



# Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee

Annual Report 2020/2021





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## Preface from Chief Officers

This is the seventh Annual Report of the Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee (CPC). The Child Protection Committee works across all child protection services locally, regionally, and nationally. With these supports and networks in place it aims to support the multi agency workforce and members of the public to ensure Aberdeen is the best place in Scotland to grow up, to promote the care and welfare of our children and to protect them from abuse and harm.

Ensuring that all children in Aberdeen are safeguarded and protected from harm and abuse is taken very seriously by all involved. Core to the CPC functions and effectiveness is multi agency working, this ensures the protection and safety of Aberdeen City's children and young people. The commitment of all agencies is apparent in the day to day delivery of child protection services in the City. It can also be seen in those agencies' extensive contribution to the strategic improvements and developments carried out in 2020-21.

We are committed to understanding the child protection concerns which arise in our City and to making improvements together to address these. We are also committed to recognising the strengths within our families in Aberdeen and to including parents, carers and young people in the ongoing development of our child protection processes. The CPC achievements highlighted in this report include the positive steps we have taken to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our vulnerable children and young people during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

This reports also highlights the significant strides forward we have made in relation to our gathering and multi agency analysis of data, the development and delivery of our Quality Assurance Framework, the delivery and quality assurance of our first ever annual multi agency Learning & Development calendar, and our progress in relation to case reviews which considers the identification and sharing of key learning for practice across Aberdeen City. We also acknowledge the commitment and dedication of all multi agency staff during the pandemic to ensure the smooth implementation of supplementary national guidance, responding to weekly requests for child protection data from Scottish Government, and using creative and alternative means of supporting children and families.

These are just a few of the highlights over the past 12 months and this would not have been possible without the commitment, dedication, and support of the CPC. This year has also seen Adrian Watson take over as Chair of the CPC in April 2021. Adrian took over from Sheena Gault, who was our first ever Independent Chair of both the CPC and Adult Protections Committee (APC). We extend our thanks to Sheena for her commitment and dedication over the past two years and look forward to working alongside Adrian.

We are delighted to approve this report and look forward to another challenging year ahead.



Angela Scott, *Chief Executive*  
Aberdeen City Council



George Macdonald  
*Divisional Commander*  
Police Scotland



Amanda Croft, *Chief Executive*  
NHS Grampian

## Introduction from Independent Chair of CPC

I am delighted to bring you the seventh annual report for the Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee. The CPC is a locally based, multi-agency strategic partnership responsible for the design, development, publication, distribution, dissemination, implementation and evaluation of child protection policy and practice across Aberdeen City. The CPC are also responsible for the quality assurance of multi-agency practice and ensuring that the performance measures put in place ultimately lead to improving outcomes for children and young people.

Since taking over Chair of the CPC in April 2021 I am grateful to have been working alongside the committed senior membership of the CPC which spans across the full range of agencies and services with child protection responsibility including Aberdeen City Council (Social Work, Education and Housing), Police Scotland, NHS Grampian, the Reporter to the Children's Hearing, Aberdeen Violence against Women Partnership and our third sector colleagues. I am also supported by the Lead Officer for the CPC, Stuart Lamberton, who leads and coordinates all the work of the CPC in partnership with children's services across the City. Together this has been of great benefit to help support and drive forward the improvements the CPC identify and are responsible for.

We have been living through the current pandemic but our focus and responsibilities have not changed. Child protection means preventing a child suffering significant harm from abuse or neglect. The CPC is

committed to its responsibility to keep all children in Aberdeen City safe from harm whether abuse or neglect has already taken place or looks likely to take place. In working to achieve that, the functions of the CPC are continuous improvement, strategic planning, public information and communication. Professional and public bodies work collaboratively to promote and improve child protection across all areas of their agencies and services.

The CPC is governed directly by the Chief Officers Group (COG) which consists of the Local Police Commander and the Chief Executives of NHS Grampian and Aberdeen City Council. The COG is responsible for the leadership, direction and scrutiny of the local child protection services and they have strategic responsibility for the CPC. The CPC meets quarterly and hosts an annual development day which provides a good opportunity for reflection and to share key learning.

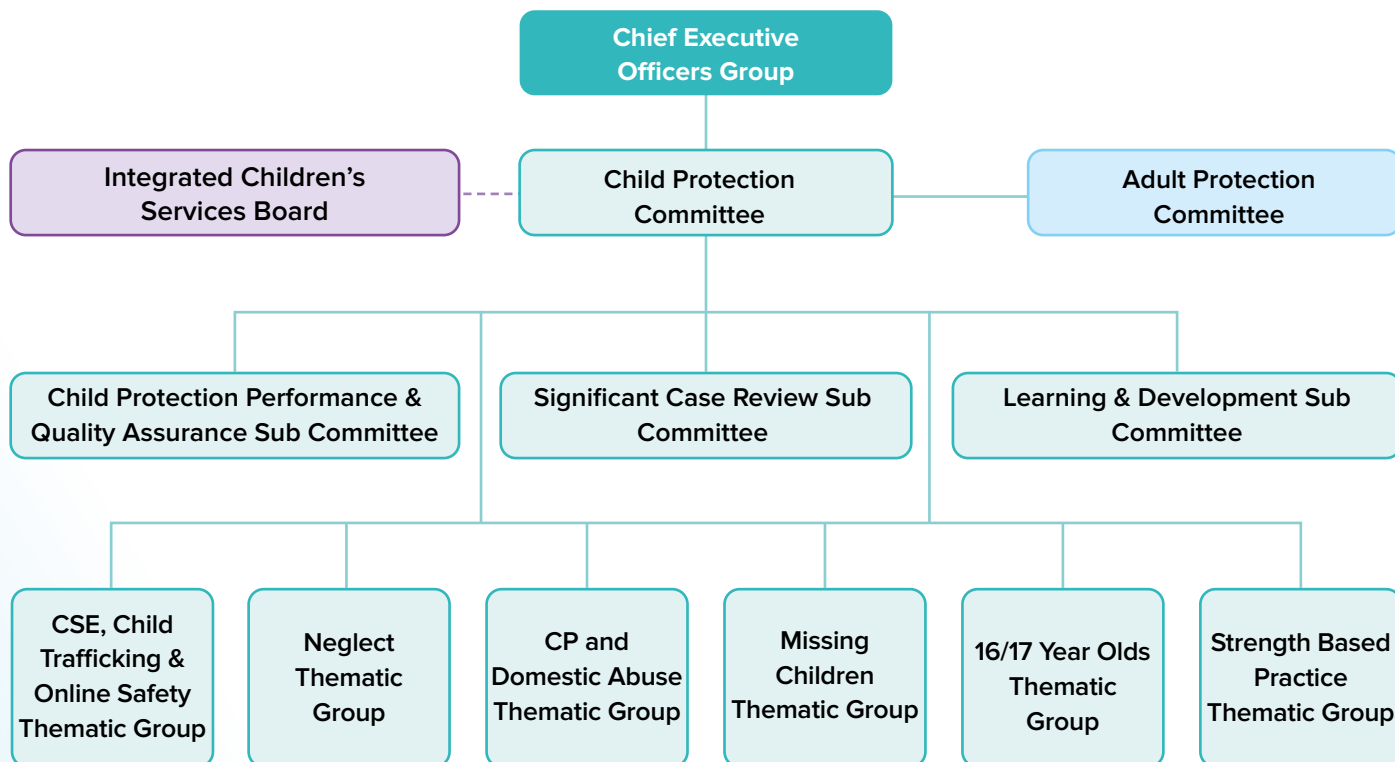
This report sets out our progress from 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021, demonstrates how we carry out our core functions and the work we deliver in all areas of child protection.

Adrian Watson,  
*Independent Chair of Aberdeen City CPC*



## CPC structure and delivery

The CPC structure for 2019/2020 can be found below:



As the structure illustrates, the CPC is governed by the COG who have clear responsibilities set out in the [Protecting children and young People: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer responsibilities](#) guidance published by the Scottish Government in February 2019. The Aberdeen City COG is well established as is the relationship between the COG and the CPC. The CPC adheres to the [National Guidance for Child Protection 2014](#) and fulfils its core functions through this structure and through the multi agency CP Programme 2019-2021, which is also covered in this report.



