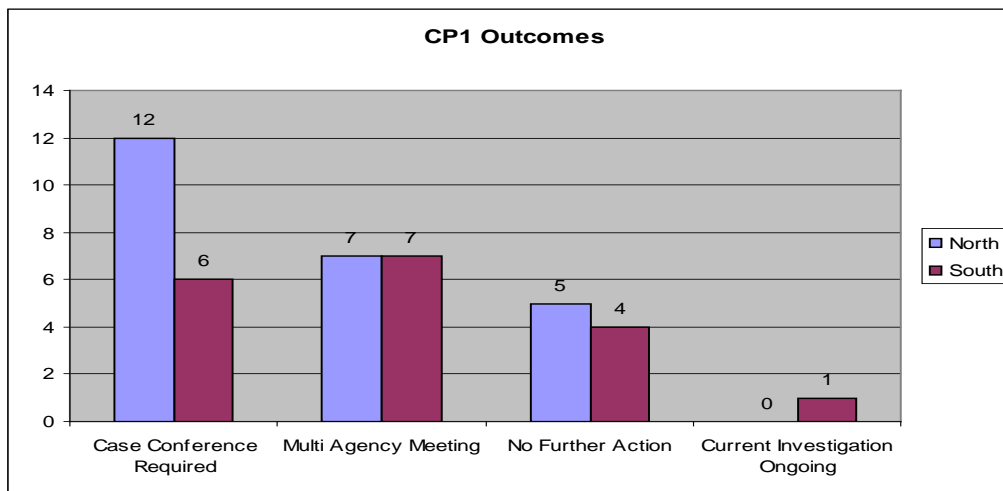
The main categories of concern for children are as follows:

- Emotional abuse : no children were registered under this category.
- Physical injury : 16 children (7 boys and 9 girls)
- Physical neglect : 15 children (5 boys and 10 girls)
- Sexual abuse : 11 children (1 boys and 10 girl)
- Failure to thrive : no children were registered under this category.

3.5 Joint Investigative Interviews

In this quarter there were 17 joint investigative interviews conducted by the police and social work.

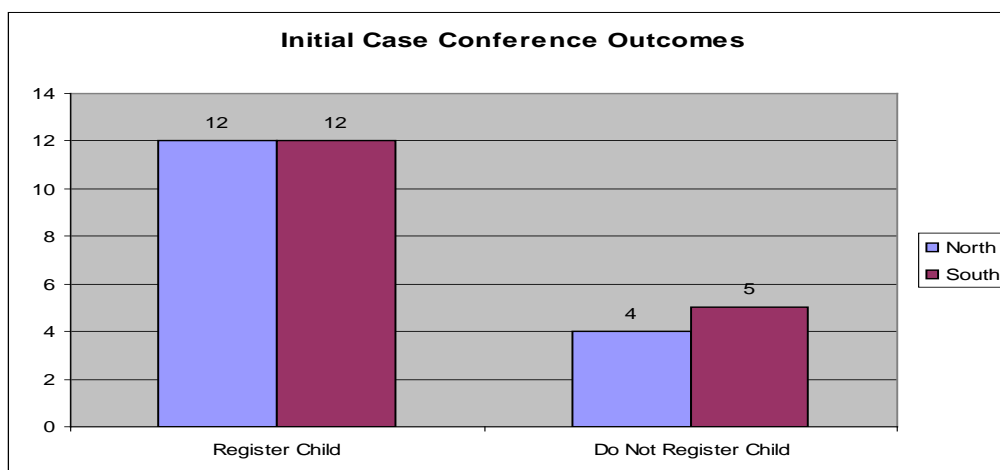
3.6 CP1: Outcomes



Of the 42 investigations that were carried out:

- 18 of the investigations resulted in a case conference
- 14 children were discussed at a multi-agency meeting
- 9 of the investigations resulted in no further action being taken
- 1 investigation is ongoing as the child is subject to a Joint Investigative Interview process

