



## **CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES' PARTNERSHIP**

Minute of virtual meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership held on Friday 4 March 2022 at 10.00am.

### **Present:**

S Devlin Executive Director (Education and Children's Services),  
Perth and Kinross Council (PKC)  
J Pepper, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services) and  
Chief Social Work Officer, PKC  
G Binnie, Tayside Police  
J O'Hagan, PKAVS  
S Johnston, Head of Education, PKC  
H Robertson, Head of Services for Children, Young People and  
Families, PKC,  
B Atkinson, Independent Chair of Child Protection Committee  
J Cunningham, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration  
L Sharkey, Chief Midwife, Women Children and Families Division,  
NHS Tayside

**In Attendance:** J Chiles, S Cooper, R Drummond, L Richards, S Turner and L Brown (all PKC).

**Apologies:** Councillors J Duff, J Rebbeck and C Shiers.

S Devlin in the Chair

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

S Devlin welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were submitted and noted as above.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in terms of the relevant Codes of Conduct.

### **3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minute of the meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership of 3 December 2021 was submitted and noted as a correct record.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minute of the previous meeting.

## **5. THE FUTURE STRUCTURE OF THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES' PARTNERSHIP**

J Pepper gave an illustrative presentation on proposals for a future structure for the Partnership that remained effective in supporting children, young people and families in Perth and Kinross. A copy of the presentation slides are appended to the minute of meeting.

Views were sought on whether the Partnership should move to establishing a similar structure to that of the Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative (TRIC); allowing the Partnership to oversee the delivery of the Children's Services Plan locally in Perth and Kinross. Several new working groups that reflected and had clear links to the TRIC structure would report into the Partnership. Partners were asked to consider third sector representation and whether there was a need for a separate Children's Services Forum.

The following comments were received from partners:

- How will the new groups be serviced given the relatively small number of people involved?
- The proposed mental health sub-group should also encompass youth justice issues.
- The young people's mental health strategy should be expanded to include the whole family.
- Early intervention at the lowest entry point and the resources required to support that important.
- The existing Raising Attainment Board with its multi-agency involvement should submit six monthly progress reports to the Partnership to ensure there is appropriate challenge and support of its work in closing the poverty related attainment gap.
- The need for strong links across corporate parenting, mental health and GIRFEC in terms of child protection should be acknowledged.
- Regular updates on progress made on these themes would allow child protection to link more closely to and align with progress.
- Consideration should be given to future agendas focusing on a different working group at Partnership meetings.
- On occasion there should be a focus on the broader area of transitions and the impact that young adults and parents have on outcomes for children and how services might be aligned to what is happening within adult services.
- The new terms of reference should include a description of the relationship between the Partnership and the CPP Board and how relevant information from the Partnership is fed into the CPP Board.
- Review how the thematic data on outcomes and performance is being presented to the Partnership.
- Ensure there is a stronger connection from the TRIC priority groups to what is happening within the Partnership locally.

At the conclusion of discussion, the Partnership:

- (i) Agreed the general direction of travel as set out in J Pepper's presentation.
- (ii) Agreed a report encapsulating the proposals and comments received on a revised structure for the Perth and Kinross Children, Young People and Families Partnership be submitted to a future meeting.

## **6. PERTH AND KINROSS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE BUSINESS ACTIVITY REPORT SINCE DECEMBER 2021**

There was submitted a report by the Independent Chair of the Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee (G/22/19) providing a summary of the key business activities of the Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee (CPC) since the last update report was submitted to the Children, Young People and Families Partnership (CYPFP) on 3 December 2021.

B Atkinson advised that the CPP Annual Standards and Quality Report had been considered both at the full meeting of Perth and Kinross Council and at its Scrutiny Committee. Colleagues had appreciated the support and interest received from elected members on the report. Partners noted that a report on the Age of Criminal Responsibility will be considered at the next meeting of the Council's Lifelong Learning Committee.

L Sharkey welcomed the clear and concise information contained in the action plan attached to the report. J Pepper advised there may be some additional funding for local authorities for trauma informed practice.

S Devlin informed partners

The Partnership:

- (i) Noted and endorsed the contents of Report G/22/19.

## **7. CARERS STRATEGY 2019-2022 FOR YOUNG ADULT CARERS**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/22/20) on the Young and Adult Carers Strategy 2019-2022 which had been developed in conjunction with the Health and Social Care Partnership in response to the new duties included in the Carer (Scotland) Act 2016.

Partners received an update on progress made towards the outcomes identified specifically in respect of supporting Young Carers. They were advised that tuition support which had become more important during the pandemic lockdown has been sustained. Over one hundred 1 to 1 sessions were delivered each month. This had increased by 150% during lockdown and had continued over the summer holiday period.

S Johnston agreed to invite PKAVs to attend a DHT Support Network Meeting to share information on the support for young carers.

The Partnership:

- (i) Noted the positive progress made towards supporting young carers in Perth and Kinross.
- (ii) Noted the plans to work with partners to produce the future Strategy for Carers 2022-2025.