# Child Protection Programme 2019–2021

In our Child Protection (CP) Programme, we make sure national priorities are addressed and include improvements required by local strategic plans, such as the Children’s Services Plan and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) which recognises that ‘Children Are Our Future’ and need to be safe and responsible as well as protected from harm.

In delivery of this programme the CPC directly supports the LOIP, and in particular stretch outcomes 4, 5, and 8 with the following key drivers:

- 4.1 Ensuring that families receive the parenting and family support they need
- 4.2 Keeping young children safe
- 5.2 Increasing children’s knowledge and understanding of their own physical and mental wellbeing and take an early intervention and prevention approach
- 8.2 Ensuring that children and young people receive accessible information and opportunities to engage and participate in decision making

We also incorporate our local work identified through various self-evaluation strands such as case file auditing, significant case reviews, inspection findings, statistics, data analysis and practitioners’ knowledge. The programme is reviewed at the annual CPC Development Day and routinely at quarterly CPC meetings. The work contained within CP Programme 2019 -2021 was officially signed off by the CPC in June 2021 and can be found throughout this report and at Appendix 1. Work is already underway to develop and implement the CP Programme 2021 – 2024.

## Performance and Quality Assurance sub committee

The P&QA sub committee quarterly data and scrutiny reports to the CPC which are multi agency and have the [Minimum Dataset for Child Protection Committees \(celcis.org\)](https://celcis.org) embedded within. This framework is updated annually and approved by CPC, it includes 10 scrutiny questions which include all the information required from the NMD and further information that the CPC specifically want to scrutinise.

The P&QA sub committee continues to work with all partners, the Business Intelligence Unit, and the Child Protection Register (CPR) team to ensure we analyse the data, identify trends, and areas for improvement, before we report to the CPC. The CPC approved the revised membership of the P&QA sub committee in line with the functions of the required on behalf of the CPC.

Over the past 12 months, taking into consideration the COVID-19 pandemic, the P&QA sub committee has revised its approach to the sharing and analysis of the data. This approach utilises Microsoft Teams to have one data and scrutiny report, per quarter, held in one place where all services and agency leads can contribute to the multi agency analysis prior to the P&QA sub committee meeting. This allows the information to be added prior to the P&QA sub committee meetings meaning the meeting itself can focus on the multi agency analysis and ensure the final version is ready for CPC which highlight the key areas for consideration.

Over the past 12 months the P&QA sub committee has been supporting the weekly return on child protection data which has been required by the Scottish Government since April 2020. The P&QA sub committee has also been adding qualitative data to the quarterly data and scrutiny report in relation to Inter-Agency Referral Discussions (IRDs), Joint Investigative Interviews (JIIs), and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

Members of the P&QA sub committee, on behalf of the CPC, have recently been invited along to a national group, created and led by CELCIS, along with one other CPC, to explore the development of a national data set for monitoring outcomes. This outcome group have met twice already and work continues to look at how outcomes can be included in data sets.

### Quality Assurance Framework

As highlighted in the 2019/2020 CPC annual report the P&QA sub committee were developing the Quality Assurance Framework (QAF). Over the course of 2020 and into 2021 the QAF was successfully implemented and supported by the CPC. The audit programme runs annually and aims to have two multi agency audits per year for the CPC with one of those carried out jointly with the Children's Services Board (CSB).

Representatives from health, social work, police, education, and the voluntary sector are identified and meet through the digital platform Microsoft Teams to review the selected cases. The tool used in the process is based on the Care Inspectorate document *"How well are we improving the lives of children and young people? A guide to evaluating services using quality indicators."*(2018)

Auditors are paired appropriately to ensure a multi agency focus on each case and a flexible two week timescale is identified for auditors to come together and review the cases using the agreed audit tool. After the individual audits have been completed by the pairs of auditors a discussion session is planned to look at the initial findings of these audits. These discussions consider the key questions in the QAF:

- How are we doing?
- How do we know?
- What are we going to do now?

After the discussion session, the auditors and audit leads compile a summary report for the CPC with key recommendations to be considered. The CPC is then responsible for ensuring the identified learning and

good practice is shared across Aberdeen City and embedded into practice. This is measured through well established quality assurance processes highlighted in this report. The audit ensured that personal information was accessed and handled in compliance with the appropriate legislation and Scottish Government guidelines.

There were two audits carried out during the period covered by this annual report and a brief overview from the reports for each are as follows:

### National Risk Framework tool – September 2020

Findings in the Joint Inspection 2019 and in local ICRs and SCRs identified variable use and quality of National Risk Framework tools and chronologies in practice. This audit topic and outline remit was agreed by the CPC to consider *"How well do we use the National Risk Assessment Framework tools in assessing risk for children and young people?"*

There were key strengths identified in this audit which included linking analysis of risk using the NRF tools to the Child's Plan was generally good or very good across the cases audited and strong evidence of effective partnership working and relevant information sharing across the multi-agency partners. The audit identified a willingness identified across the City to follow best practice but it also highlighted that staff would benefit from a more consistent approach to the use of the NRF tools and this was something the CPC was tasked with progressing. This work was completed and presented to the CPC in June 2021.



### *Neglect – February 2021*

Findings in local and national Independent Case Reviews and Serious Case Reviews have noted the persistent recurrence of cumulative neglect in families whose circumstances were considered as part of these processes. A workforce survey was completed prior to this joint audit being carried out by the CPC and CSB which focussed on “what has been the impact of various local improvement activities undertaken to improve the identification and response to neglect?”

There were key strengths identified in this audit which included high confidence levels of staff, positive engagement with multi agency learning & development (L&D) modules, and 70% of the cases audited found improvement in outcomes for children who experienced neglect. This demonstrates the impact strengths based and supportive work by carried out staff in Aberdeen City when working with children and their families.

This audit also highlighted some areas for improvement which centred around the recording of neglect in case files and the need to promote the use of multi agency tools and guidance to help support staff. The CPC was asked to re-establish the neglect thematic group to help progress the recommendations from the audit and this work is well underway.

These were the first audits in Aberdeen City to have been conducted using Teams, previously audits would have been conducted in large meetings rooms face-to-face so being able to adapt to an online approach proved to be very successful. The full reports and associated presentations together with the learning identified and actions moving forward can be found on the [CPC Local Learning webpage](#).





### Performance Management

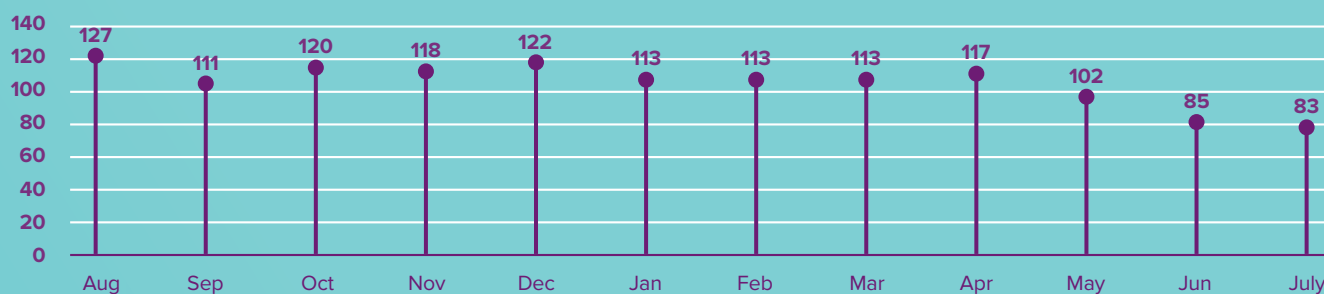
The suite of performance management information considered by the CPC includes the NMD, comprehensive quarterly reports from the Child Protection Register (CPR), SCRA Child Protection Committee reports, numbers of Child Protection Orders from Legal Services, administrative information from Child Protection Admin (Aberdeen City Council),

and other annual statistical information from others such as the Scottish Government and Social Work Scotland. These reports are analysed by the P&QA sub committee in accordance with the updated data framework and scrutiny questions before being reported quarterly to the CPC. The following information is taken from these reports and covers the timescales set out within this report.

