

# Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee

Annual report 22/23





## Contents

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Preface from Chief Officers	3
Introduction from Independent Chair	4
CPC Leadership & Management	5
Summary of activity in 2022/2023	7
Sub Committees & Thematic Groups	8
Scottish Child Interview Model & Bairns' Hoose	10
Capacity for Improvement	11
Impact on Children & Young People	12
Calendar of CPC business in 2023/2024	13
Appendix 1 – Child Protection Programme 21/14	14
Appendix 2 – Statistical Information	23



## Preface from Chief Officers

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This is the ninth annual report of the **Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee** providing a progress update and an overview of the child protection improvement activity throughout **2022/2023** ensuring that all children in Aberdeen are safeguarded and protected from harm and abuse is taken very seriously by all involved.

Fundamental to the CPC functions and effectiveness is multi agency working, ensuring the protection and safety of Aberdeen City's children and young people.

Evidence of the strong relationships and collaboration across the partnership are threaded throughout this report, with a significant activity to implement the Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM), recognised as good practice by colleagues across Scotland.

The commitment of all agencies' to understand the child protection concerns which arise in our City is commendable along with the appetite to making improvements together to address these.

The CPC achievements highlighted in this report illustrate the positive steps we have taken to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our vulnerable children and young people.

We are delighted to endorse this report and look forward to a challenging, but rewarding, year ahead.



**Angela Scott**  
*Chief Executive*  
*Aberdeen City Council*



**Caroline Hiscox**  
*Chief Executive*  
*NHS Grampian*



**Graeme Mackie**  
*Divisional Commander*  
*Police Scotland*



## Introduction from Independent Chair

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**I am pleased to bring you the ninth annual report for the Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee.**

The CPC is a key local body for developing, implementing, and improving child protection strategy across the City and beyond. The CPC performs several crucial functions to jointly identify and manage the risk to children and young people. It also ensures the functions are carried out to a high standard and are aligned to national strategies such as Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). Local delivery however can only be provided through strong partnership working right across our communities.

The past year has seen significant challenges, particularly in relation to the economic crisis and the many associated issues, not least child poverty. Notwithstanding these challenges the CPC has remained steadfast in our determination to ensure that all children and young people remain safe across Aberdeen City. This can be evidenced, in part through the key outcomes section of this report which shows our commitment to ongoing continuous improvement to deliver better outcomes for children and young people.

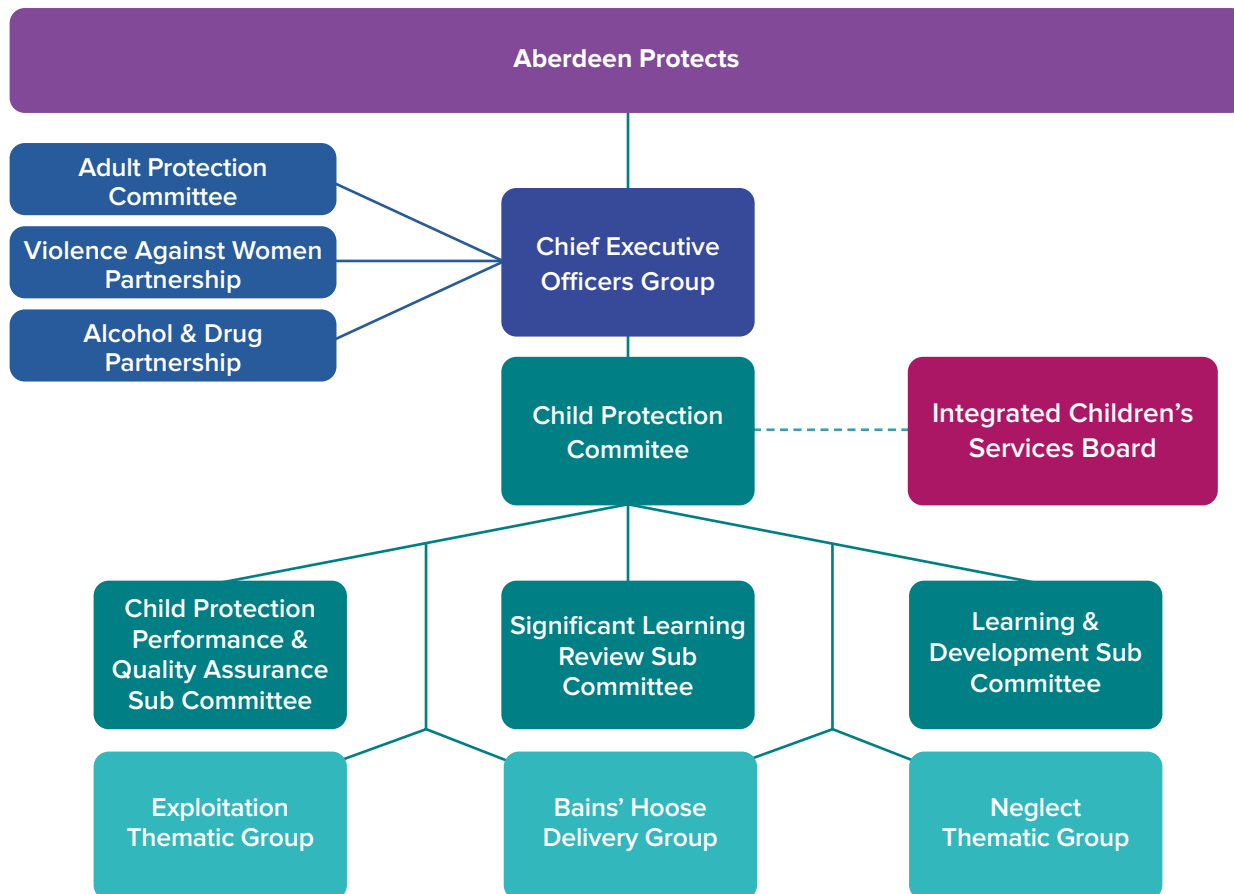
I would wish to take the opportunity to sincerely thank everyone across the partnership, both statutory and voluntary, who amid the challenges faced, strive selflessly to keep children and young people safe. I would also wish to thank Amy Anderson, our CPC Lead Officer for her significant contribution to the work of the CPC over the past year.

Although the report reflects our performance over the past year it is important, we continue to move forward. Ongoing self-evaluation will inform the next iteration of our Child Protection Programme which will take cognisance of many of the national workstreams such as GIRFEC, The Promise and Bairns' Hoose. In addition, local cross cutting work is also ongoing to provide improved alignment between all the strands of Public Protection to ensure we collectively strive to make the City a better place for all.

