



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES' PARTNERSHIP

Minute of meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership held on Friday 3 March 2023 at 10.00am in the Council Chambers, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth.

Present: Councillor L Barrett
Councillor M Frampton
Councillor C Shiers
S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)
(from Item 8 onwards)
S Johnston, Head of Education and Learning, PKC
H Robertson, Head of Services for Children, Young People and Families, PKC
J Cunningham, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
T Leonard, Chief Inspector, Police Scotland
J Hutton, Independent Advocacy Perth and Kinross
L Sharkey, Chief Midwife, Women Children and Families Division, NHS Tayside

In Attendance: Dr J Bray (NHS) (Item 7 only); B Atkinson, Independent Chair of Child Protection Committee; J Chiles, R Drummond, S Turner, and D Williams (all PKC).

H Robertson in the Chair

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

H Robertson welcomed everyone to the meeting. No formal apologies for absence submitted.

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 2 December 2022 was submitted and noted as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

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

5. WHOLE FAMILY WELLBEING FUND

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (G/23/13) providing a summary of the progress in the development and implementation of the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund and includes detail on the steps taken thus far to transform holistic, whole family support services across Perth and Kinross. The Children, Young People and Families Partnership hold collective responsibility to build transformational capacity which will help keep commitments to The Promise and child poverty.

In presenting this report, H Robertson advised those present that the steering group for this had been well established, and consultancy work with Horizons Research was due to start in mid-March 2023. She added that a high-level action plan had been included as Appendix 1 to this report, and gave four key components of whole family wellbeing.

H Robertson also advised those present that uniqueness of the Tayside Regional Plan had been acknowledged in this regard, and that reporting would be done through the regional plan, but added that Governance would be through this Partnership, as would also be the case in Dundee and Angus.

The Partnership, having reviewed the content of the report and proposed activities, noted the proposed action plan.

6. PERTH AND KINROSS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE BUSINESS ACTIVITY REPORT SINCE 2 DECEMBER 2022

There was submitted a report by the Independent Chair of Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee (G/23/14) providing a summary of the key business activities of the Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee since the last meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership on 2 December 2022.

In introducing the report, B Atkinson expressed his thanks to elected members of the Council for the level of support, and also stated that he was encouraged by the ongoing multi-agency work despite challenges around data sharing.

B Atkinson further advised that arrangements sitting below the Child Protection Committee were being reviewed, stating that a lot of work was taking place in sub-groups. He also advised that a strong calendar for self-evaluation and improvement was being developed, with the existing Practice and Improvement Group and Quality Assurance Sub-Group underway.

In response to a query from Councillor Shiers regarding the monitoring of areas for improvement, B Atkinson advised that there had been a refreshed

template for Initial Referral Discussion's (IRD's), with colleagues in Police Scotland working on guidance and looking to resolve some issues around IRD admin support. B Atkinson also advised that a module was to be presented to the Practice and Improvement Group, and three day course would be available for colleague in Police Scotland and in Social Work.

The Partnership noted and endorsed the update.

DR J BRAY ENTERED THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

T LEONARD LEFT THE MEETING DURING DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT ITEM.

7. SUICIDE PREVENTION: SURVEY AND ACTION PLAN

There was submitted a report (G/23/15) by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) highlighting the current situation concerning children and young people who are at risk from suicide ideation and related behaviour which can lead to the need for a medical intervention/hospitalisation. There is a need to support change in practice and management systems to improve the containment and support for those children and young people regarding mental health, suicide ideation and related behaviour.

In introducing the report, S Turner advised that there had been a specific Suicide Prevention Co-ordinator post in place within Education and Children's Services since March 2022, which was held by S Sweeney. S Turner further advised that work had been done in schools around information gathering, and advised members that there was a lack of clarity around responsibilities and processes. S Turner did, however, advise that there had been a very positive multi-agency buy-in, and felt that an agreed protocol for shared ownership of risk was required. Dr J Bray added that whilst there was a willingness to take this forward, challenges did remain on a strategic level, with a number of agencies required to bring together.

H Robertson added that this had been an area of growing concern, and highlighted the importance of utilising existing resources as best as possible. S Johnston highlighted the work done by S Sweeney since taking up post, but highlighted the need for consistency across school staff in this regard.

The Partnership noted the update:

- (i) Approved and supported the actioning of the proposals within the report.
- (ii) Agreed to identify a lead person with strategic authority to identified from each partner agency team to work in partnership and collaboration to develop and agree a multi-agency protocol for information sharing for young people who are at risk from suicide ideation and related behaviour.
- (iii) Agreed to identify lead personnel to develop and deliver a joint training initiative to support the role of Named Person.
- (iv) Requested the Chair of the Partnership seek agreement on the key leads from each agency and request formal six-monthly updates.

S DEVLIN ENTERED THE MEETING AT THIS POINT. H ROBERSTSON CONTINUED IN THE CHAIR.

DR J BRAY LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

8. CORPORATE PARENTING UPDATE

There was submitted a report from the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (G/23/16) providing an update regarding the progress of the actions contained within the Corporate Parenting Plan 2021-24 This report was subsequently submitted to the Council's Learning and Families Committee on 15 March 2023.

In introducing the report, H Robertson advised the 2021-24 plan was in place and sat alongside The Promise.

The Partnership noted the update.

9. THEMATIC APPROACH TO PERFORMANCE REPORTING

There was submitted a report (G/23/17) by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (1) starting the eighth year of the thematic reporting plan for performance and outcome information focused on children, young people and families; and (2) setting out a suite of information focused on Child Health and Development, for consideration and scrutiny by the Partnership

In summarising the report, J Chiles advised that there was a gap in immunisation levels in Perth and Kinross compared to nationally, and also added that there was an upward curve in childhood obesity in Perth and Kinross, but did advise that this was without two years of statistics due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

In response to a query from H Robertson regarding the number of neonatal deaths, L Sharkey advised that this was due to reporting, adding that whilst neonatal and stillborn deaths were actually small, post-24 week terminations were reported as neonatal.

The Partnership:

Noted the information as set out Report G/23/17.

10. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

There was no other competent business.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership will take place on 16 June 2023.