### Registrations:

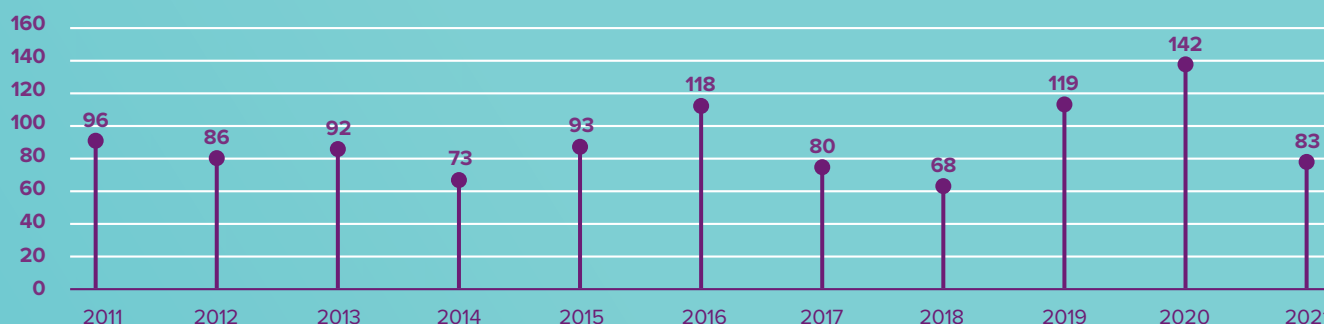
Number of Children registered at month end over the last year

Number of Children on the CPR 01.08.20 - 31.07.21



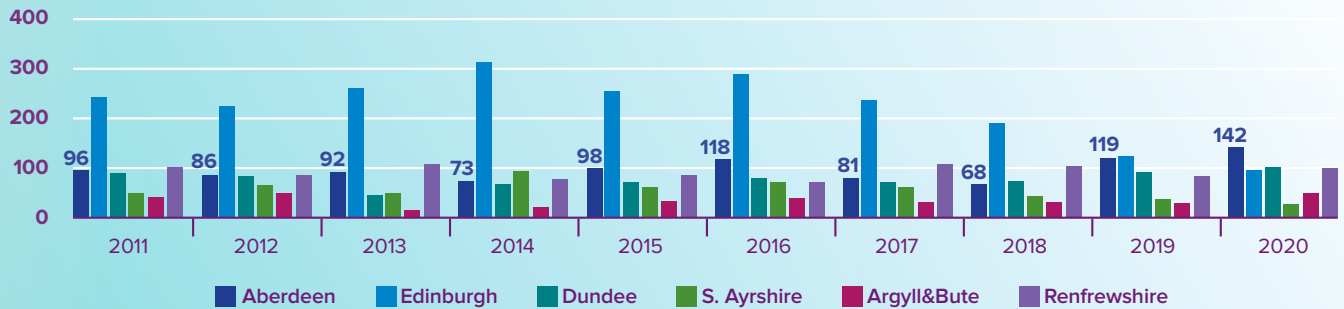
Registration Trends over the last 10 years (as at 31st July)

Registration Trends 2011 - 2021



**Number of Registrations per comparative local authority over the last 10 years**  
 (Note comparator authority data is only available to 31.07.20)

Number of Children on CPR  
 Comparator Local Authorities - Aberdeen City



**Length of registrations per month**

Duration	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July
0 to 3 months	6	3	5	4	4	3	12	18	22	13	12	14
4 to 6 months	14	13	12	20	22	21	19	22	28	26	25	24
7 to 12 months	59	53	63	60	65	62	63	55	51	47	37	35
13 to 24 months	46	40	38	32	29	25	17	16	15	15	11	10
25 to 48 months	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	0
48 months +	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>83</b>

**Age bands of Children on CPR**

Duration	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July
0 - 4 years	59	54	55	57	60	45	42	34	40	38	39	38
5 - 10 years	43	38	43	41	43	44	49	52	52	45	32	31
11 - 15 years	20	16	15	14	16	18	14	15	15	14	10	9
16 - 17 years	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	2	2	1	1
Unborn	5	3	7	6	3	3	5	9	8	3	3	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>83</b>

## De-Registrations

200 de-registrations in 2020/21 compared to 145 in 2019/20

Duration	Number	Comparator Local Authorities 31.07.20	
0 – 3 months	37	Edinburgh	205
4 – 6 months	42	Dundee	144
7 – 12 months	80	South Ayrshire	55
13 – 24 months	39	Argyll & Bute	46
25 – 48 months	2	Renfrewshire	121
48 months +	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>		

### Number of De-Registrations per month and duration of registration

Duration	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July
0 to 3 months	1	3	2	1	1	3	0	1	3	10	9	3
4 to 6 months	7	5	4	1	2	1	3	8	5	4	1	1
7 to 12 months	7	9	5	14	4	8	5	8	4	4	10	2
13 to 24 months	3	6	2	6	3	4	8	1	1	0	4	1
25 to 48 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
48 months +	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>



## Re-Registrations

### Number of Re-registrations and number of months between re-registration

(A child is counted as being re-registered if it has had any previous registration history and will appear in the monthly totals until de-registration.)

Duration	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July
0 to 3 months	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
4 to 6 months	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	0
7 to 12 months	4	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
13 to 24 months	6	6	7	4	4	3	4	4	3	1	0	0
25 to 48 months	6	6	4	4	4	4	6	3	5	5	5	5
48 months +	10	6	6	6	7	5	5	5	8	8	7	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>

- 18% of children has previous registration history, lower than the National average of 20%
- The longest time interval between individual registrations was 11 years 1 month and the shortest 8 months



## Concerns Recorded at Case Conference

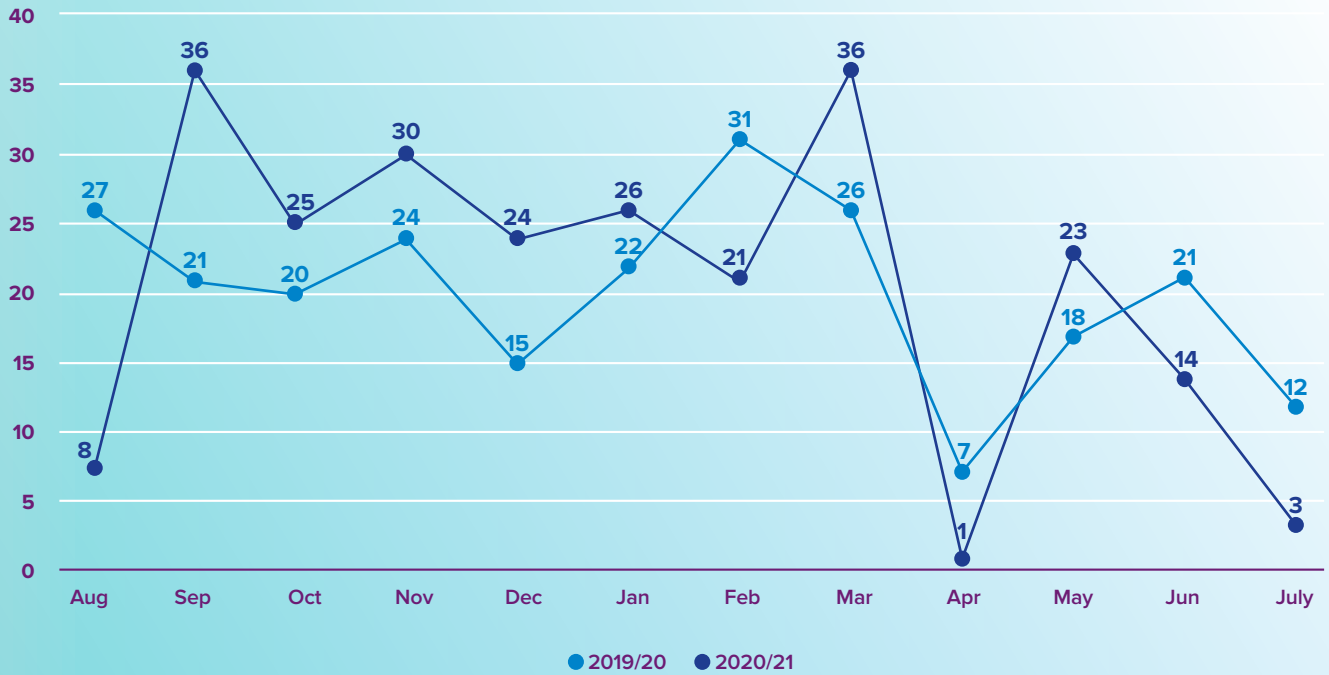
### Aberdeen City

Mirrors the most common causes recorded nationally – Emotional Abuse, Domestic Abuse, Neglect, Drugs and Parental Mental Health. Domestic Abuse is above the national average, increasing from Q2 whilst Alcohol, Non-engaging family and Other remain well below.