Campbell Thomson QPM  
*Independent Chair of Child Protection Committee*

# CPC Leadership & Management

The CPC structure for 2022/2023 can be found below



## Leadership

The Aberdeen City Child Protection Committee (CPC) is the key local body responsible for implementing and improving child protection strategy across and between agencies, bodies and the Aberdeen community. The CPC has a crucial role in identifying and managing risk to children and young people, monitoring and improving performance and promoting the ethos that, **“It’s everyone’s job to make sure I’m alright.”** Its role, local structures and membership, provide leadership and direction for the management of child protection services across Aberdeen City.

As illustrated above, the CPC is governed by the Chief Officers Group (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 CPC. The structure also illustrates the connectedness through the COG of the CPC with the other strategic partnerships in the City, namely APC, VAWP, and ADP, all working together under the banner of Aberdeen Protects to take forward child protection policy and practice across the local area and across Scotland.

## CPC Management and Strategic Links

The CPC adheres to the [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021](#), and progress to full implementation is covered within this report. The CPC fulfils its core functions through this structure and the multi-agency Child Protection Programme 2021-2024, which is covered in this report.

The CPC benefits from an Independent Chair who also chairs the Adult Protection Committee, bringing alignment to processes to systems and processes, along with senior representatives from partnership agencies across Aberdeen.

The CPC meets four times a year to discuss data, learning, national policy and business of continuous improvement. In addition to CPC business meetings, two CPC development sessions are held each year attended by members of the sub committees and thematic groups. In 2022/2023, the development sessions focused on new multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation guidance, a Neglect resource toolkit, input from the Care Inspectorate and the refreshed Quality Framework For Children & Young People in Need of Care and Protection, and learning from national inspection reports.

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, anticipated local expenditure to carry out the child protection work which includes learning reviews, priorities identified

in this report and the CP Programme 2021-2024, and commissioned Learning and Development training from Aberlour. The staffing complement for Aberdeen City CPC is the Independent Chair, Lead Officer, and multi-agency Learning & Development coordinator.

The Child Protection Partnership (CPP) is a North East partnership consisting of the three Lead Officers from Aberdeen City CPC, Moray CPC, and Aberdeenshire CPC. The primary activity for the CPP is the management of the North East Child Protection Register. Activities and staffing costs are funded by Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council, Moray Council, NHS Grampian and Police Scotland.

Out with the North East of Scotland, the CPC has broader strategic links with the Care Inspectorate, Central & North Scotland CPC Consortium, Scottish Government, and CPCScotland to help inform our continuous improvement planning.

## Summary of activity in 2022/2023

Over the course of the year the CPC, and all those working across the partnership, have worked towards delivering on the many initiatives and improvements **striving to make sure children and young people are alright.**

[Implementation of the Scottish Child Interview Model](#)

[Implementation of refreshed categories of concern for children whose names are placed on the Child Protection Register](#)

[Implementation of the National Minimum Data Set v2](#)

[Neglect Resource Toolkit](#)

[New Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Guidance](#)

[Multi-Agency Harmful Sexual Behaviour training](#)

[Implementation of the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021](#)

[Refreshed Multi-Agency Quality Assurance Framework](#)

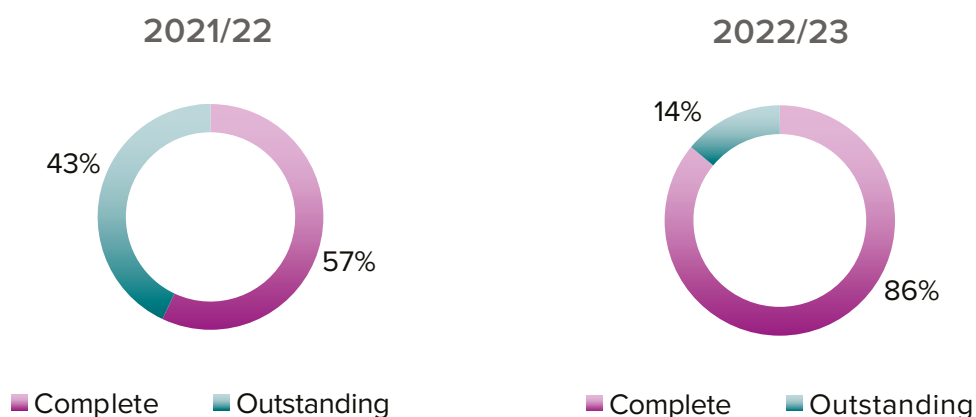
[Reflective Discussions](#)

[Childrens' Services Plan 2023/2026](#)

[Planning for a Bairns' Hoose](#)



## Delivery on Child Protection Improvement Plan 2021/2024 (Appendix 1)



## Sub Committees & Thematic Groups

Sub Committees and Thematic Groups are multi agency in representation and have met regularly through 2022/2023, with each delivering on specific improvement priorities.

### Performance & Quality Assurance Sub Committee (P&QA)

The P&QA Sub Committee provide and present quarterly data and scrutiny reports to the CPC. The reports consist of a number of indicators provided by Celcis to support our analysis. In November 2022, the CPC adopted version 2 of the National Minimum Dataset, in addition to additional indicators that are relevant to Aberdeen City. The data and scrutiny reports help us identify emerging areas of Child Protection that the CPC need to focus on. The data helps illustrate the Child Protection landscape in Aberdeen City (Appendix 2).

Overseen by the P&QA sub-committee, the CPC initiated a Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) audit in March 2023. The purpose of this audit was:

**‘To review the circumstances whereby children within Aberdeen City are referred to Services on the grounds of Physical Abuse’.**

The findings and recommendations from this audit will be presented at the Autumn 2023 CPC development session.

### Significant Learning Review Sub Committee (SLR)

The SLR Sub Committee are mandated by the CPC to consider and carry out Learning Reviews on its behalf.

The SLR Sub Committee adhere to the [National Guidance for CPC’s undertaking Learning Reviews](#). Decisions regarding any cases considered for review are reported to the CPC and the COG for final ratification.

Initial notifications for a Learning Review have been considered over the course of the year where the CPC decided not to proceed to a Learning Review, but instructed the L&D Sub Committee to plan and deliver an Learning Event focusing on Parental Substance Use and Safe Sleep. The event is scheduled to take place in Autumn 2023.

The SLR Sub Committee continue to consider national Learning Reviews where learning from other areas in Scotland are considered through a local lens, and any areas identified are taken forward.

