

MINUTES OF WEST OF SCOTLAND CHILD PROTECTION CHAIRS CONSORTIUM
Held on 5 February 2009

PRESENT:

Anne Ritchie (Chair), West Dunbartonshire CPC
Mary Fegan, North Lanarkshire, CPC
Gillian Buchanan, Glasgow CPC
Safaa Baxter, East Renfrewshire CPC
Donald Urquhart, Glasgow CPC
Tim Huntingford, Renfrewshire CPC
Bob Neilly, North Ayrshire CPC
Celia Gray, East Ayrshire, CPC
Paul Carruthers, Strathclyde Police
Claire Carthy, East & West Dunbartonshire CPC

APOLOGIES:

Anne McKercher, Strathclyde Police
Dougie Dunlop, Argyll and Bute CPC
Kenneth Ritchie, Inverclyde CPC/SCRA
Brenda Doyle, South Lanarkshire CPC
Tony Keogh, East Dunbartonshire CPC
Mike Briggs, Dumfries and Galloway CPC
Jennifer Bruce, MCN
Fiona McPherson, Strathclyde Police
Moira McKinnon, Glasgow CPC

		ACTION
1.	Anne Ritchie welcomed everyone to this meeting of the West of Scotland Child Protection Chairs Consortium.	
2.	Matters Arising from Meeting held on 27 November 2008	
2.1	<u>Definition of Schedule 1 Offender</u> – Donald Urquhart reported that he had followed this matter up with Maggie Tierney as agreed at the previous meeting. It was acknowledged that this is a matter of criminal intelligence. Joe Hamilton and Kenneth Ritchie are still looking at the possibility of drafting guidance. It was agreed that this matter needs to be referred back to the National Chairs Meeting.	Further discussion with Maggie Tierney
2.2	<u>MCN</u> – Anne Ritchie has written to Jennifer Bruce extending an invitation to the MCN to attend this meeting. It seemed unlikely that Jennifer would be able to attend today but it was agreed that we would continue to send Minutes from this meeting to Jennifer.	Send Minutes
2.3	<u>Did Not Attend Policy</u> - The protocol is out for consultation and Donald offered to check the status of the protocol with Marie Valente.	Donald Urquhart
2.4	<u>Character Evidence and Seizure of Social Work Records</u> – Donald reported that he has received a response from Maggie Tierney which he will circulate.	Donald Urquhart

		ACTION
2.5	<p><u>Standby</u> – A stakeholders’ event has been planned for 19 February at Centenary House. Mary Fegan has written to Maggie Tierney as requested and copies of the letter and response were circulated. Further discussion is required on the subject of establishing a National Child Protection Register. It was agreed that we would ask for this item to be placed on the National Chairs Meeting and Safaa Baxter will ask that this be discussed at the newly established Child Protection Review Group.</p> <p>Some discussion then took place regarding public protection and specifically the resourcing, direction and integration of Adult Protection and Child Protection. Mary Fegan offered to discuss this issue with Bill Eadie, Chair of the National Chairs Meeting, and request that this be discussed at the National Meeting. It was suggested that there might be merit in having a National Conference to facilitate a fuller discussion on this issue.</p>	<p>Donald Urquhart/Safaa Baxter</p> <p>Mary Fegan</p>
3.	Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures	
	<p>Tim Huntingford reported that good progress is being made on the procedural review and the format has been improved. However, the proposed launch date of April 1st may not be achievable due to the extended nature of the task and the various endorsements required. Tim will convene another meeting of the Steering Group and the Reading Group will meet to review the updates received.</p>	Tim Huntingford
4.	Joint Investigative Interview Training	
4.1	<p><u>JiIT Post Secondment</u> – The current postholder’s secondment expires in April. It was acknowledged that feedback on the post has been positive and the need for this training is increasing. All present agreed that the post should continue on the basis of shared funding but recognised that there are H.R. implications which require to be agreed by the originating and the host Councils.</p> <p>Safaa reported very clearly to the group that it was not possible for this secondment to continue on the present basis. East Renfrewshire require to free up the post on a permanent basis. It was agreed that Gillian Buchanan will liaise with South Lanarkshire regarding the outcome of the discussion and that East Renfrewshire will negotiate the H.R. issues with South Lanarkshire. Safaa offered to extend the secondment by up to six weeks to allow the necessary negotiations to be undertaken but noted that resolution was required by 15 May.</p>	Gillian Buchanan/Safaa Baxter

		ACTION
	<p>Safaa requested that the issue of how the costs of the post are shared should be looked at again. It was agreed that if Safaa came forward with an alternative proposal that this would be discussed by the consortium. In the meantime the work outlined to resolve the present position would be undertaken on the basis of the current funding arrangements.</p> <p>It was noted that Strathclyde Police have now seconded D.C. Angela McLelland to the post of Joint Investigative Interview Trainer.</p>	
4.2	<p><u>Facilities for Visual Recording of JIIT Interviews</u> – Funding has been made available to resource premises suitable for visual recording of interviews. Ten sites are required for the West of Scotland and it was agreed that Paul Carruthers would circulate the spec for the required premises which have yet to be identified. Areas without a resource should consider whether they are aware of suitable accommodation.</p>	Paul Carruthers
5.	Getting It Right For Every Child: Domestic Abuse Pathfinders	
	It was agreed that this item would be continued to the next agenda.	Next Meeting
6.	Implications of the case of Baby P, media attention, investigations and lessons to be learned	
	<p>A number of issues were raised in relation to Significant Incident Reviews and Constructive Learning. Issues raised following the death of Baby P and the role of the Significant Incident Review mean that further consideration should be given to the arrangements for conducting these reviews in Scotland. The issue of independent chairing, whether reports should be published, the purpose of a Significant Incident Review in providing constructive learning and the terms of reference of such reviews all need to be re-considered. Mary Fegan offered to circulate a paper she has on shared learning. It was agreed that National Guidance is required on these issues and we should refer the matter to the National Chairs Meeting. Donald Urquhart agreed to write outlining our issues.</p> <p>The role of OFFSTEAD and the equivalent role of the Child Protection Inspections in Scotland was also discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that the Scottish Government and Edinburgh University are hosting an event on Significant Incident Reviews on 25 March.</p>	Mary Fegan/ Donald Urquhart

		ACTION
	A particular issue around chronologies will be referred to the Lead Officers Group and North Lanarkshire CPC will circulate documentation to assist that discussion.	
7.	Items from Co-ordinators Group	
7.1	<u>Attendance at Co-ordinators Meetings</u> – There is concern from the Co-ordinators Group that there has been a deterioration in attendance and it was agreed that Chairs should nominate an appropriate person to deputise for the Co-ordinator should they be unable to attend.	ALL
		ACTION
7.2	<u>NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Staff Leaflet</u> – Concern has been expressed from a number of quarters about the use of the picture of Victoria Climbié on the front of the staff leaflet about child protection. When this has been raised previously, Marie Valente has been clear that consent was sought from the Climbié family prior to the distribution of the leaflet. However, it was agreed by the group that Anne Ritchie would write to Marie to express concern on behalf of this group. Donald Urquhart will discuss this matter with Jean Herbison within Glasgow.	Anne Ritchie/ Donald Urquhart
8.	Aberlour	
	It was agreed that there should be a single national service level agreement with this service provider. Gillian Buchanan will liaise with Aberlour regarding the situation in Glasgow. Claire Carthy undertook to clarify the national position with Maggie Tierney.	Gillian Buchanan/ Claire Carthy
9.	Date of Next Meeting	
	The next meeting will be held on 14 May 2009 at 2.00 p.m. at Jackton.	