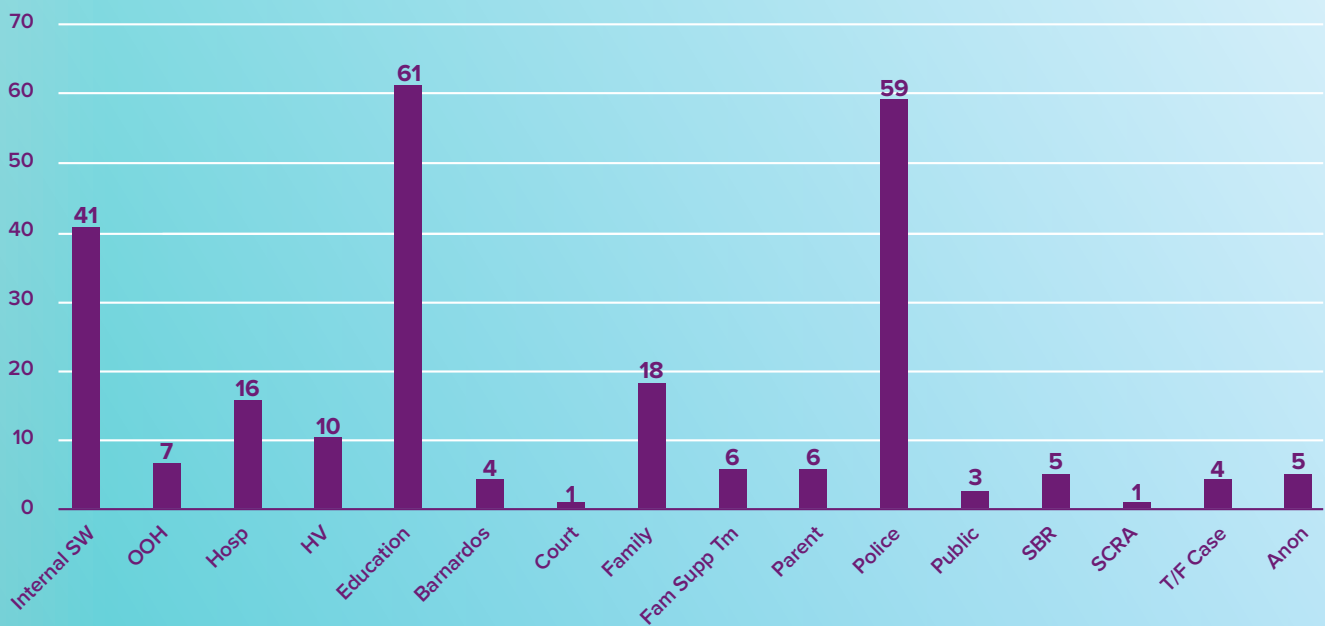
		Q4 (20/21)			Q3 (20/21)			Q2 (20/21)			Q1 (20/21)		
	National	July	June	May	April	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sept	Aug
<b>Number on CPR</b>	2,654	83	85	102	117	113	113	113	122	118	120	111	127
<b>Child Placing Themselves at Risk</b>	3%	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	1 (0.8%)	1 (0.8%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (3%)	1 (0.8%)	1 (0.9%)	2 (1.5%)
<b>C S E</b>	2%	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	1 (0.9%)	1 (0.8%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (1.7%)	2 (3%)	1 (0.8%)	1 (0.9%)	1 (0.7%)
<b>Domestic Abuse</b>	43%	44 (53%)	44 (52%)	54 (53%)	65 (55.5%)	58 (51%)	55 (49%)	55 (49%)	51 (42%)	43 (36%)	42 (35%)	37 (33%)	37 (29%)
<b>Emotional Abuse</b>	39%	30 (36%)	31 (36%)	37 (36%)	45 (38%)	43 (38%)	47 (41.5%)	42 (37%)	39 (32%)	30 (25%)	26 (22%)	26 (23%)	35 (27.5%)
<b>F &amp; D Labour</b>	Included in other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Neglect</b>	42%	29 (35%)	30 (35%)	33 (32%)	35 (30%)	39 (34.5%)	35 (31%)	34 (30%)	37 (30%)	45 (38%)	49 (40%)	41 (37%)	57 (45%)
<b>Non-Engaging Family</b>	23%	2 (2%)	3 (3.5%)	8 (8%)	9 (8%)	10 (9%)	12 (11%)	11 (10%)	13 (10.6%)	13 (11%)	13 (11%)	13 (12%)	13 (10%)
<b>Other Concern</b>	17%	8 (10%)	10 (12%)	10 (10%)	14 (8.5%)	12 (11%)	8 (7%)	8 (7%)	8 (6.5%)	7 (6%)	8 (7%)	8 (7%)	8 (6%)
<b>Parental Alcohol Misuse</b>	23%	4 (5%)	3 (3.5%)	12 (12%)	12 (10%)	14 (12%)	8 (7%)	10 (9%)	10 (8%)	8 (7%)	8 (7%)	5 (4.5%)	7 (5.5%)
<b>Parental Drug Misuse</b>	30%	27 (32.5%)	27 (32%)	28 (27%)	39 (33%)	41 (36%)	40 (35%)	32 (28%)	33 (27%)	28 (24%)	28 (23%)	25 (22.5%)	27 (21%)
<b>Parental MH</b>	39%	22 (26.5%)	22 (26%)	31 (30%)	31 (26%)	31 (27%)	30 (26.5%)	28 (25%)	28 (23%)	27 (24%)	32 (27%)	27 (24%)	31 (24%)
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	19%	19 (23%)	20 (23.5%)	23 (22.5%)	27 (23%)	20 (17%)	18 (16%)	17 (15%)	17 (14%)	12 (10%)	9 (7.5%)	10 (9%)	16 (12.5%)
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	7%	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	1 (0.8%)	1 (0.8%)	1 (0.8%)	5 (4%)	5 (4%)	12 (10%)	12 (10%)	8 (6%)	8 (7%)	7 (5.5%)
<b>Trafficking</b>	Included in other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Enquiries

A total of 247 enquiries were made by Social Work Teams across the City in the year 20/21.



## Source of Referral (original source of referral prior to the CPR enquiry made)



### Significant Case Review sub committee

The Significant Case Review (SCR) sub committee meets every two months and has responsibility to carry out Initial Case Reviews (ICR) when a case is referred in using the [Local Operating Procedure for ICR and SCR](#). Once these reviews are completed they are then reported to the CPC and ratified by the COG. If these reviews do not proceed to an SCR the learning is shared with the team around the child and then more widely across the City.

The learning identified is shared in various forms; through multi agency training via the Learning and Development sub committee, learning events hosted in the City, seven part briefings, and learning sessions with those staff directly involved in the cases. Identifying this local learning is crucial to ensuring improvements are made in multi-agency practice and that practitioners have the tools and knowledge required to ensure learning is embedded into practice.

From August 2020 to end of July 2021 the SCR sub committee considered one local review and four national reviews. With reference to the latter, learning from other areas of Scotland was considered and looked at through a local, Aberdeen lens. This is then recorded in the SCR sub committee index and reported to the CPC and the COG detailing what local actions have been taken where required. In relation to the local review, learning from this resulted in the development of new multi agency guidance for professional challenge and reflective discussions, an area which had been identified for improvement. This highlights the emphasis placed locally on learning from cases under review and improving practice. The subsequent briefings and learning events from reviews ensure that we provide our practitioners with the appropriate tools to ultimately improve outcomes for our children and young people.

Latterly, the SCR sub committee were heavily involved and engaged with the work and consultation carried out in relation to the new national process for Learning Reviews which is due to replace the ICR and SCR process. This national review drew on the experience in Aberdeen of being the first area in Scotland to have used the Welsh methodology and given the focus and manner in which reviews are already carried out in Aberdeen, the proposed new process accords well with practice already embedded in the City.