Where the criteria is not met for a Learning Review, but learning can still be derived from a case, other [Aberdeen City Review Processes](#) can be utilised.





## Sub Committees & Thematic Groups (Continued)

### Learning & Development Sub Committee (L&D)

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 L&D coordinator, in partnership with Aberlour, has designed, developed and is now delivering the fourth annual L&D calendar to the multi agency workforce across Aberdeen City.



# 62

training sessions were delivered in 2022/2023



# 770

people attended training sessions across the partnership

In March 2023, the L&D Sub Committee held a launch event to introduce the newest module training module, Harmful Sexual Behaviour. The event also showcased the L&D training offer. The event was attended virtually by over 100 professionals across the partnership.

[The CPC's Learning & Development Annual Report](#) fully illustrates the L&D activity over the year.

### Neglect Thematic Group

The Neglect thematic group presented the [Neglect Resource Toolkit](#) at the CPC Development Session in February 2023. The toolkit provides a suite of resources to support practitioners in their work with families where there is neglect. Feedback suggested that the toolkit will be a valuable resource. The Neglect thematic group will continue to develop and raise awareness of the resource, in addition to evaluating the effectiveness of it in practice.

### Exploitation Thematic Group

The Exploitation thematic group developed and introduced the [Multi Agency Child Sexual Exploitation](#) Guidance in June 2023, the first in Scotland. A video of the launch can be found [here](#). The Exploitation thematic group will monitor the implementation of the guidance and review accordingly



## Scottish Child Interview Model & Bairns' Hoose

### Implementation of the Scottish Child Interview Model

In response to Scotland's commitment to implementation of a Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM) for all children who are victims of, or witness to abuse or neglect, over the year, the partnership have worked alongside colleagues from Aberdeenshire and Moray in preparation for a North East roll out of this model.

The North East SCIM team went live in November 2022.

Since implementation, the SCIM team have undertaken 91% of children who have required to be interviewed, greatly exceeding the initial commitment to undertake 60% of all Joint Investigative Interviews that have taken place.

A disclosure was made where a child had been a victim of physical assault by their father. The child has a disability and is non-verbal and would have found it difficult to engage in a joint interview. It was agreed at IRD, that the child should be interviewed under SCIM. The SCIM interviewers spent 2 days planning and observing the child in school, their speech therapist and teacher created an individual protocol with the interviewers to meet their child's needs.

The child was able to fully participate in the interview over a 2 day period, supported by their PSA. It was clear, from evaluation of the interview, that the interviewers had a sound understanding and the child was able to share their views, something they had never had previously.

### Bairns' Hoose Delivery Group

In October 2022, the CPC provided a multi-agency response to the draft Bairns' Hoose Standards consultation whereby members endorsed the aspirational standards, child centric approach, and believe that the co-location of services through a Bairns' Hoose will be a critical part of our Family Support Model.

The CPC's response to the draft standards was further enhanced by a visit to a potential site for a local Bairns' Hoose allowing members to envisage how the standards could be delivered upon. The consultation phase provided an appetite to continue the conversation of a Bairns' Hoose in Aberdeen City and as a result a Bairns' Hoose Delivery Group was established in March 2023.

This group will have responsibility for the planning, implementation, and delivery of a local Bairns' Hoose to provide children and young people in Aberdeen City, who have been victims or witnesses to abuse or violence, as well as children under the age of criminal responsibility whose behaviour has caused significant harm/abuse access to trauma-informed recovery, support and justice.

Aberdeen City intend to submit an application in Summer 2023 to become a Bairns' Hoose Pathfinder.



## Capacity for Improvement National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021

Since the publication of the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021, replacing the 2014 publication, the CPC have been actively evaluating and implementing the changes identified in the new guidance, much of these are threaded throughout this report. Undoubtedly there is still work to be done to implement some of the changes which require a national steer. Areas which are not fully implemented will inform our CPC Child Protection Improvement Plan 2024/2026. It is fully recognised that the changes need time to embed before we can fully evaluate the impact on improving outcomes for children and young people.

### Additional areas of focus over 2023/2024

The CPC will focus on the below areas over the course of 2023/2024 and beyond, informing our improvement plan for 2024/2026:

Planning of a Bairns' Hoose, building upon the learning from the implementation of SCIM and the benefits of integration and co-location.

Adapting to workforce pressures by reviewing and re-designing the way we deliver multi agency child protection training, meeting the needs of practitioners' capacity.

Understanding the full extent of parental substance use, specifically cannabis, on children and young people

Ensuring our workforce understand the impact of children growing up in poverty and the negative outcomes associated with poverty.

Our Corporate Parenting and Children's Services Plans recognise there is more we need to do to enable children and young people to stay with their families where possible. Improvement work, aligned to the CS Plan, is focused on ensuring effective whole family support that mitigates the need for children to escalate into child protection as well as enhancing multi-agency support to kinship carers to mitigate the risk of children being placed out with their family.

Coordination of Aberdeen City's public protection fora for greater interface of child protection with other strategic partnerships such as adult protection and violence against women partnerships.

**#KeepthePromise** by embedding a rights-respecting approach ensuring that rights of the child, their needs and their voice is at the centre of decisions about what is best for them.

## Impact on Children & Young People

### To what extent are we meeting the needs of children & young people in need of care and protection in Aberdeen City?

Aberdeen City's CPC has a mature multi-agency data and performance dashboard. Feedback from the Scottish Government & CELCIS reports very positively on this data suite. Our data enables all partners to identify trends and adjust service provision appropriately.

Aberdeen City along with Police Scotland successfully rolled out SCIM in November 2022. Our approach to rolling this out has been held up as good practice by the National SCIM Team. Currently circa 90% of child protection interviews are undertaken utilising the SCIM approach. We aim to convene an IRD for all children where there are child protection concerns within 2 hours. There is a strong commitment from all partners to deliver this aim and our data tells us the right children are being referred to CPPM's for consideration of registration.

Utilising quantitative and qualitative data, including learning from case reviews, the CPC's Improvement Programme coordinates a range activity to ensure children and young people are safe.

Work developed by the thematic groups and our learning from multi agency audits tells us that our workforce are much more informed and skilled when identifying neglect, working with children with disabilities and spotting the signs of child sexual exploitation.

Early and preventative support is at the heart of Aberdeen City's refreshed [Children's Services Plan 2023–26](#). This reflects the commitment of our partnership, to early, preventative, and sustainable support to scaffold children, young people and families to mitigate the need for child protection registration or statutory intervention. This is in keeping with The Promise and the recommendations of the Children's Hearing System Review.

