



Child Protection Improvement Programme

External Advisory Group Meeting

Victoria Quay, 30/08/016

Attendees	
Organisation	Name
Scottish Government	Donald Henderson (Chair)
ADES	Colin Crawford
Action for Children	Paul Carberry
Barnardos	Eddie Kane
Care Inspectorate	Kevin Mitchell
CELCIS	Jennifer Davidson
Chair of the National Working Group on CSE	Moira McKinnon
Child Health Commissioners	Geraldine Queen
Children 1 st	Alison Todd
Children in Scotland	Sandra Mitchell, Simon Massey
COSLA	Jane O'Donnell
COSLA	Stephanie Primrose
CP Lead Officers Group	Sean Byrne
Midlothian council	Scott McCallum
NSPCC	Matt Forde
Police Scotland	Malcolm Graham
Scottish Association of Social Workers	Sarah McMillan
Scottish Child Law Centre	Iris Quar
SCRA	Malcolm Schaffer
SOLACE	Michelle Miller
Stirling Centre for Child Wellbeing and Protection	Brigid Daniel
Who Cares? Scotland	Duncan Dunlop
Young Scot	Louise MacDonald
System Review Group Chair	Catherine Dyer
Inverclyde HSCP	Sharon McAlees
Scottish Women's Aid	Kay Steven
Scottish Government	Judith Ainsley
Scottish Government	Katherine Hudson
Scottish Government	Philippa Brosnan
Scottish Government	Sandra Aitken
Scottish Government	Deborah Gallagher
Scottish Government	Katrina McDonald
Scottish Government	Rachael Wilson
Scottish Government	Elaine Bell
Scottish Government	Jack Murray



The first meeting of the Child Protection Improvement Programme's External Advisory Group was held at the Scottish Government offices at Victoria Quay in Leith on Tuesday 30th August. A brief rundown of the presentations is included below;

Catherine Dyer, independent Chair of the Child Protection System Review, outlined the remit of the Review Group and discussed some of the work that had been completed already as part of the review. This included scoping work looking at existing research and evidence, and discussions with key experts. The Review Group is using evidence papers to inform discussions and has established an expectation that between meetings members will share the summaries of discussions with others and bring back any comments or views to the group. Catherine set out the timescale for the review which is meeting between August and December and will provide recommendations to Ministers in December.

Sandra Aitken, from the Scottish Government Child Protection Team, led a session to discuss Joint Inspections and how they might be re-modelled in the next inspection cycle to focus more on vulnerable children and how learning from inspections can flow more quickly into the child protection system. The Slides from this presentation can be found [here](#).

Fiona McDiarmid, Principal Research Officer presented an update on the outline of plans for the on the data and evidence programme – including the plans for data & evidence meetings.

The slides from this presentation can be found [here](#).

Deborah Gallagher, from the Scottish Government Child Protection Team talked about how we would like to ensure that children's views and experiences are listened to and reflected within the programme. Several members of the EAG made useful suggestions about how this might be achieved and Deborah is now following these up.

Professor Brigid Daniel (Director of the Centre for Child Wellbeing) and Fiona Mitchell (CELCIS) gave a presentation titled *Tackling Child Neglect in Scotland – first step*, describing the collaborative work they are taking forward on the neglect improvement programme. The presentation firstly gave a background and context of the landscape in which this work will be taken forward, highlighting the positive foundation of a strong recognition of the harmful impact of neglect, the need for it to be addressed and the GIRFEC framework which will enable an effective response. The challenges associated with this work, including the issues around tackling such a broad spectrum of concerns, were also acknowledged. Details were given on the follow up to the 2012 neglect survey of CPCs (Child Protection Committees), the analysis of national policy and UK wide policy initiatives and literature review that are being progressed and the analysis and synthesis of existing toolkits.

The Slides from this presentation can be found [here](#).