### Learning and Development sub committee

The L&D sub committee is well established and comprises of representatives from multi agency children's services. The role of the L&D sub committee is to identify and address areas where multi agency child protection learning will benefit professional's practice across Aberdeen City and help improve outcomes for children and young people.

The multi agency L&D coordinator, in partnership with Aberlour, has designed, developed and is now delivering the second annual multi agency L&D calendar to the multi agency workforce across Aberdeen City. The calendar is delivered in partnership with colleagues in Aberlour and volunteers from Aberdeen City Council (ACC), NHS Grampian, Police Scotland, and Scottish Children's Reporters Association (SCRA). Working together, the L&D sub committee have produced the following courses which are available [here](#):

- Introduction to Safeguarding (e-module)
- Managing, Recording and Sharing Information (e-module)
- Assessing and Planning
- Effective Chronologies
- Risk, Analysis and Thresholds
- Managers Course
- Online Safety and Awareness training
- Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Trafficking
- Domestic Abuse and Child Protection
- Emotional Abuse in Children and Young People
- Neglect
- Parental Resistance
- Female Genital Mutilation (e-module)
- Children Affected by Parental Substance Misuse (e-module)

Between August 2020 and July 2021 the Learning and Development Sub Committee delivered 91 training courses to over 1000 multi agency staff. In addition, over 500 multi agency staff have completed the e-modules on offer. The L&D sub committee continue to explore the best and most appropriate delivery methods to meet the needs of multi agency staff and offer face to face training, virtual training, and online e-module training. The L&D sub committee have a well established and thorough quality assurance process for all training in the form of an online, post training, digital survey and a three month follow up dip sample. This dip sample requires trainers to randomly select three professionals per course, and ask them further in depth questions about the training and its impact on practice. Completing these dip samples allows the L&D sub committee to gather evidence on how the training has improved practice and helped contribute towards improved outcomes for children and young people.

The L&D sub committee also use the data gathered to help identify areas that may require improvement or highlight areas of good practice. The L&D sub committee is assured and confident that the training is having a real impact on helping improve outcomes for children and young people across Aberdeen City. By way of a short example this feedback from a member of staff who attended the Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Trafficking training:

*'Before I attended this training I didn't think any of my clients were at risk of exploitation. However, when exploitation was discussed and defined I began to think about a particular young person and the behaviours he has been presenting recently. I began to do more digging into my concerns with him after the training and realised he was a high risk victim of exploitation for potential drug trafficking. He had been hanging around with 3 boys, one of whom sold drugs and another who had gone to prison, but my young person didn't know what he had gone to prison for. This threw up red flags for me and so we completed work on exploitation and healthy relationships (using some of the resources that had been discussed during training) which made a positive impact on his life and we still meet weekly.'*

The L&D sub committee presents an annual report to CPC in January to cover the training and quality assurance carried out during the calendar year. The L&D annual report for 2020 can be found [here](#).





## Thematic groups

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The CPC also has several multi agency thematic groups, including some short life groups, that are responsible for delivering on the priorities set out in the CP Programme. Over the past 12 months they have each progressed specific areas of business:

### Exploitation

- Re-named from the previous Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Online Safety, and Child Trafficking thematic group with refreshed Terms of Reference approved by the CPC
- In partnership with the L&D coordinator, hosted one online safety and CSE Facebook live events for parents. This event was positively received with 97 engagement comments from members of the public and it has been viewed nearly 5000 times
- Specific multi agency guidance on Child Trafficking now launched and revisions to the various CSE guidance now underway
- The development of a specific CSE dataset which reports directly to the P&QA sub committee. A huge achievement and this work continues as we look to refine this dataset and incorporate it into the overall CPC data framework.
- Delivery and quality assurance of CSE, Child Trafficking, and Online Safety packages for all staff, in partnership with the L&D sub committee
- Regular reporting on trafficking incidents are fed into this group to ensure any learning can be quickly shared to help improve practice

### Neglect

- Now re-established as a result of the joint Neglect audit and will progress the recommendations identified from the audit
- Development and dissemination of learning identified from local case reviews
- Support the delivery of the QAF
- In partnership with the L&D coordinator, the delivery of multi agency Neglect training through the L&D sub committee

### Strength based practice

- As highlighted in our inspection strength based practice is recognised as embedded in practice in Aberdeen City. The CPC are confident a variety of approaches to meet families and professionals need continue to develop. Digital approaches to case conferences have been successful and will continue with partners working together to identify and build on the improvements made
- As highlighted in 2019 the CPC aimed to adopt a strength based practice approach across all agencies and services in Aberdeen City, with a focus on child protection work. This continues in day to day practice and now includes the Aberdeen Young Persons Rights Service. As such, this thematic group was brought to an end by the CPC in December 2020 to allow focus and progression on other priorities

### Missing Children

- Review and update of all single and multi agency policies
- After the launch of the overarching Missing Person Protocol across Aberdeen City, and as part of the National Missing Persons Framework, work is underway in collaboration with the Missing People charity to review and improve return home discussions
- This work also involves the mapping of the journey of children and young peoples who go missing across Aberdeen city. This will identify potential local improvements and highlight areas of good practice

### Child Protection and Domestic Abuse

- Review and update of single and multi agency guidance
- Together with the Aberdeen Violence Against Women Partnership, the development and planning in relation to Equally Safe outcomes as part of a joint bid across Aberdeen City strategic partnerships
- In partnership with the L&D coordinator, the ongoing quality assurance of multi agency Domestic Abuse training

### *Vulnerable 16 and 17 year olds*

- Child Protection in relation to this age group is well established and there is extensive interface with Children Services Board (CSB)
- Reviewing publication of the Independent Care Review in February 2020 which was of the CPC development day
- Given the connections with the specific stretch outcomes in the LOIP and the responsibilities of the CSB where partners share a Corporate Parenting responsibility, this thematic group was brought to an end in March 2021 with the CPC satisfied that arrangements for child or adult protection for this age grouping are long established, and well understood by the professional workforce

### **Development Days**

The CPC held its annual development day in October 2020 and an additional development day in May 2021. This format of two development days throughout the year was agreed to allow more time for collaborative multi agency discussion out with the quarterly meetings. These two development sessions focussed on the following:

#### *October 2020*

- Summary of annual data progression and developments through COVID-19
- CPC Annual Data Summary
- Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) 2019 –national update and local multi agency guidance
- National Learning Review guidance – introduction and consultation feedback
- Preventing Sexual Offending Involving Children and Young People

This development day was supported by national colleagues; Dr Alex McTier from CELCIS who attended to support the data delivery session and Barbara Firth, Independent Reviewer, who helpfully provided a useful introduction and insight into the revised national guidance on learning reviews currently being developed.

#### *May 2021*

- The Promise
- CPC Risk Register
- CP Programme 2019 – 2024 and future priorities

This development day focussed on what the CPC delivers locally and was supported by an input from the Chief Social Work Officer, Graeme Simpson, in relation to the Promise and how the CPC can support this work. At this development day the CP Programme 2019 – 2021 was officially signed off by the CPC and work on the CP Programme 2021 – 2024 started.

These development days involve all members of the CPC, sub committees, thematic groups, and representation from the COG. It provides the opportunity to review progress and feedback on quality assurance. These development sessions offer the opportunity to further enhance strategic planning with other Aberdeen City partnerships including the AVAWP, ADP, and APC. This means that child protection is seen alongside the wider context of supporting families and meeting children's needs. It ensures that partners are aligned in their aims, priorities and delivery of improvements as set out in the Child Protection Programme and the LOIP.

### **Communication**

Since the beginning of 2020 and as part of the wider CPC communications regular weekly messages are shared with the public using the various social media platforms utilised by Aberdeen City Council (ACC), NHS Grampian, and Police Scotland. These messages relate to national and local priorities contained within the Child Protection (CP) Programme 2019-2021.

In addition to this, and the work of the sub committees and thematic groups in relation to communication across Aberdeen City, we continually update our CP webpages on the multi agency gettingitright website. The CP webpages can be found here and are regularly updated with policies, procedures, general practitioner information for all multi agency staff, and of course public information.

## Child Protection Partnership

The [Child Protection Partnership](#) (CPP) is a North East Partnership hosted by Aberdeen City. The CPP consists of the three Lead Officers from Moray, Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City CPCs. The Child Protection Register (CPR) team are part of the CPP and consist of a Team Leader and two part time staff.