Our Fit Like, whole family wellbeing service, which has been evaluated positively by the Scottish Governments Mental Health Collaborative, provides early and effective support to families to mitigate the need for social work of CAMHS intervention. Since November 2020 the Fit Like service has supported 1043 families with an increasing percentage of self-referrals (over 10%). There is clear evidence that engagement with the service realises:

- Parents feeling supported to manage their anxieties and worries
- Parents/carers and children feeling listened to and heard
- Strengthened family relationships
- Improved child mental health and wellbeing.

Those accessing the service tell us that it feels like a bespoke service and unlike other supports has 'felt right'. Operating on a 'family first' principle, families set their own priorities and explore with staff how these are to be met. This model of delivery will be at the heart our Family Support Model.

## Calendar of CPC business in 2023/2024

The table below illustrates the CPC events in the calendar (as of August 2023) for the forthcoming year

August 2023	September 2023	October 2023
Bairns' Hoose Pathfinder Application	CPC Development Session Grampian Learning Event – Parental Substance Use & Safe Sleep Grampian Learning Event – Parental Substance Use & Safe Sleep	CPC Business Meeting Self Evaluation of National Guidance submission to Scottish Government Bairns' Hoose Pathfinders announced
November 2023	December 2023	January 2024
	CPC Business Meeting	
February 2024	March 2024	April 2024
CPC Development Session • Draft CP Programme 2024/26 • CPC Risk Register	CPC Business Meeting	
May 2024	June 2024	July 2024
	CPC Business Meeting	End of CP Programme 2021/24

### Report Authour

Amy Anderson

*Aberdeen City CPC Lead Officer*





# Services for Children and Young People in Aberdeen City

## Child Protection Programme August 2021 – July 2024

### 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 the Children's Services Board, 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 through its connected sub committees which are; the Significant Learning Review, the Performance & Quality Assurance, and the Learning & Development sub committees. The CPC produces an Annual Report which is made widely available across agencies and demonstrates the work of the CPC through these connected structures. This programme has been developed taking into account the Promise with the first plan from 2021 – 2024 and the revised national guidance published during 2021.

## Child Protection Programme: 2021 – 2024

### 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
- ensuring the CPC is ready to adapt and adjust as required to both local and national developments

### Our Priorities in the Programme 2021 – 2024

- Child Protection and Disability
- Neglect
- Exploitation and Missing Children
- Child Protection and Domestic Abuse
- Revised National Guidance for Child Protection & Learning Reviews 2021
- Listening to Children, Young people, and their families and hearing their voice in our processes and Policy and Guidance
- Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (including Female Genital Mutilation, Ethnicity, Gender Identity, Prevent, Forced Marriage) in the field of Child Protection

**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

This programme will be delivered on a phased basis, building on the trauma informed and strength based practice approaches used across the City. All improvement priorities are a multi-agency responsibility and sit collectively with the agencies and members of the CPC. This will ensure and support the embedding of improvements in practice as well as realistically enabling the CPC 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.



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:

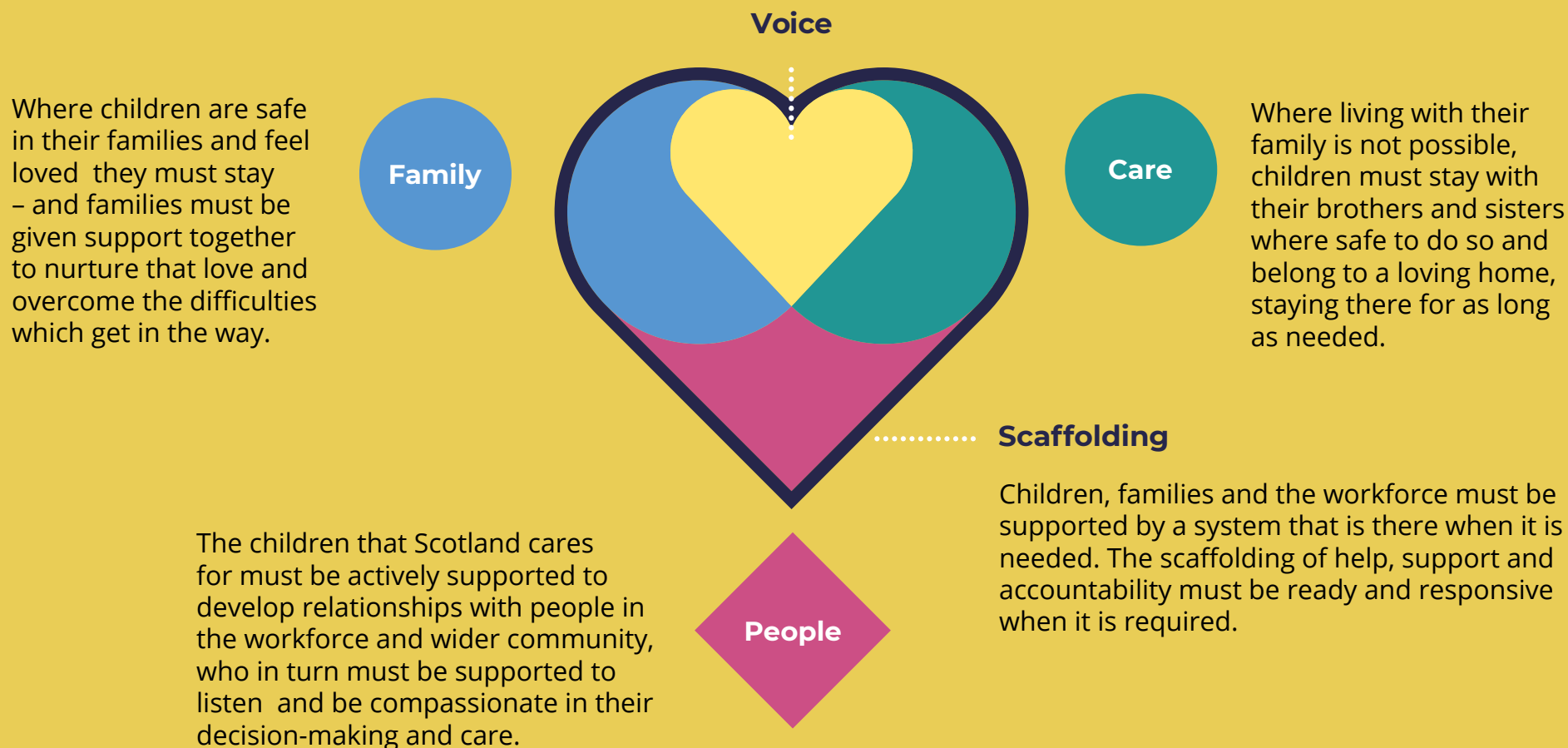
- 4.1 Ensuring that families receive the parenting and family support they need
- 4.2 Keeping young children safe
- 5.2 Increasing children's knowledge and understanding of their own physical and mental wellbeing and take an early intervention and prevention approach
- 8.2 Ensuring that children and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



