

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Public Protection
DATE	5 December 2018
REPORT TITLE	Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee – National Child Protection Improvement Programme
REPORT NUMBER	OPE/18/283
DIRECTOR	Rob Polkinghorne
REPORT AUTHOR	Kymme Fraser
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and “Joint Working with Non-Council Bodies”

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To assure the Public Protection Committee of the involvement of Aberdeen City’s Chief Officers Group and Child Protection Committee in progressing, in this area, the expectations of the national Child Protection Improvement Programme (CPIP).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Notes the content of this report; and
2.2 Endorses the work of the Aberdeen City’s Chief Officer Group and Child Protection Committee in relation to the CPIP.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As the Committee were advised in the presentation from the Child Protection Committee to its meeting on 4 July 2018, the recommendations and actions of the Scottish Government’s CPIP are contained in two reports:

- [Child Protection Improvement Programme Report](#)
- [Protecting Scotland's Children and Young People: It is Still Everyone's Job](#)

3.2 The suite of recommendations and actions contained in both these reports was accepted by the Scottish Government on 2 March 2017. The Government's vision for a child protection system in Scotland is one that keeps children safer from abuse and neglect by placing the wellbeing of Scotland's children at the heart of everything it does by:

- being rooted in GIRFEC;
- both engaging early and supporting families;
- empowering practitioners to intervene to protect children when support is not working; and
- having a transparent and learning culture which values and supports its workforce.

3.3 **The Child Protection Improvement Programme**

The Child Protection Improvement Programme is made up of nine interconnected work strands:

- Child Protection Systems Review;
- Neglect;
- Child Sexual Exploitation;
- Child Trafficking;
- Child Internet Safety;
- Children's Hearings;
- Role of Inspection Agencies;
- Leadership and Workforce Development; and
- Data and Evidence.

The Child Protection Improvement Programme report sets out 35 actions covering these work strands.

3.4 **The Child Protection Systems Review**

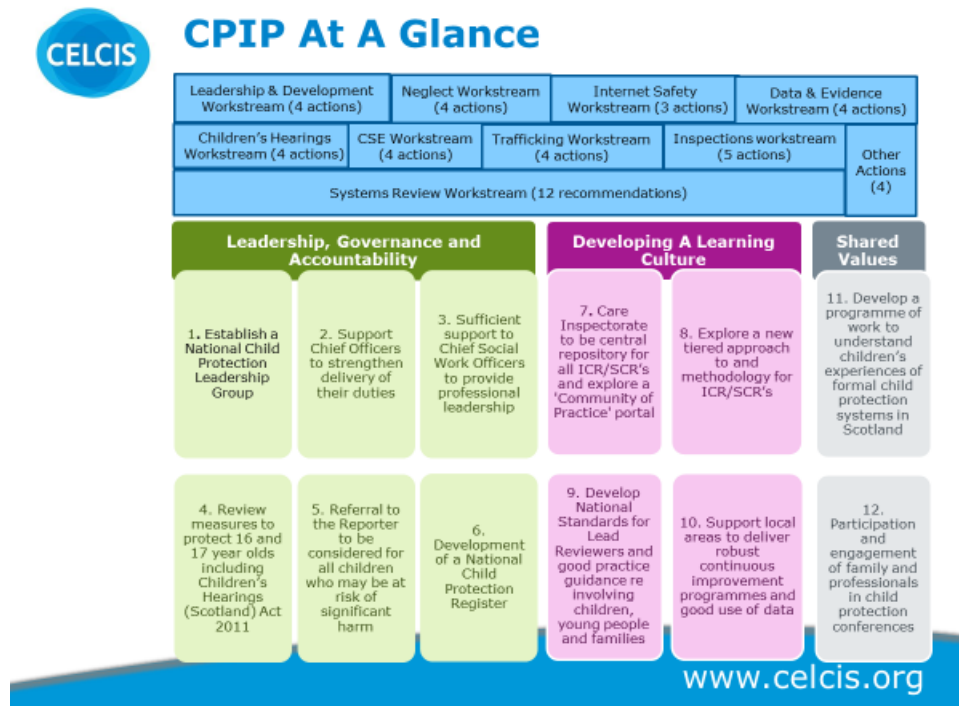
A review of the formal elements of the child protection system (child protection committees; initial and significant case reviews; the child protection register and case conferences) was conducted.