The Child Protection Partnership have an overview of child protection activity on a North East basis. This is a forum where information can be shared and priorities progressed collaboratively on a North East basis. The partnership is underpinned by these principles of equivalence and collaboration; and requires input and connectivity from the three CPC areas, with specific roles being shared such chairing and arrangement of CPP meetings, leading on events, and carrying out any necessary actions in relation to the CPR.

The CPP have four main areas of business:

- To manage the North East CPR on behalf of each CPC – carried out by the CPR team
- To develop, deliver, and evaluate bespoke North East workforce development events and conferences based on identified need from the CPCs – carried out by the identified CPC lead
- To manage and administer the CPP website – carried out by the CPR Team Leader on behalf of the CPP
- To ensure that Joint Investigative Interview (JII) Training is being delivered and quality assured across the North East – carried out by the North East JII working group on behalf of the CPP

The CPR is an administrative process for alerting workers to the fact that there is sufficient professional concern about a child to warrant a multi agency child protection plan. Placing a child's name on the Register does not in itself protect a child; protection comes from the multi agency child protection plan.

The Joint Investigative Interview training is coordinated by the Grampian Joint Investigative Interview Group which is chaired by Police Scotland. This group ensures that select staff in Police and Social Work are adequately trained to deliver this essential element of child protection in Aberdeen City. Coordination meetings are held quarterly as well as an annual business meeting. The Grampian Joint Investigative Interview Group report to the CPP and are currently working on establishing a standard process for quality assuring these interviews. There is also a national

pilot underway looking at how the JII process can be standardised and accredited across Scotland using the new Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM). This first pilot is yet to finish and updates will be provided to the CPP in due course. The CPC are supporting the work taking place across the North East to begin preparations for SCIM.

The CPP has hosted several events over the past 12 months including:

- Childhood Trauma and Adversity Part 1 and Part 2, delivered in September 2020
- Hidden Harm – Effective home visits, delivered in December 2020
- Contextual Safeguarding, delivered in April 2021
- National Risk Framework Part 1 and Part 2, delivered in May 2021
- Integrating the Disintegrated, delivered in June 2021

These events were hosted by the CPP reaching over 1300 multi agency staff across the North East and delivered by various national experts in these fields. The events were well received and this feedback was obtained by routine evaluation of these events. More information and the recorded sessions can be found on the CPP website linked above.

## The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

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In March 2020 the world was hit by the coronavirus pandemic and many restrictions were put in place by governments. Some of these restrictions have significantly relaxed as a result of vaccines but lighter restrictions are still in place in Aberdeen City as of July 2021. This pandemic has presented many challenges for children's services and agencies across Scotland.

Throughout 2020 the CPC moved quickly from normal quarterly meetings to meeting every 4 weeks to give adequate time and opportunity to work through the challenges of the pandemic on a multi agency basis. The CPC have worked through supplementary guidance published by Scottish Government, continually reviewed and updated the CPC Risk Register to take account of the challenges posed by the pandemic, and ensured the public and multi agency staff have been kept updated through the CP webpages and services social media accounts. These key areas are ongoing pieces of work and will continue to be updated as required.

As demonstrated throughout this report the CPC continued to deliver on its responsibilities during the pandemic which is testament to the commitment and dedication of the members of the CPC, connected partnerships, and all those working to support children, young people and their families across the city

'Hidden harm' is harm or abuse that is obscured from public view. At the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic the issue of hidden harm was flagged as a potential significant vulnerability factor that would challenge agencies ability to support vulnerable individuals/families. Universal services and other partners are responsible for identifying concerns about individuals. However, for those not already known to specialist services, the closure of schools, and community health services delivering some services on a virtual basis, limited some of the engagement with children,

young people and their families. Throughout this pandemic multi agency staff adapted to provide both direct face to face support and utilise digital means of communication and this was underpinned by a risk based framework. The establishment of "Fit Like" hubs also went some way to providing support to children and young people with known wellbeing vulnerabilities but not known to social work.

This report has acknowledged that the complexity of data collection and analysis with key information provided specifically in relation to COVID-19. The pandemic has shone a light on the existing data systems within services and agencies represented on the CPC that do not easily 'speak' to each other. As a consequence, sharing relevant data in relation to children and families can be very labour intensive and often complex. However, the CPC does benefit from the well established P&QA sub committee who provide multi agency data and information for the consideration of the CPC.

The longer term consequences of the pandemic will become clear over the coming years and CPC remains committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children, young people, and their families across Aberdeen City.

## Finance and resource

The CPP activities and staffing costs are funded by Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and NHS Grampian each contributing 26%, and Police Scotland and the Moray Council each contributing 11% of the total annual cost.

Aberdeen City COG comprising the statutory agencies (ACC, NHS and Police Scotland) determine the budget and resource for the ongoing work of the City CPC. This is required to meet staff costs, CPP contribution costs and anticipated local expenditure to carry out the child protection work which includes learning reviews, priorities identified in this report and the CP Programme 2019-2021. The staffing complement for Aberdeen City CPC is the Independent Chair, Lead Officer, and multi agency L&D coordinator.

## Conclusion

This seventh annual report of Aberdeen City CPC celebrates the significant developments and improvements over 2020 and 2021. It highlights the commitment of agencies and services to address current and emerging issues in order to continue to improve services for the protection of children and young people from all forms of abuse, neglect or exploitation.

This report has demonstrated the continued impact of COVID-19 but also outlines the progress and continued improvement made by all children's services in what has undoubtedly been the most unprecedented and challenging period yet for our children, our families, and our communities. The aims and priorities of the CPC for the year ahead are outlined in the upcoming CP programme 2021 – 2024 which directly aligns to the Promise and describes how and when these improvements will be achieved.



## Services for Children and Young People in Aberdeen City Child Protection Programme January 2019 – December 2021



### **Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee**

Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee (CPC) is a multi-agency strategic partnership governed by the Chief Executive Officers of Aberdeen City Council, NHS Grampian and the Police Commander for the area. It is committed to providing individual and collective leadership and direction for the management of child protection services in the Aberdeen City area. Improvements are driven through the Child Protection Programme.

The CPC works alongside Integrated Children's Services in Aberdeen to ensure that improvement areas are aligned. In this way we ensure the best and most effective use of resources. The CPC also aims to work collaboratively with other strategic partnerships in the City such as Aberdeen Violence Against Women Partnership (particularly in relation to child protection and domestic abuse), Adult Protection Committee, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.

Improvement activity is reported to and monitored by the CPC and an Annual Report is made widely available across agencies.

## Child Protection Programme: 2019 – 2021

### Our Aims

*The Child Protection Programme aims to improve the safety, wellbeing and life chances of vulnerable children and young people. As a partnership we achieve this by*

- *recognising and responding when children and young people need protection*
- *helping children and young people stay safe, healthy and, for those who have experienced abuse and neglect, to recover from their experiences and*
- *providing strong and effective collaborative leadership to deliver the Child Protection Programme*

The Child Protection Programme includes the improvement activity identified by

- Local self-evaluation through data analysis, case file auditing and the collaboration of multi agency professionals in the City,
- National initiatives driven by legislation and other Scottish Government priorities and
- Local priorities identified in the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

### Our Priorities in the Programme 2019 – 2021

- *Strength Based Practice and Participation of children, young people and families in child protection processes*
- *Cumulative Neglect*
- *On-line Safety, Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Trafficking*
- *Child Protection and Domestic Abuse*
- *Vulnerable 16-17 Year Olds and Missing Children*
- *Emotional Abuse*
- *Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (including Female Genital Mutilation, Ethnicity, LGBT+, Prevent, Forced Marriage) and Disability in the field of Child Protection*

This programme will be delivered on a phased basis as this ensures better embedding of improvements in practice as well as realistically enabling us to deliver on the programme with the resources available. It is acknowledged that, whilst this is a comprehensive programme, it requires to be sufficiently flexible to be adjusted as needs arise, such as from the findings of case reviews, audits, joint inspections as well as developing areas identified in the LOIP or by Integrated Children's Services.