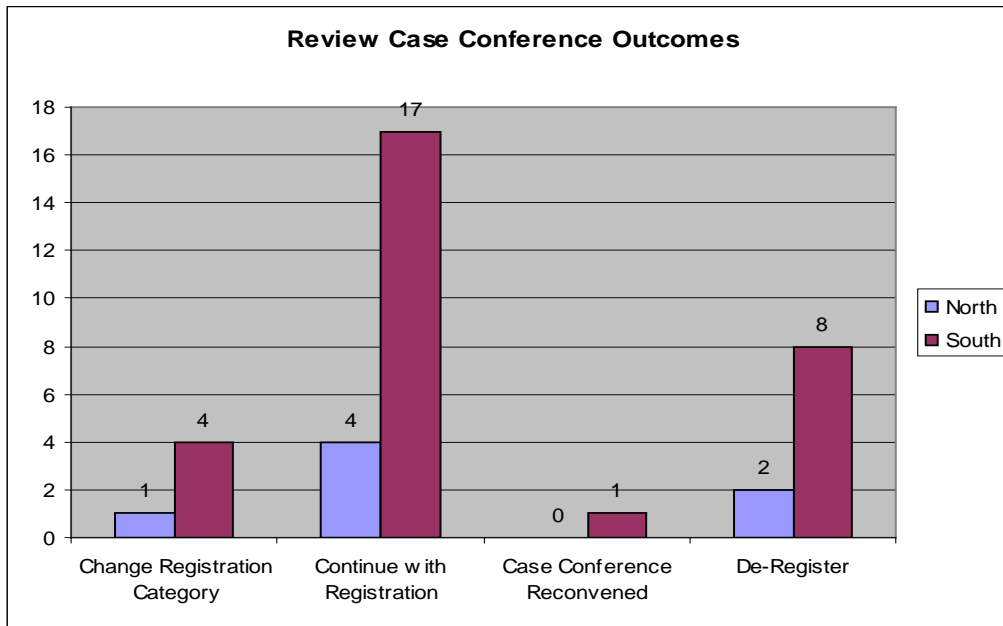
3.7 Initial Case Conference – Outcomes



Of the 33 children discussed at initial case conference this quarter:

- 24 were placed on the child protection register
- 9 children were discussed at case conference and a decision taken not to place their names on the child protection register

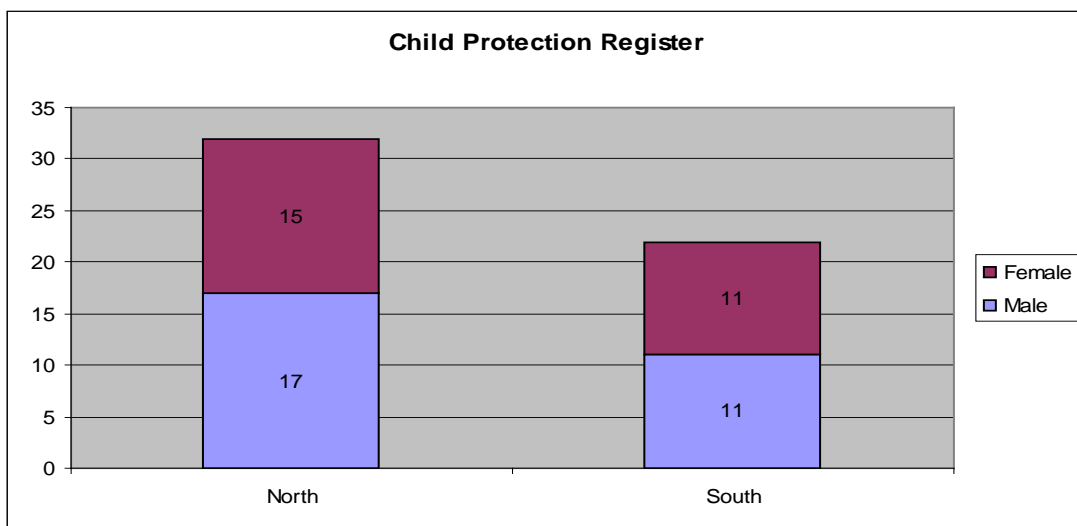
3.8 Review Case Conferences



Out of 37 children reviewed at case conference:

- 5 children had the category of registration changed.
- 21 children continued on the register with the original category of registration.
- 1 child's conference was reconvened as it was inquorate.
- 10 children were deregistered.