## **8. CORPORATE PARENTING UPDATE AND PLAN**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), Perth and Kinross Council (G/22/21) advising of progress made in relation to the Corporate Parenting Plan 2017-2020 and setting out the Perth and Kinross Corporate Parenting Plan for 2021-2024 which would also be considered at the next meeting of Perth and Kinross Council.

The Partnership:

- (i) Noted the progress made to date in the delivery of corporate parenting actions;
- (ii) Agreed the Perth and Kinross Parenting Plan for 2021-2024;
- (iii) Agreed that training on the role of a corporate parent be part of the elected members induction.

## **9. PERTH AND KINROSS LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PATHWAY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (G/22/22) explaining the aims for a Perth and Kinross local mental health pathway and ensuring relevant support for it. The report sought agreement to (1) enable clear partnership working from each agency in order that children and young people growing up in Perth and Kinross, and all involved in supporting them, are clear on what is available to promote positive mental health on local supports and ways to access them, (2) an easily accessible and regularly updated digital resource, and (3) the identification of a strategic lead from each agency to progress full agency ownership of the resource and its launch.

L Richards suggested the number of restrictions in place on the Council website would be a barrier to the Council hosting the digital resource. In response L Sharkey advised there would appear to be fewer restriction in place on the NHS website, however, further discussion would need to take place with colleagues in the NHS digital directorate. The main challenge would be the upkeep of the site which would require to fit in and align closely with the Digital Director's Strategy for NHS Tayside.

Following discussion, the Partnership:

- (i) Agreed that widespread access to a single point digital resource and an on-going support pathway as outlined in the report be placed on a corporate website;
- (ii) S Turner and L Sharkey be requested to consider further the best website and discuss with IT colleagues at NHS Tayside and Perth and Kinross Council the level of resources that would be required for

ongoing updating of the digital resource and who would be best placed to do that.

- (iii) Nominations from partner representatives including Health, Social Work, Youth Services and the Third Sector be sent to S Turner;
- (iv) Agreed the sequential roll-out of the resource through an initial soft then hard launch, as per the timetable set out in Report G/22/22).
- (v) Partners to provide S Turner with details of their nominated representatives to support the work involved in the construction of the launch and communication strategy and to offer on-going feedback and support by 18 March 2022.

## **10. THEMATIC APPROACH TO PERFORMANCE REPORTING**

There was submitted a report (G/22/23) by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), commencing the seventh year of thematic reporting for performance/outcome information focused on children, young people and families. The report set out a suite of information focused on the first of the themes of Health and Child Development for consideration and scrutiny by the Partnership.

J Chiles advised there had been no huge changes from existing trends. Stillbirths continued to decrease both in Perth and Kinross and nationally. Information on neonatal deaths was still awaited but showed a gradual downward trend. Mothers smoking during pregnancy showed an ongoing downward trend, although Perth and Kinross was very slightly above the national average. The number of babies exclusively breastfed at 6-8 weeks continued to increase and was above the national level. Immunisation levels in Perth and Kinross remained fairly high, however, MMR vaccination rates were slightly below the national average. Information gathering on child Obesity in P1 had recommenced in 2022 after a 2-year break. J Chiles advised that the data on dental health had not been available at the time of drafting the report.

L Sharkey advised that the "COVID effect" had resulted in an increase nationally of mothers initiating breastfeeding as well as continuing exclusively at 6-8 weeks. She advised she would take back the Perth and Kinross data on MMR to the NHS Childhood Immunisation Team for further discussion and report back to the next meeting.

J Chiles summarised the data from the 3 developmental reviews at 13-15 months, 27-30 months and 4-5 years which were undertaken by NHS staff and supplemented by information gathered by Education and Children's Service. Partners received an update from S Johnston on some of the focussed work underway to address the developmental concerns raised through the data linked to the impact of the pandemic and of future mitigation work required.

G Binnie referred to increased levels of youth offending and young people's wellbeing. He enquired which forum would determine if needs were being directed to the right place. In response J Pepper acknowledged there was a need to ensure that the data sets are used strategically to identify the real

priorities to ensure the correct strategic priorities are in place. She suggested that this could be address as part of the proposed review of the thematic approach to performance reporting.

The Partnership:

- (i) Noted the information as set out Report G/21/155.

## **8. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

### **(i) Health and Social Care Partnership**

S Devlin reported that Jacquie Pepper was shortly to assume the post of Interim Chief Officer for the Health and Social Care Partnership. On behalf of the Partnership, she congratulated Jacquie on her appointment.

### **(i) Tayside Police Representative on the Partnership**

G Binnie advised that he was leaving the Partnership to begin a 6 month posting as a Superintendent. He advised that DCI Tom Leonard had been appointed as Police Scotland's new representative on the Partnership.

On behalf of the Partnership S Devlin offered her congratulations to Graham on his appointment and thanked him for the insight and experience he had contributed to the work of the Partnership.

## **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Friday 17 June 2022 at 10.00am