Priorities	Responsible	Start	Finish	2019				2020				2021			
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Strength Based Practice and Participation	Children's SW	01/01/2019	01/07/2021	[Teal bar from Q1 2019 to Q3 2021]											
Cumulative Neglect	NHS Grampian	01/01/2019	01/07/2021	[Teal bar from Q1 2019 to Q3 2021]											
Online Safety, CSE and Child Trafficking	Education Services	01/01/2019	01/07/2021	[Teal bar from Q1 2019 to Q3 2021]											
Vulnerable 16-17 year olds	Third Sector	01/10/2020	30/12/2021	[Teal bar from Q4 2020 to Q4 2021]											
Missing Children	Third Sector	01/01/2019	29/11/2019	[Teal bar from Q1 2019 to Q4 2019]											
Emotional Abuse	Children's SW	01/01/2019	01/07/2021	[Teal bar from Q1 2019 to Q3 2021]											
Child Protection and Domestic Abuse	Police Scotland	01/01/2019	31/12/2021	[Teal bar from Q1 2019 to Q4 2021]											
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (Including FGM, ethnicity, LGBT+, Prevent and Forced Marriage) and Disability in the field of Child Protection	SCRA	01/01/2019	31/12/2021	[Teal bar from Q1 2019 to Q4 2021]											

All improvement priorities are a multi-agency responsibility and sit collectively with the agencies and members of the CPC. However, each area of priority will be led by one agency as indicated above.



**PROSPEROUS PEOPLE: CHILDREN**  
**Child Protection Programme**  
**January 2019 - 2021**

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
<b>At all times to recognise and respond when Children and Young People need protection from significant harm or abuse</b>	<p>By 2020, to have improved multi agency recognition and response to indicators of <b>cumulative neglect</b>.</p> <p><b>Source:</b>  <i>Local Initial Case Reviews</i>  <i>National SCRs</i>  <i>CPR data</i>  <i>CPIP</i>  <i>CPC Dev Day 2017 Priority 1</i>  <i>Case File Audit 2017</i>  <i>LOIP</i></p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b>  Lead Nurse, Child Protection, NHS Grampian</p>	<p>To develop and disseminate multi-agency Neglect Strategy and Practice Guidance</p> <p>To increase professional understanding and confidence of the current theory and practice around Neglect through multi agency Learning &amp; Development Conferences</p> <p>To involve multi agency practitioners in the identification and development of outcome measures</p> <p>To further develop single and multi agency Learning &amp; Development on Cumulative Neglect with a focus on impact and outcomes for children</p>	<p>Numbers on the Child Protection Register (CPR) under the category of Neglect</p>	<p>Children's Social Work (CSW): Keeper of the CPR</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Reregistration of children on the CPR where Neglect remains a concern</p>	<p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Numbers of multi agency meetings where Neglect is the predominant issue</p>	<p>ICSB: GIRFEC group</p>	<p>Carried forward</p>
			<p>Numbers of Notifications for ICR/SCRs where Cumulative Neglect is the predominant cause for referral</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of the SCR Sub Committee</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Percentage of files where Child's Plans and Chronologies effectively identify and address cumulative Neglect – multi agency case file audit</p>	<p>CSW: Lead Service Manager</p>	<p>QAF -NRF audit 2021</p>
			<p>To ascertain that professionals better recognise and respond to indicators of cumulative neglect in accordance with local child protection procedures and guidance</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of L&amp;D Sub Committee</p>	<p>Training and QA reported quarterly to CPC</p>

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
	<p>By 2021, to have improved multi agency recognition and response to the child protection implications of <b>domestic abuse and coercive control</b></p> <p><b>Source:</b>  CPR data  SCRA data  Dev Day 2017 Priority 4  Multi-agency File auditing  CPIP  LOIP</p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b>  DCI, Public Protection Unit,  Police Scotland</p>	<p>To develop and disseminate multi-agency Child Protection and Domestic Abuse &amp; Coercive Control Practice Guidance reflecting the Safe &amp; Together approach</p>	<p>Numbers on the CPR under category of domestic abuse and coercive control</p>	<p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Numbers of Reregistration of children on the CPR where domestic abuse and coercive control remains a concern</p>	<p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
		<p>To increase professional understanding and confidence of the current theory, practice and legislation around Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control</p>	<p>Numbers of multi agency meetings where domestic abuse and coercive control is the predominant issue</p>	<p>GIRFEC group</p>	<p>Carried forward</p>
			<p>Numbers of referrals to SCRA where domestic abuse is a ground for referral</p>	<p>SCRA: Area Reporter Manager</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
		<p>To further develop single and multi agency L&amp;D on Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control with a focus on impact and outcomes for children in partnership with the AVAWP</p>	<p>Percentage of files where Child's Plans and Chronologies effectively identify and address domestic abuse and coercive control</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of Performance &amp; QA Sub Committee</p>	<p>QAF - NRF audit 2021</p>
			<p>Reduce numbers of children removed from parental care where domestic abuse and coercive control is a significant concern (reflecting Safe &amp; Together approach)</p>	<p>CSW: Lead Service Manager</p>	<p>Carried forward</p>
			<p>To ascertain that professionals better recognise and respond to the child protection implications of domestic abuse and coercive control in accordance with local child protection procedures and guidance</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of L&amp;D Sub Committee</p>	<p>Training and QA reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Numbers of cases involving children considered in MARAC, MATAC and MAPPA processes</p>	<p>Police Scotland: DCI rep on CPC</p>	<p>Data reporting being established by VAWP</p>
<p>Numbers of individuals with a court disposal requiring participation in the Caledonian project</p>	<p>Police Scotland: DCI rep on CPC</p>	<p>Data reporting being established by VAWP</p>			

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
	<p>By 2020, to have improved multi agency recognition and response to the child protection implications of <b>emotional abuse</b></p> <p><b>Source:</b> CPR M-A Audit 2017</p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b> Lead Service Manager, Children's Social Work</p>	<p>To develop a consistent professional understanding of Emotional Abuse across the partnership in Aberdeen City commencing with L&amp;D event April 2019</p> <p>To address Emotional Abuse in all Child's Plans where registration has included this category</p> <p>To routinely QA the effectiveness of interventions outlined in Child's Plans to address emotional abuse</p>	<p>Numbers on the CPR under category of Emotional Abuse</p> <p>Reregistration of children on the CPR where Emotional Abuse remains a concern</p> <p>Numbers of multi agency meetings where Emotional Abuse is the predominant issue</p> <p>Percentage of files where Child's Plans and Chronologies effectively identify and address Emotional Abuse</p> <p>Multi agency training to be developed for staff in relation to emotional abuse and quality assurance measures put in place to measure impact on staff confidence and practice</p>	<p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p> <p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p> <p>GIRFEC Group</p> <p>CSW: Lead Service Manager</p> <p>CPC: Chair of L&amp;D Sub Committee</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p> <p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p> <p>Carried forward</p> <p>QAF - NRF audit 2021</p> <p>Training and QA reported quarterly to CPC</p>

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
	<p>By 2021, to have improved multi agency recognition and response to <b>equality, diversity and inclusion. This includes: FGM, LGBT+, Prevent, Forced Marriage and Disability</b> in the field of child Protection</p> <p><b>Source:</b> SCR CPR data Dev Day priorities 8, 9 National priority</p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b> Area Reporter Manager, SCRA</p>	<p>To ascertain the local statistical picture in comparison to national data in relation to the various issues identified</p> <p>To increase professional understanding and confidence of the current theory, practice and legislation around CP and Disability</p> <p>To draw upon the national consultation on the FGM statutory position</p> <p>To research the approach of other LA areas in relation to Prevent</p> <p>To ensure that child protection procedures are followed equally and consistently across all children and young people regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, religion or culture</p>	<p>Numbers on the CPR identifying disability, FGM, LGBT+, Prevent, and Forced Marriage</p> <p>Numbers of multi agency meetings where child protection concerns relate to disability, FGM, LGBT+, Prevent or Forced Marriage</p> <p>To ascertain that professionals better recognise and respond to indicators of disability, FGM, LGBT+, Prevent and Forced Marriage in accordance with local child protection procedures and guidance</p> <p>Multi agency case file audit specifically for these themes</p> <p>Multi agency training to be developed for staff in relation to these themes and quality assurance measures put in place to measure impact on staff confidence and practice</p>	<p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p> <p>ICSB: GIRFEC Group</p> <p>CPC: Chair of Performance &amp; QA Sub Committee</p> <p>CPC: Chair of Performance &amp; QA Sub Committee</p> <p>CPC: Chair of L&amp;D Sub Committee</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p> <p>Carried forward</p> <p>Reported quarterly to CPC supported by the L&amp;D sub committee</p> <p>Carried forward</p> <p>Training and QA reported quarterly to CPC</p>

