

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 12 AUGUST 2014

COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN

PRESENT

Detective Superintendent Mark Cooper (Deputy Chair)	Police Scotland
Councillor John Divers	The Moray Council
Councillor Mike Shand	The Moray Council
Councillor Allan Wright	The Moray Council
Mrs Phyllis Smart	Nurse Consultant (Child Protection), NHS Grampian
Mrs Jillian Richards	Locality Reporter Manager, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
Mr Laurence Findlay	Head of Schools and Curriculum Development, The Moray Council (Ex-Officio)
Mrs Susan Maclaren	Head of Integrated Children's Services, The Moray Council (Ex-Officio)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr Sandy Riddell, Corporate Director (Education and Social Care) (The Moray Council) (Chair), Mrs Sheila Erskine (tsiMoray) and Mr Patrick Hannon (Armed Forces Representative).

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Jennie Williams (NHS Grampian) (Observer), Mr Iain MacDonald, Children's Wellbeing Manager and Mr Darren Westmacott, Committee Services Officer (both The Moray Council) as Clerk to the Committee.

1. CHAIR

In the absence of a Chair, Detective Superintendent Cooper, in his role as Deputy Chair assumed the position of Chair.

2. MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE MORAY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE HELD ON 15 APRIL 2014

The minute of the meeting of the Moray Child Protection Committee dated 15 April 2014 was submitted for approval.

Mrs Williams (NHS Grampian), referring to those present at the meeting, advised that she was in attendance as the Moray Representative for NHS Grampian and not NHS Highland as intimated in the minute. This was agreed by the Committee.

Referring to paragraph 5 of the minute, Councillor Wright advised that he had written to the Cabinet Secretary for Health regarding the Care Inspectorate's involvement with the Moray Child Protection Committee and was offered a meeting with Dr Peat, Director of Inspection, which took place on 8 August 2014. He further advised that the meeting was positive and that the Care Inspectorate would be taking a relaxed attitude towards this Committee.

The Chair, referring to paragraph 1 of the minute, queried how training for staff on legal orders was progressing following the training needs analysis. In response, the Head of Integrated Children's Services advised that there had been a delay due to the vacancy of Moray Child Protection Lead Officer but matters were progressing.

Referring to paragraph 3 of the minute, the Chair sought an update on discussions with IT for a link for the Moray Child Protection website on the front page of The Moray Council's website. In response, the Head of Integrated Children's Services advised that they were not able to get a direct link on the Council's front page due to an IT policy; however the relevant forms had been submitted to update the Moray Child Protection's website.

The Head of Integrated Children's Services advised that a decision was required on the publishing of the Committee's approved minutes. Following discussions, the Committee agreed that draft minutes be ratified by the Committee via email and, once approved, be uploaded to the Moray Child Protection website.

In response to a query from the Head of Integrated Children's Services regarding the Lead Consultant for Child Protection in Moray - confirmed as Dr Wojcik by Mrs Smart (NHS Grampian) - and whether Dr Wojcik should sit as an adviser on this Committee or the Child Protection Coordinating Group. The Chair moved that a formal invitation be sent to Dr Wojcik to attend the meetings of this Committee. This was agreed by the Committee.

Thereafter, the Committee agreed:-

- (i) to approve the minute of the meeting of the Moray Child Protection Committee dated 15 April 2014 as an accurate record of the meeting, subject to NHS Highland being amended to NHS Grampian under 'Present' on Page 1;
- (ii) that draft minutes be ratified by the Committee via email and, once approved, be uploaded to the Moray Child Protection website; and
- (iii) that a formal invitation be sent to Dr Wojcik, Lead Consultant for Child Protection in Moray, to attend meetings of this Committee as an adviser.

3. CHILD PROTECTION COORDINATING GROUP MINUTE AND UPDATE

The Committee noted the minute of the meeting of the Child Protection Coordinating Group dated 7 July 2014 and the Head of Integrated Children's Services subsequent update.

4. CHILD PROTECTION PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

There was submitted a report by the Children's Wellbeing Manager outlining the performance of Child Protection for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2014.

In response to a query from the Committee, the Head of Integrated Children's Services agreed to use annual figures for comparing the number and rates per 1,000 population (0-15 years) of children on the Child Protection Register to coincide with comparator's figures.

Following consideration, the Committee noted performance of Child Protection for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2014, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2.

5. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE

There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Integrated Children's Services presenting a written update from the Scottish Government on child protection matters.

6. REVISED PAN GRAMPIAN INFORMATION SHARING PRACTITIONER GUIDANCE

There was submitted a report by the Partnership Officer (GIRFEC) advising the Committee of revised pan Grampian information sharing guidance for practitioners.

The Head of Integrated Children's Services advised that the recommendation should include that the guidance would be subject to approval by The Moray Council's Legal Services.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to:-

- (i) approve the content of the information sharing guidance for practitioners, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, subject to approval by The Moray Council's Legal Services; and
- (ii) refer the guidance to the Children and Young People's Partnership.

7. CHILD EXPLOITATION AND ONLINE PROTECTION

There was submitted a report by the Head of Integrated Children's Services providing the Committee with details of a recent report completed by Children 1st regarding support available to women, children and young people who have

experienced commercial sexual exploitation and the initial actions being taken in regard to the recommendations made within the Children 1st's report.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed to note the:-

- (i) content and recommendations contained within Children 1st's report on sexual exploitation and online protection, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (ii) initial actions proposed to address the recommendations, as detailed in Section 3 of the report.

8. AGENCY VERBAL UPDATES

The Committee noted verbal updates from Police Scotland, The Moray Council and NHS Grampian on operation matters relating to child protection.

9. CHILD PROTECTION REGISTER

The Head of Integrated Children's Services advised the Committee of the still-birth of a child held on the Child Protection Register (Pre-Birth).

Following consideration, the Committee agreed that there was sufficient evidence not to conduct a Significant Case Review.

10. FUTURE CHAIR ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor Wright, acknowledging the impending departure of the Corporate Director (Education and Social Care), moved that the Head of Integrated Children's Services be appointed as Chair of the Moray Child Protection Committee. This was seconded by the Chair.

There being no one otherwise minded, the Committee agreed to appoint the Head of Integrated Children's Services as Chair of the Moray Child Protection Committee.

11. TRIBUTE TO MR SANDY RIDDELL

The Committee, in noting that this would be the last meeting of the Committee prior to the Corporate Director (Education and Social Care) leaving The Moray Council to take up a new post in Fife, joined the Chair in paying tribute to Mr Riddell for his contribution to the child protection in Moray and wished him well for the future.