

## **THE MORAY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE CHILD PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2009**

**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

#### **PRESENT**

Councillors A Wright (Chair) J Divers, J. Hamilton, M Shand and J Sharp.

#### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors L. Bell and A. McKay

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

The Chief Executive, the Director of Community Services, the Head of Children and Families & Criminal Justice, the Principal Solicitor (Litigation and Licensing), the Acting Head of Educational Support Services and the Principal Committee Services Officer, Clerk to the Meeting.

### **2. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS**

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct the meeting noted that there were no declarations from group leaders or spokespersons in regard to any prior decisions taken on how members will vote on any item on the Agenda nor any declarations of Members Interest in respect of any Item on the Agenda.

### **3. EXEMPT INFORMATION**

The meeting resolved that in terms of Section 50A(4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the Items of Business appearing at the relevant Paragraphs of this Minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

#### **Para. No. of Minute**

#### **Para. No. of Schedule 7A**

4

5

#### **4. AUDITOR'S FOLLOW UP REPORT**

Prior to discussion of the Joint Action Plan, the Chairman referred to the recent follow-up report by the HMle Auditor and to some disappointment that the Lead Auditor's verbal congratulations had not been fully reflected within the report.

He also further sought clarification on when the report being compiled by the Chief Constable on the North East Scotland Child Protection Committee (NESCPC) would be forthcoming and in response the Chief Executive advised that further meetings had taken place between with the Police and the NHS and that a report was expected within the next 2 weeks. Members advised the Chief Executive that their agreed wish was for a Moray Child Protection Committee with NESCPC left with an overarching, strategic role.

#### **5. HMle INSPECTION JOINT ACTION PLAN [Para 5]**

There was submitted for the Sub-Committee's consideration, the HMle Joint Action Plan which has been compiled in partnership by the agencies inspected by the HMle Joint Inspection Services.

Following lengthy discussion, it was agreed that:

- (i) consideration be given at the Chief Officers Group to 'key actions' within the Action Plan being highlighted differently, and
- (ii) in regard to establishments where young people were being looked after for less than 2 hrs that they be offered advice in regard to child protection measures and best practice guidance.

Thereafter the meeting noted the progress within the Joint Action Plan.

#### **6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be determined by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman and advised to Members accordingly.