3.9 Child Protection Register as at 30 September 2010

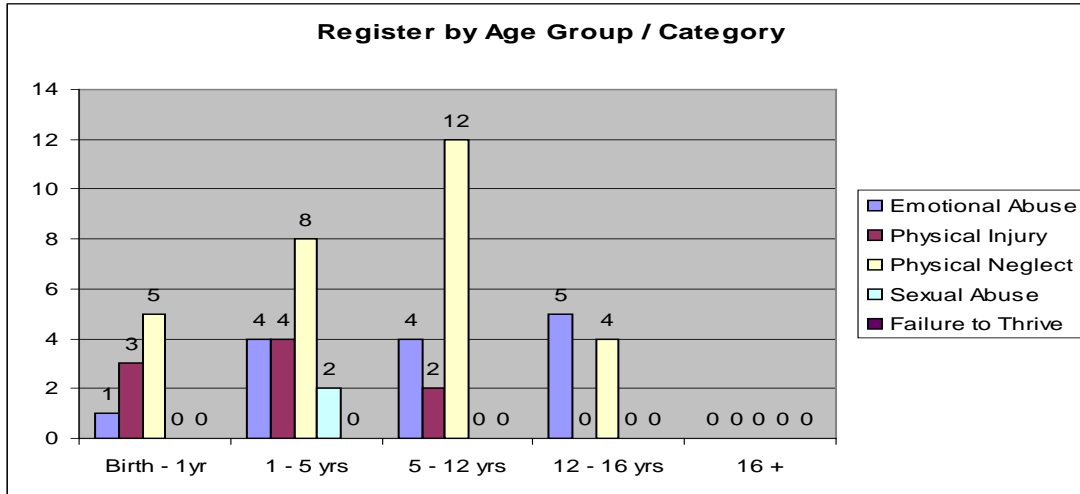


At the end of the reporting period there were a total of 54 children (28 families) on the child protection register:

- 9 of the children were in the birth -1 year age range. Graph 3.10 provides a more detailed analysis of the age of children on the register.
- The 54 children make up a total of 28 family groups.

- 32 of the children live in the North (18 family groups).
- 22 of the children live in the South (10 family groups).

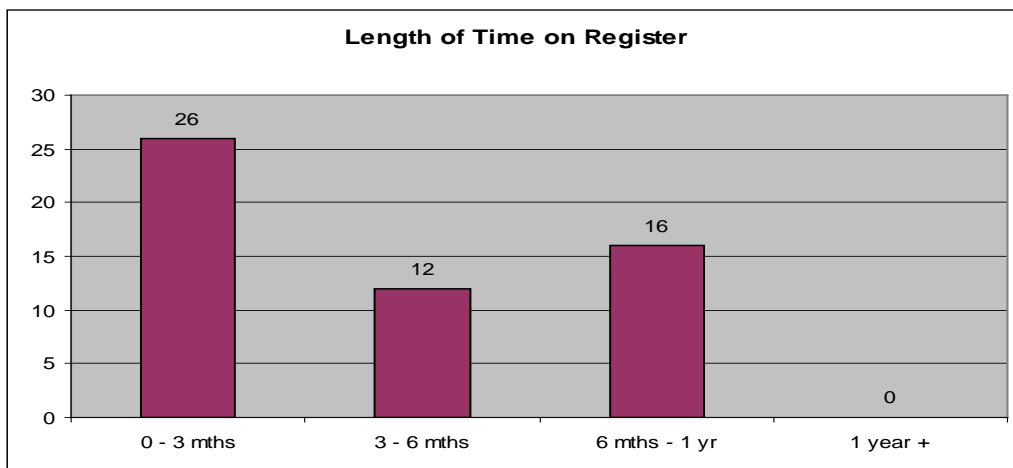
3.10 Child Protection Register by Age Group / Category



Out of 54 children on the register the registration categories were:

- Emotional abuse : 14
- Physical injury : 9
- Physical neglect : 29
- Sexual abuse : 2
- Failure to thrive : 0

3.11 Length of time on the Register as at 30 September 2010



Length of time on the register is as follows:

- 0-3 months : 26 children
- 3-6 months : 12 children
- 6mth -1yr : 16 children

- 1yr + : 0 children

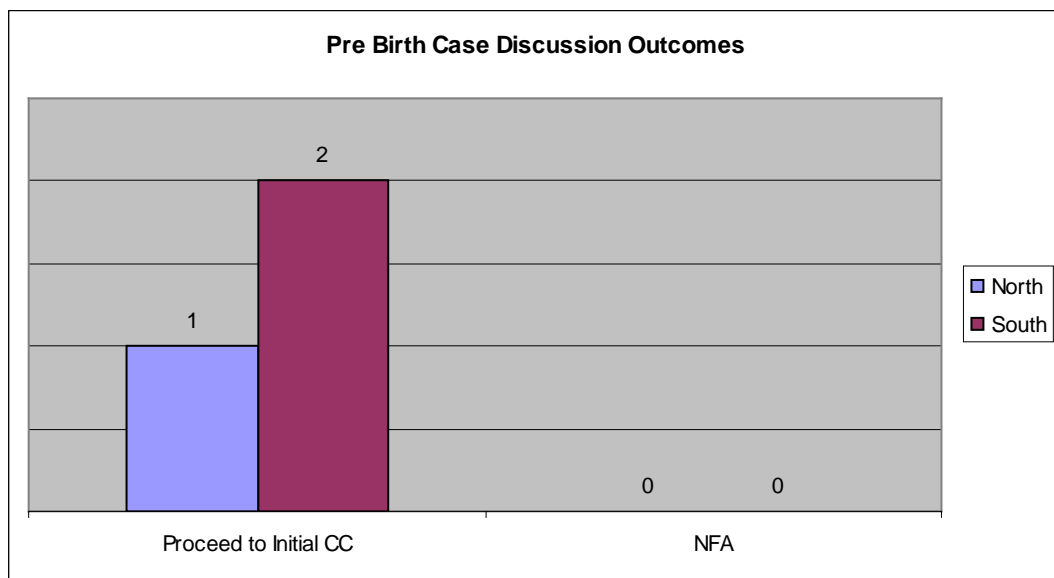
There has been an decrease in the number of children who have been on the register for more than a year, which would indicate that plans to support children within the home are being effectively progressed or that long term plans for those children who are not able to remain in the care of their parents/family are being taken without delay.

4. PRE BIRTH ACTIVITY

4.1 Pre birth assessments: Outcomes

In this quarter there were 18 referrals received for consideration under the “*Getting Our Priorities Right*” protocol. Two pre birth assessments were completed and went on to be discussed at pre birth case discussion, two were jointly discussed with health and an agreement reached that no action was required under child protection procedures, one assessment is still ongoing, and 13 are still in the process of being assessed as to whether child protection action is required.

4.2 Pre Birth Case Discussion – Outcomes



3 pre-birth case discussions were held in the reporting period. A decision was made to proceed to a post birth Child Protection Case conference for all three children.

5. LEGAL MEASURES

5.1 Child Protection Orders Granted between 01/07/10 and 30/09/10

There was one Child Protection Order this quarter for a child who was subject to a pre birth assessment completed in June 2010, which proceeded to an Initial Case Conference. The Child Protection Order was granted on the same day. The child was removed to a place of safety, therefore child protection registration was not required.

5.2 Police Emergency Powers

There were no incidents in this quarter when police emergency powers were used.

5.3 Detention of children

There were five children under 16 years of age detained in police custody in this quarter, but no 16-18 year olds under supervision requirements were detained in custody.

6. EARLY INTERVENTION AND PRE REFERRAL MEETING ACTIVITY

6.1 In the second quarter the group met on a weekly basis and considered 200 referrals. Of these 200 children 96 (48%) had previously been referred to the group. The group identified lead agencies for 163 of the referrals and in relation to 36 referrals the decision was to take no further action or refer to another local authority area. For one case the referral was withdrawn.

Social work was the lead agency identified for 71 referrals and was identified as lead in partnership with another agency for 27 referrals. A decision for a multi agency lead (3 or more agencies) was made for 10% of the referrals discussed in this quarter.

A break down of the lead agencies is detailed in a graph in Appendix 1.

7. CHILD PROTECTION WORKFORCE

SOCIAL WORK CHILDREN AND FAMILY LOCALITY SERVICES

Number of qualified social worker posts on the establishment, locality services (Lead Professional for child protection)		39
Number of qualified social workers in post in reporting period		31
Geographical split of registered social workers	North	21
Geographical split of registered social workers	South	10
Number of FTE vacancies in locality services		6
Absence rate		6.05%

EAST AYRSHIRE WORKFORCE DATA 2010

HEALTH VISITING

2010	JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
	North	South	North	South	North	South
Health Visitors	13	11	13	11	12	11
Skill mix – Band 5 (SN) Band 3 (CSW)	9 6	8 5	9 6	8 5	9 6	8 5
Vacancies	1	0	1	0	2	0
Absence rate	1.34%	2.51%	1.34%	2.15%	1.32%	2.23%

SCHOOL NURSING

2010	JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
	N	S	N	S	N	S
School Nurses	4	5	4	5	4	5
Skill mix – clinical staff	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vacancies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Absence rate	N/A School holidays	N/A School holidays	14.3%	14.2%	29.5%	26.7%

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 The East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee is asked to:-

- (i) note the new format of the report and consider any further information which may be of assistance, otherwise
- (ii) note the contents of this report

Susan Taylor
Chair of East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee
7 December 2010

Report prepared by Celia Gray, Senior Manager, Locality Services

MARG Data - Appendix 1