Priorities	2021/22				2022/23				2023/24			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	<i>Aug-Oct</i>	<i>Nov-Jan</i>	<i>Feb-Apr</i>	<i>May-July</i>	<i>Aug-Oct</i>	<i>Nov-Jan</i>	<i>Feb-Apr</i>	<i>May-July</i>	<i>Aug-Oct</i>	<i>Nov-Jan</i>	<i>Feb-Apr</i>	<i>May-July</i>
Child Protection and Disability												
Neglect												
Exploitation and Missing Children												
Child Protection and Domestic Abuse												
Revised National Guidance for Child Protection & Learning Reviews 2021												
Listening to Children, Young people, and their families and hearing their voice in our processes and Policy and Guidance												
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (including Female Genital Mutilation, Ethnicity, Gender Identity, Prevent, Forced Marriage) in the field of Child Protection												

## The five foundations 'the promise' is built on

Children must be listened to and meaningfully and appropriately involved in decision-making about their care, with all those involved properly listening and responding to what children want and need. There must be a compassionate, caring, decision-making culture focussed on children and those they trust.



## ABERDEEN CITY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE PROGRESS TRACKER - CP PROGRAMME 2021-2024

Priority	What will we do?	How will we do it?	How will we know?	To be completed by	Progress RAG July 2022	July 2022 Update	Progress RAG July 2023	July 2023 Update
<b>Child Protection and Disability</b>	Develop and deliver a comprehensive multi agency training package to increase workforce confidence and knowledge	Consult and work with specialist teams and national colleagues to develop this comprehensive package to ensure it meets workforce needs	This package will be benchmarked, quality assured, and reviewed through well established procedures already in place through the L&D sub committee	Jul-23		Child Protection and Disability module launched August 2021		Child Protection and Disability module launched August 2021
			Effective data recording and analysis of IRD and CPPMs through quarterly data and scrutiny reports			Reported quarterly to CPC		Child Protection and Disability module launched August 2021
			QAF audit to investigate how well we engage and support children and families affected by disability			QAF Audit - February 2022		QAF Audit - February 2022
<b>Neglect</b>	Ensure the recommendations from the 2021 joint multi agency neglect audit are embedded in practice	Re-establish the multi agency neglect thematic group to progress the recommendations	Adherence to the multi agency guidance and thorough analysis of the neglect data from quarterly data and scrutiny reports	Jan-23		Reported quarterly to CPC		Reported quarterly to CPC
			Develop and implement the multi agency reflective discussions guidance			Developed and launched in February 2022		Developed and launched in February 2022
			Consider the need for a specific neglect toolkit for the multi agency workforce			In development		Local toolkit developed and published on Aberdeen Protects. Further evaluation required for Neglect assessment tool
<b>Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion</b>	Work in partnership with the VAWP to improve the multi agency recognition and response to equality, diversity and inclusion from a child protection perspective. This includes: FGM, Gender Identity Prevent, Honour Based Abuse and Forced Marriage the field of child Protection	Ascertain the local statistical picture in comparison to national data in relation to the various issues identified by Supporting the VAWP in the creation and development of a Performance Framework.	Subsequent Data and Scrutiny reports will identify reported cases where FGM, Gender Identity, Prevent, Honour Based Abuse, and Forced Marriage are considered and help identify areas for improvement and good practice.	Jul-24		CPC interfacing with VAWP in relation to the development and reporting of relevant dataset.		Through the Public Protection Leads group, data and scrutiny reports from VAWP will be shared with PGA for consideration.
			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			Digital training modules are available as part of the routine CP L&D programme		Digital training modules are available as part of the routine CP L&D programme
			Multi agency policy and guidance is developed, where required, and followed equally and consistently for all children and young people regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion or background			National Guidance has been adopted by CPC and is available on Aberdeen Protects		National Guidance has been adopted by CPC and is available on Aberdeen Protects