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
<p><b>At all times to help children and young people stay safe, healthy and, for those who have experienced abuse and neglect, to recover from their experiences</b></p>	<p>By 2020, to have improved professional, family and young people's awareness, knowledge and skills to safeguard, protect, and recover from the abuse and harm of <b>Online Safety, CSE and child trafficking</b></p> <p><b>Source:</b>  <i>National priority (CPIP)</i>  <i>Legislative priority</i>  <i>Local CSE action plan</i>  <i>Dev day priorities 5 and 10</i></p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b>            Chief Education Officer,            Aberdeen City Council</p>	<p>To develop and disseminate multi-agency Practice Guidance in relation to Child Trafficking</p> <p>To signpost professionals, families and young people to key messages in relation to Online Safety</p> <p>To increase young people's knowledge and confidence in keeping themselves safe on line</p> <p>To improve our single agency reporting and multi-agency analysis of data in relation to CSE, child trafficking, on- line safety</p>	<p>Numbers on the CPR under categories of CSE, Trafficking, Sexual Abuse and Child Placing Self at Risk</p>	<p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Reregistration of children on the CPR where CSE, Trafficking, Sexual Abuse or Child Placing Self at Risk remains a concern</p>	<p>CSW: Keeper of the CPR</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Numbers of multi agency meetings where CSE, Trafficking, Sexual Abuse is the predominant issue and recovery services are involved in future planning</p>	<p>ICSB: GIRFEC Group</p>	<p>Carried forward</p>
			<p>Numbers of Notifications for ICR/SCRs where CSE, Trafficking, Sexual Abuse or Child Placing Self at Risk is the predominant cause for referral</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of the SCR Sub Committee</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Numbers of VPDs where CSE, child trafficking or online abuse is an identified concern</p>	<p>Police Scotland: DCI rep on CPC</p>	<p>CSE dataset being established by CSE/OS/CT thematic group</p>
			<p>Numbers for convictions or other disposals for offences against children for CSE, child trafficking or online abuse</p>	<p>Police Scotland: DCI rep on CPC</p>	
			<p>To ascertain that professionals better recognise and respond to indicators of CSE, Trafficking, Sexual Abuse or Child Placing Self at Risk in accordance with local child protection procedures and guidance</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of Performance &amp; QA Sub Committee</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>
			<p>Multi agency training to be developed for staff in relation to these themes and quality assurance measures put in place to measure impact on staff confidence and practice</p>	<p>CPC: Chair L&amp;D Sub Committee</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p>

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
	<p>By 2019, to have improved partnership processes and responses to the <b>vulnerabilities of 16-17 year olds and all young people who go missing</b></p> <p><b>Source:</b>  <i>National priority</i>  <i>CPIP</i>  <i>Local data</i>  <i>National SCRs</i></p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b>            Assistant Director, Barnardo's</p>	<p>To issue and embed multi agency guidance for all agencies in relation to vulnerable 16-17 Year Olds</p> <p>To issue and embed multi agency guidance to supplement existing provision where Young People go missing</p> <p>Improved identification of vulnerable 16/17 years olds who go missing and improve the provision of services once identified</p>	<p>Professionals demonstrate an awareness and understanding of their role and responsibilities in relation to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Vulnerable 16-17 year olds and</li> <li>-Young people who go missing</li> </ul> <p>Responsible CPC Thematic groups will identify data sets to demonstrate implementation of these Guidance documents</p> <p>Missing person Champion to be identified within the partnership</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of L&amp;D Sub Committee</p> <p>CPC: Chair of Performance &amp; QA Sub Committee</p> <p>ICSB: Chair of Corporate Parenting Group</p>	<p>Concluded in CPC report March 2021</p> <p>Missing Person guidance developed and launched March 2020</p> <p>Missing Person Champions have been identified in Education, NHSG, and Police Scotland</p>

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
<p><b>At all times to provide strong and effective collaborative leadership to deliver the Child Protection Programme</b></p>	<p>By 2021, to have adopted a <b>strength based and participatory approach to child protection</b> practice across the partnership in Aberdeen City</p> <p><b>Source:</b> CPIP M-A Audit 2017 Local ICRs</p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b> CSWO, Aberdeen City Council</p>	Further develop a model of child protection case conference which is strength based and participatory	Number of child protection case conferences utilising a strength based approach	CSW: Child Protection Admin Officer (CP Admin)	To be provided quarterly to CPC
		All services to have a consistent understanding of strength based practice in Aberdeen City in relation to working with families	Increase parental attendance at case conferences	CSW: CP Admin	To be provided quarterly to CPC
		All professionals to demonstrate a strength based approach to information sharing, risk assessment and professional challenge	Increased participation by families in the planning and implementation of the child's plan to reduce risk	CSW: CP Admin	To be provided quarterly to CPC
		All services to have a consistent understanding and application of participatory practice in working with children, young people and families involved in child protection processes	Increased feedback from children, young people, families and carers involved in the child protection process	CSW: CP Admin	To be provided quarterly to CPC
		To routinely Quality Assure child protection case files	Increased understanding and confidence across the multi agency workforce to delivering a strength-based approach to practice including information sharing, risk assessment and professional challenge	CPC: Chair of Performance & QA Sub Committee	Concluded in CPC report December 2020
			Quality Assurance of case conferences	CSW: Lead Service Manager	QAF - Carried forward
			Percentage of files which demonstrate a strength based and participatory approach with children, young people and families	CPC: Chair of Performance & QA Sub Committee	Concluded in CPC report December 2020
			To ascertain that families have been included in the child protection processes involving them		

Stretch Outcome Aim	Key Drivers	Improvement project aim	Key Improvement Measures	Responsibility	Progress update
	<p>To have <b>learning and development opportunities</b> available to all professionals in order to support the aims of this programme</p> <p><b>Source:</b> <i>National Guidance</i></p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b> Chair of the L&amp;D Sub Committee</p>	<p>Ensuring appropriate multi agency child protection Learning and Development opportunities are available to all professionals</p>	<p>Training Needs Analysis and L&amp;D programme overseen by CPC Learning &amp; Development Sub Committee</p> <p>Annual report to CPC</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of L&amp;D Sub Committee</p> <p>CPC: Chair of L&amp;D Sub Committee</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p> <p>To be provided every January</p>
	<p>Throughout this programme, 2019 to 2021 (and beyond), to <b>work collaboratively with other strategic partners</b> in order to ensure ongoing strategic development and continuous improvement of our child protection services.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> <i>Scottish Govt CPIP</i> <i>National Guidance</i></p> <p><b>Led on behalf of the CPC by:</b> Chair of the CPC</p>	<p>Ensuring proactive engagement with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Scottish Government's Child Protection Improvement Programme</li> <li>• CELCIS programme of child protection improvement, including data set, neglect and case review model</li> <li>• CPC Scotland and other national groups</li> </ul> <p>Ensuring this programme is understood and annually reviewed by strategic leaders across agencies with responsibility for child protection</p> <p>Ensuring effective links with ADP, APC, AVAWP, MAPPA and ICSB</p>	<p>Demonstrable links between Aberdeen City's improvement programme and current and emerging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• legislative changes</li> <li>• policy changes</li> <li>• National improvement programme</li> </ul> <p>Demonstrable interface with the other strategic partnerships through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The COG</li> <li>• Joint Independent Chair of CPC and APC</li> <li>• Membership links</li> <li>• Multi agency attendance at CPC events</li> </ul> <p>Annual CPC Development Day and CPC Annual Report</p>	<p>CPC: Chair of CPC</p> <p>CPC: Chair of CPC</p> <p>CPC: Chair of CPC</p>	<p>Reported quarterly to CPC</p> <p>First strategic interface meeting took place in June 2020, this will now take place on a bi monthly basis</p> <p>Reported annually to CPC</p>





**If you are concerned about the safety of a child in Aberdeen, call**

- **01224 306877 (Joint Child Protection Team)**
- **101 (Police Scotland)**
- **0800 731 5520 (Reception Team and Emergency Out of Hours)**