



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP

Minute of virtual meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership held on Friday 4 December 2020 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillor J Duff, PKC
Councillor J Rebbeck, PKC
S Devlin, Executive Director (Education and Children's Services), PKC
S Johnston, Head of Education and Learning, PKC
J Pepper, Depute Director (Education and Children's Services) and Chief Social Work Officer, PKC
H Robertson, Head of Services for Children, Young People and Families, Perth and Kinross Council.
Chief Inspector G Binnie, Police Scotland
K Pacholek, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration

In Attendance: B Atkinson, Independent Chair of Child Protection Committee;
P Davison, S Turner and D Williams (all PKC).

Apologies: Councillor C Shiers; and K Reid (PKC).

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 18 September 2021 was submitted and noted as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE ORDER OF BUSINESS BE VARIED

5. PERTH AND KINROSS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE BUSINESS ACTIVITY REPORT SINCE 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

There was submitted a report by B Atkinson, Independent Chair, Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee (CPC) (G/20/142) summarising the key business activities of the CPC since September 2020.

In referring to section 2.5.1 of the report and revised arrangements for the Perth and Kinross Public Protection Chief Officers' Group, J Pepper advised that she felt it would be beneficial for members of the Partnership to have access to this and highlighted that a report to the Partnership to a future meeting in this regard would be helpful.

S Devlin highlighted that the report demonstrated only some of the large amount of work in this area, and expressed thanks and gratitude for those involved in the work in this area, further highlighting the great support provided to schools from across all services.

The Partnership agreed:

- (i) To note and endorse the update on the business activity of the Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee as detailed in Report G/20/142)

6. UPDATE ON TAYSIDE COLLABORATIVE PRIORITY GROUP 5 SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION – LEADERSHIP EVENT

There was submitted a report (G/20/144) updating the Partnership on the Tayside Collaborative Priority Group 5 Leadership Event on 16 October 2020, and to invite the Partnership to lead a local leadership workshop in February 2021.

J Pepper advised that, with regards to the event of 16 October 2020, plans were made moving forward, with a view ahead over the next three years, and further advised that a firm evidence base had been established moving forward.

In response to a query from Councillor Duff regarding whether there were any serious concerns raised by Dr Sarah Vincent, J Pepper advised that whilst concerns would likely to be present in almost all such cases by virtue of the criteria for conducting a review, the focus of the event was more upon good practice and key factors which ensure the effective protection of children. However, although there are themes which emerge from the research, there were no systemic deficiencies reported. B Atkinson commented that the quality and detail of initial case reviews in Perth and Kinross was found by the researcher to be very high giving confidence in our local processes for review and the themes for improvement were more general.

The Partnership:

- (i) Noted the information as set out in Report (G/20/144)
- (ii) Agreed that the Children, Young People and Families Partnership hosts an online workshop in February 2021 involving members of the Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee and Sub-Groups.

7. COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING

There was submitted by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (G/20/143) outlining the recommendations and aims to emerge from the Mental Health Taskforce.

S Turner advised partners that, with regards to mental health, it was important to take a proactive approach as to a reactive approach, and the importance of whole family early intervention. S Turner also highlighted the importance of volunteers within communities, and community involvement. S Turner advised members that a paper would be submitted to Scottish Government within the next week.

The Partnership agreed:

- (i) Noted the information as set out in Report (G/20/143) and the attached appendices.

A TEN MINUTE RECESS WAS TAKEN AT THIS POINT

8. THEMATIC APPROACH TO PERFORMANCE REPORTING

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services, Perth and Kinross Council (G/20/141) concluding the fifth year of thematic reporting for performance/outcome information focused on children, young peoples and families; and (2) setting out a suite of information focused on contextual and inequalities information, for consideration and scrutiny by the Partnership.

In summarising the report, P Davidson advised that this report was considered an end of year catch-all. He highlighted to members that there had continued to be a reduction in teenage pregnancies and that there had been a difference in school attendance for those who are looked after.

In response to a query from Councillor Duff, J Pepper confirmed that those self-isolating but working online from home were considered as being in attendance.

The Partnership:

- (i) Noted the information as set out in Appendices 1 Report G/20/141.
- (ii) Agreed that thematic performance reports continue to be presented to the Partnership for consideration and scrutiny.

9. DATES OF MEETING 2021

Members agreed to the following dates for meetings the Children, Young People and Families Partnership in 2021;

5 March 2021

18 June 2021

17 September 2021

3 December 2021

10. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Chief Inspector G Binnie updated Partners on an ongoing operation by Police Scotland locally regarding a rise in anti-social behaviour in Young People, highlighting a rise in resistance towards police, and adding that this is not exclusive to Perth and Kinross.

Chief Inspector Binnie advised that collaborative work in this regard was ongoing with a number of partners including YMCA and the Council, and action was being taken against premises supplying those underage with alcohol. Chief Inspector Binnie advised that a tiered approach was being undertaken to identify Young People involved in anti-social behaviour, although advised of the difficulties in engaging with schools under present restrictions.

H Robertson added that, with regards the response from a Youth Services, there was a recognition of the issues presently facing Young People, and advised that the although digital platforms were being used, these were not meeting the needs of all Young People. H Robertson added that this issue was not exclusive to Perth City Centre and collaborative work was being undertaken with Community Wardens, Street Pastors and Letham For All amongst others.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Partnership noted the next meeting would be held on Friday 5 March 2021.