## ABERDEEN CITY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE PROGRESS TRACKER - CP PROGRAMME 2021-2024

Priority	What will we do?	How will we do it?	How will we know?	To be completed by	Progress RAG July 2022	July 2022 Update	Progress RAG July 2023	July 2023 Update
<b>Domestic Abuse</b>	Implement a whole system approach across the City and support the delivery and embedding of the Safe and Together model alongside the Violence Against Women partnership	Delivering the Safe and Together model to multi agency staff and ensuring the CPC multi agency L&D coordinators is supported in the 'train the trainers' approach to ensure consistency	Established quality assurance processes through the QAF and multi agency training calendar	Jul-24	Yellow	Expected March 2023	Yellow	The Safe & Together Train the Trainer course is now expected September 2023, The Multi Agency L&D Coordinator has been accepted on to this course, and once trained will be able to deliver the Safe & Together training to the multi agency workforce.
		Key strategic posts identified and resourced to ensure; that an Equally Safe lens has been applied to policy and guidance; a Whole Family Approach is taken in relation to domestic abuse and a Whole Systems Approach is taken to address the needs of young people involved in offending; and by commissioning Cybersafe Scotland to carry out a needs-based assessment before providing direct support to protect children, young people and families	Equally safe outcomes become a part of our policy and guidance and quarterly updates from the VAWP and Cybersafe in relation to the engagement with children and their families (including perpetrators and survivors) in a consistent, multi-agency approach which demonstrates the support individuals and families receive to make positive, long term changes. As this progresses, it will also be visible and demonstrated through the CPC data and scrutiny reports		Yellow	CPC receives progress updates from VAWP and Cybersafe Scotland	Green	In July 2023, a Development Officer for Public Protection was recruited. The Development Officer will scrutinise key strategies across the public protection landscape, with an Equally Safe lens.
<b>Meaningful and purposeful engagement of children, young people, and their families in our child protection processes</b>	Building on the trauma informed and strength based practice approaches already embedded the CPC will ensure that children and their families have their say in decisions about them and are engaged with appropriately when they are involved in child protection processes	IRDs and CPPMs will make relevant referrals for advocacy and actively engage with the children's rights service to ensure the rights and views of children and their families are kept central and are fundamental to these processes	The referrals for advocacy and to the children's rights service will increase and IRDs and CPPMs will be able to evidence this via their revised documentation	Jul-24	Green	IRD process & documentation revised to prompt appropriate referrals to advocacy and children's rights service. Gathering of data is in development.	Green	IRD process & documentation revised to prompt appropriate referrals to advocacy and children's rights service. Gathering of data is in development.
		The implementation of the Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM)	The establishment of a performance framework and quality assurance process of SCIM which will include the experiences of families and children to inform ongoing improvement		Yellow	Expected November 2022	Green	SCIM implemented November 2022
		The creation of a children and families consultation group working in partnership with the APC, VAWP, ADP, CSB, Community and Youth Justice	The views and feedback from children and families will help shape and improve the policy and guidance produced for multi agency staff to ensure it is family friendly and meets the needs of our most vulnerable children and families		Yellow	The expectations of The Promise require the voice of children and families to be at the heart of all processes. CPC and all partners have adopted this approach and will continue to monitor impact.	Green	Bairns' Hoose reference group established in 2023
		The Mind Of My Own app, already an essential component of the approach to supporting digital inclusion and training, will continue to be shared across the partnership for wider support in championing this opportunity for young people as well as for consideration of wider roll-out.	Direct feedback from children via the Mind of My Own app		Green	MOMO app is utilised well across the City. Data from MOMO is reported to CSB.	Green	MOMO app is utilised well across the City. Data from MOMO is reported to CSB.
		Support the Write Right about Me Project to: - ask children and their families to provide feedback about how we represent their voices, in their records - ask children and their families to provide feedback on how they have found accessing their records - create opportunities for collaboration in decision making when planning to meet children's needs	Standards for good recording will be developed that will be widely adhered to across the partnership as evidenced in quality assurance audits		Yellow	This supports the implementation of The Promise and is reported to the CSB. The CPC will expect to see the impact in future QAF audits and case reviews.	Yellow	The WRAM working group continue to develop initiatives to encourage practitioners to re-frame how they write, ensuring the child's voice is heard. An e-module is in development and progress reported to the CSB & CPC accordingly.

## ABERDEEN CITY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE PROGRESS TRACKER - CP PROGRAMME 2021-2024

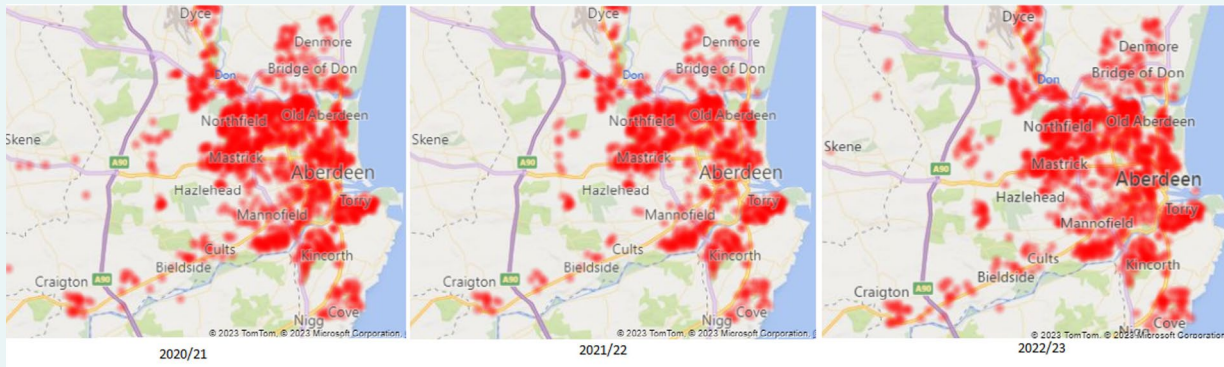
Priority	What will we do?	How will we do it?	How will we know?	To be completed by	Progress RAG July 2022	July 2022 Update	Progress RAG July 2023	July 2023 Update
<b>Quality Assurance Framework</b>	Develop and implement the updated QAF in partnership with the CSB. This will comprise of one annual CPC only audit and one annual joint audit with the CSB on relevant and connected priorities	The CPC will identify multi agency staff to carry out and take part in these audits. Auditors will be trained accordingly using the established QAF process. This process will result in the CPC being presented with the final report from each audit with recommendations as required	The CPC will response to, and address, the recommendations from each audit and ensure these recommendations are disseminated and embedded in practice updates as required. This will be carried out through the sub committee and thematic groups structures associated to the CPC	Jul-24		QAF has become well established and the processes around routine audits is well established. Remits are authored by the CPC & CSB. Findings are reported to CPC & CSB and implementation of recommendations are monitored by CPC & CSB.		QAF has become well established and the processes around routine audits is well established. Remits are authored by the CPC & CSB. Findings are reported to CPC & CSB and implementation of recommendations are monitored by CPC & CSB.
<b>National Guidance</b>	Consider the revised national guidance for child protection and learning reviews and ensure any changes that are required are put in place to help support and improve practice	The CPC will consider the revised national guidance for child protection at the appropriate local CPC development day(s) and supporting national forums to provide a summary report to COG in relation to the key changes from the 2014 guidance and how this will be applied locally	Any changes or amendments required to local policy, guidance, or practice will be updated and evidenced accordingly in those areas. These updates will be provided to the CPC and monitored through established quality assurance processes	Sep-23		In depth self-evaluation was undertaken. CPC have commenced implementation of identified changes and expect to have completed within timeframe (September 2023).		Full self-evaluation of implementation due for submission to Scottish Government in October 2023
		The SLR sub committee will ensure that three routes for case reviews are established; multi agency reflective discussions, practice reviews through the CSB, and significant learning reviews. These will be supported by local overarching guidance which explains clearly to multi agency staff when each review process should be used and how to carry out those reviews	The overarching guidance will be provided to the CPC and monitored by the SLR sub committee. Each review and its progress will be reported either through established quality assurance processes, the CSB, or the SLR sub committee. The learning identified from these reviews will continue to support improvements to practice and inform the work of the CPC through the Child Protection Programme, the QAF, the L&D framework and associated sub committee structures			Routes for case reviews is established and outlined on Aberdeen Protects. National Guidance for SLRs has been adopted by the CPC.		
						Local guidance in relation to all 3 case review processes in development.		Reflective Discussions implemented in 2022/23. Local quality assurance of Learning Reviews agreed by SLR subcommittee.
<b>Learning &amp; Development</b>	Ensure all multi agency staff have access to relevant child protection training in line with the priorities identified in the CP Programme: - Child Protection and Disability	Develop and deliver an annual CPC multi agency training calendar, in partnership with Aberlour, which comprises of all priority areas contained in the CP Programme and any learning or improvements identified through the QAF, sub committees or thematic groups	The L&D sub committee will provide an annual multi agency L&D report to the CPC together with evidence provided through their established quality assurance processes. This will demonstrate and provide a bank of evidence which measures the impact of the training on practice and subsequently for children and families	Jul-24		2021 – July 2022 annual report is complete and outlines L&D activity throughout this period.		2021 – July 2022 annual report is complete and outlines L&D activity throughout this period.

