



**EAST AYRSHIRE CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 08 MARCH 2011**

**CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATORS REPORT**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide the East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee (EACPC) with details of the Child Protection Co-ordinators activity since the date of the last committee.

**2. EACPC RESEARCH**

- 2.1 Garth Associates were awarded the contract for undertaking the EACPC research project in November 2010. The work to be undertaken by Moira MacKinnon, who has a wealth of experience and skills in child protection work and Pam Green Lister who has a background in social work education. Both applicants have experience in research/evaluations and file auditing.
- 2.2 The research is now reaching its final phase. The researchers completed the work for part one of the research brief in December 2010 Part one of the research looked at mapping current trends and patterns of national comparator and local child protection statistics. With particular focus on:
- a. child protection investigations
  - b. child protection registrations
  - c. key factors/adversities influencing child protection activity such as substance misuse figures and domestic abuse
  - d. high level of referral to SCRA
  - e. number of child protection orders
- 2.3 The researchers then undertook an audit of a sample of files to gather information on the needs of children and families in East Ayrshire. This was followed by short interviews with key individuals and groups of practitioners from across agencies to explore where differences may exist and why.
- 2.4 Part two of the research began in January 2011 and looked at mapping the processes undertaken by all agencies involved in the *Early Information and Pre-Referral Group*, identify the process in place prior to introduction of this Group, identifying the activities associated with each process and average costs. This will involve working with HR or personnel departments in each of the agencies to identify costs of both staff, and of services. The researchers have attended meetings of this group to observe and discuss its work with those involved. They have conducted a audit of a sample of files to gather information on the needs of children and families in East Ayrshire who have

been discussed in the *Early Information and Pre-Referral Group* process.

2.5 The researchers are now concluding their analysis and the work will be completed by 31 March 2011.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

i) note the contents of this report.

**Susan Taylor**  
**Chair of East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee**  
**8 March 2011**

**Report prepared by Dianne Burns, Child Protection Co-ordinator**