The findings of the Systems Review report have focused on three thematic areas:

- Leadership, Governance and Accountability;
- Developing a Learning Culture, and
- Shared Values. To support the participation of children, parents and wider families in the child protection and decision-making processes.

12 recommendations emerged from the systems review covering Initial and Significant Case Reviews, Child Protection Committees, the Child Protection Register, and matters of leadership, governance and accountability.

3.5 An overview of CPIP is captured below:



3.6 Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee (CPC) is progressing relevant local matters through its ongoing child protection improvement programme. At its meeting in June 2018, the Committee noted the progress attained and future intentions of the local child protection improvement programme as outlined in the CPC Annual Report. Also, a more detailed presentation in relation to this work was made to the Committee in September 2018. In summary, the focus of the improvement programme currently encompasses:

- Addressing neglect and supporting consistent risk assessments across Aberdeen City
- Developing a strength-based approach to our child protection services and improving participation in the child protection process
- Continuing to make best use of our data
- Making sure we disseminate learning from Initial and Significant Case Reviews
- Continuing to address child sexual exploitation (CSE), child trafficking and on-line safety; all of which are closely inter-related
- Domestic abuse and child protection issues

- Strengthening alignment with other local, strategic partnerships such as the Alcohol & Drugs Partnership, Adult Protection Committee and the Violence against Women Partnership.

It is anticipated that the progress made locally will be identified in the forthcoming Joint Inspection of Children’s Services.

3.7 The Chief Officer Group is committed to this work and has participated in the Leadership event held in Perth on 02 05 18, the report for which is attached.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 No financial matters are raised in this briefing report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

	Risk	Low (L), Medium (M), High (H)	Mitigation
Financial	None for this report		
Legal	Failure of the council to have oversight of Services delivering Public Protection could result in the council failing to meet its statutory duties in terms of services aimed at protecting the public, and potential litigation from people who have been harmed	M	Agreement by this committee on the matters to be reported will allow oversight of these services with a view to minimising the risk of failing to protect the public.
Employee	None for this report		
Customer	Failure of the council to have oversight of Services delivering Public Protection could result in the public being	M	Agreement by this committee on the matters to be reported will allow oversight of these services with a view to minimising the risk of failing to protect

	at risk of harm and loss of customer confidence		the public, and ensure compliance with any legal requirements or national standards and guidance for those services
Environment	None for this report		
Technology	None for this report		
Reputational	Failure of the council to have oversight of Services delivering Public Protection could result in organisational failings being missed and damage the reputation of the council	M	Agreement by this committee on the matters to be reported will allow oversight of these services with a view to ensuring compliance with any legal requirements or national standards and guidance for those services

7. OUTCOMES

Local Outcome Improvement Plan Themes	
	Impact of Report
Prosperous Economy	In addition to securing protection of the public, business compliance with legislation reduces the risk to them of criminal proceedings and/or litigation, and so is good for them individually and for the economy as a whole.
Prosperous People	The functions of the Child Protection Committee are central to supporting and assuring that the multi-agency Children's Services Partnerships deliver on the outcomes of the LOIP Prosperous People - Children are our Future and that they have "the best start in life"; they are "safe and responsible" and "protected from harm". Children who are adequately protected from threats to their health, safety and economic wellbeing are more likely to prosper than those who are not.
Prosperous Place	Protecting our built environment and natural resources reduces the risks to and enhances the health, safety and wellbeing of Aberdeen citizens and visitors.

Design Principles of Target Operating Model	
	Impact of Report
Governance	Appropriate oversight of services delivering public protection provides assurance to both the organisation and the public in terms of meeting the council's statutory duties, and also contributes to compliance with agreed standards.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment	Protection of equality and human rights is integral to the work of these services, and for this reason a full EHRIA is not required.
Privacy Impact Assessment	not required
Duty of Due Regard / Fairer Scotland Duty	not applicable

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

10. APPENDICES

10.1 CELCIS Report on the Leadership Event 2 May 2018

11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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