## ABERDEEN CITY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE PROGRESS TRACKER - CP PROGRAMME 2021-2024

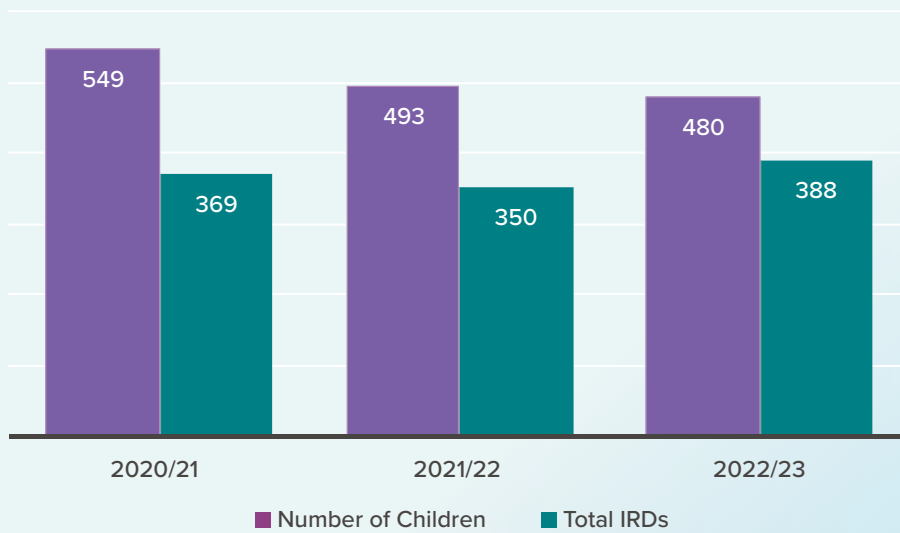
Priority	What will we do?	How will we do it?	How will we know?	To be completed by	Progress RAG July 2022	July 2022 Update	Progress RAG July 2023	July 2023 Update
<b>Multi agency interface with other strategic partnerships across Aberdeen City</b>	Throughout this programme, 2021 to 2024 (and beyond), to work collaboratively with other strategic partners in order to ensure ongoing strategic development and continuous improvement of our child protection services	Ensuring proactive engagement with national and local priorities (including national guidance, local improvement plans, and core datasets), CPC Scotland and other national groups	The creation and development of a Public Protection website bringing these key areas of business together under the COG	Jul-24		Aberdeen Protects launched January 2022		Aberdeen Protects launched January 2022
		Ensuring this programme is annually reviewed by CPC and approved by COG	Annual CPC development days and the annual CPC report			Development sessions were held on 18/11/21 & 15/02/22. CPC annual report published on Aberdeen Protects		Development sessions were held on 18/11/21 & 15/02/22. CPC annual report published on Aberdeen Protects
		Ensuring effective links with other strategic partnerships including the ADP, APC, VAWP, MAPPA, CSB, Community & Youth Justice	Membership across these strategic partnerships represented by the CPC and a Leads group set up to progress, where relevant, areas of cross over that would benefit from a collaborative approach within each of the strategic partnership priorities			Public Protection Leads group established		Public Protection Leads group established and a forum for collaborating and sharing information across the Public Protection landscape.
<b>Exploitation and Missing Children</b>	Raise awareness and develop a multi-agency understanding of, and response to, all forms of child exploitation and children who go missing	Develop, review, and disseminate multi agency guidance in relation to all forms of exploitation including child trafficking, sexual exploitation, and county lines	Developed or updated guidance will be presented to the CPC and disseminated on a multi agency basis. The impact of the guidance will be measured through established quality assurance processes	Jan-24		Child Sexual Exploitation guidance expected early 2023		Child Sexual Exploitation guidance published June 2023
		Improve single agency gathering and reporting of information, to support the multi-agency analysis of data in relation to all forms of child exploitation	The data and analysis provided to the P&QA sub committee from the Exploitation thematic group will be multi agency, succinct, and demonstrate the prevalence of children and young people at risk of exploitation. This information will identify gaps and highlight areas of good practice			Ad-hoc data is received by the P&QA sub committee and reported to the CPC. Routine data reporting is in development.		Challenges around capturing data in early stages prior to meeting thresholds for CP. Looking to Education to support this from schools systems.
		In line with the national missing persons framework, work in partnership with the Missing People charity to; improve the quality of return home discussions and their impact on children and young people, and also map the journey of children through our processes when they go missing to help identify areas that can be improved or highlighted as good practice	Journey mapping workshops for staff with the Missing People charity to help identify areas for improvement and also good practice. Specific training will be provided by the Missing People charity in relation to effective return home discussion for all missing person coordinators and champions. This will see an improvement in our engagement with children and families when children go missing and also improve our return home discussions through a supportive lens. This will be evaluated,			Outcome & recommendations from journey mapping workshops reported to CPC in March 2022.		Outcome & recommendations from journey mapping workshops reported to CPC in March 2022.
			monitored and its impact reported directly to the CPC.			E-module (Return Discussions) available on Aberdeen Protects		E-module (Return Discussions) available on Aberdeen Protects
			Routine data reporting in relation to missing children is in development.		Routine data reporting in relation to missing children is now captured and analysed in PQA.			

## Statistical Information

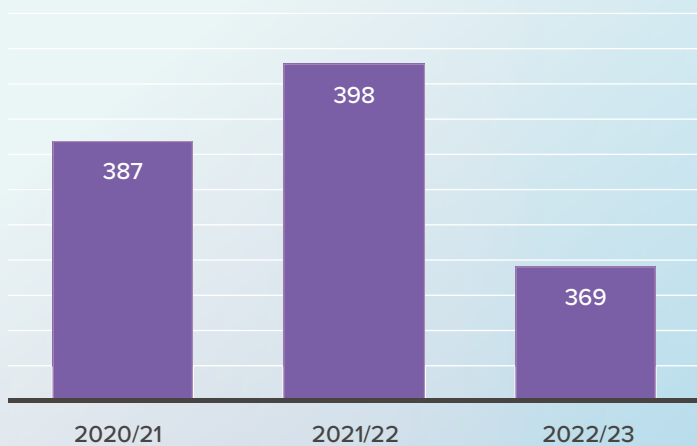
### Location of referrals to Childrens' Social Work



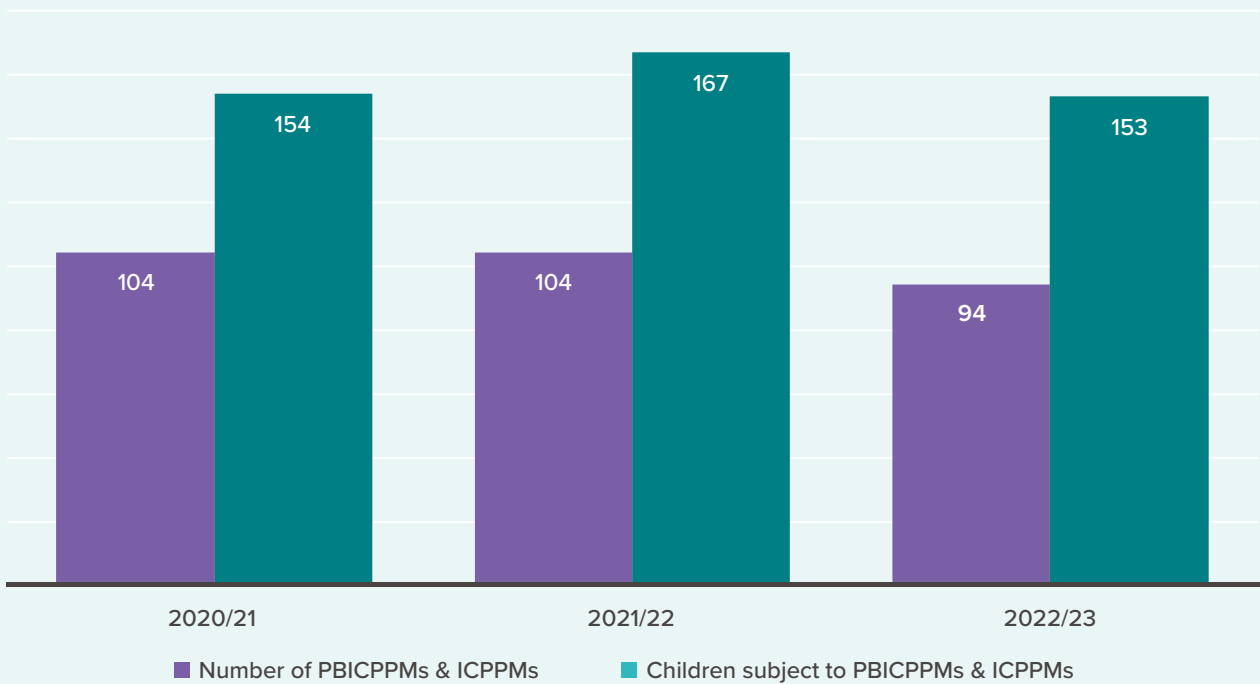
### Number of Interagency Referral Discussions (IRD)



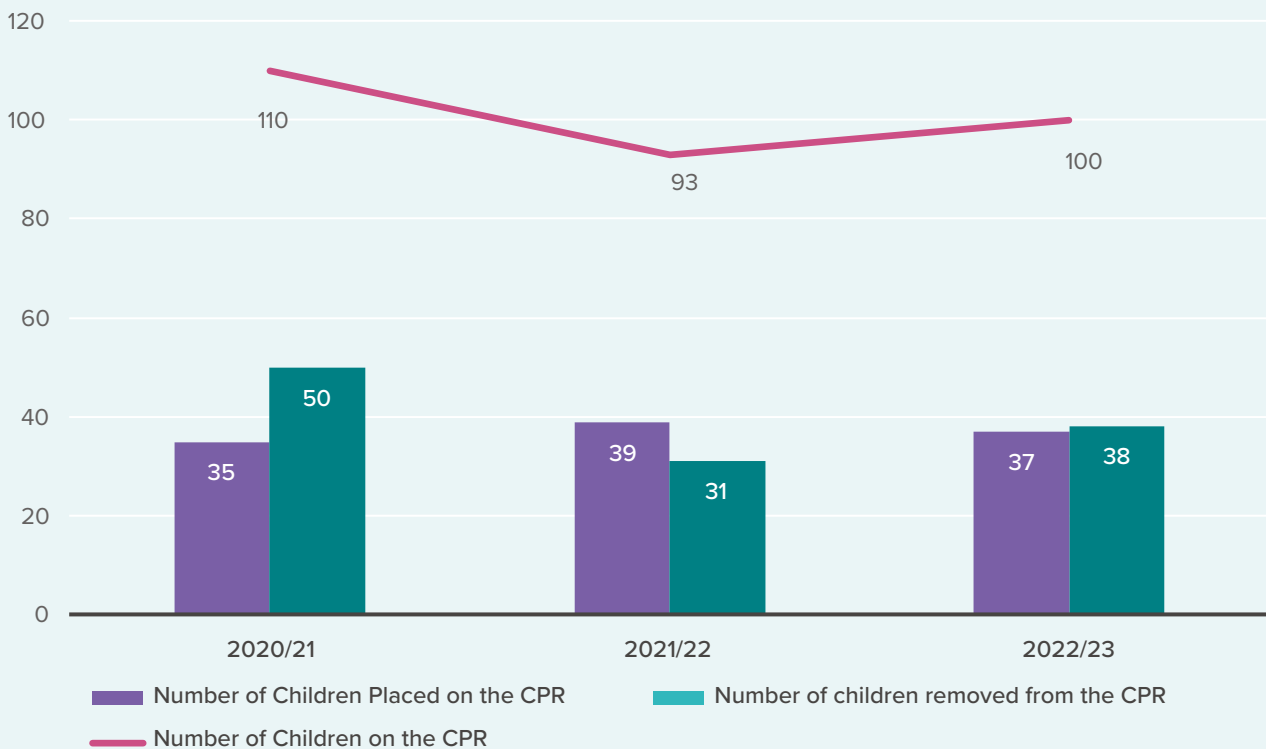
### Joint Investigative Interviews



### Number of Pre-Birth Initial Child Protection Planning Meetings & Number of Children

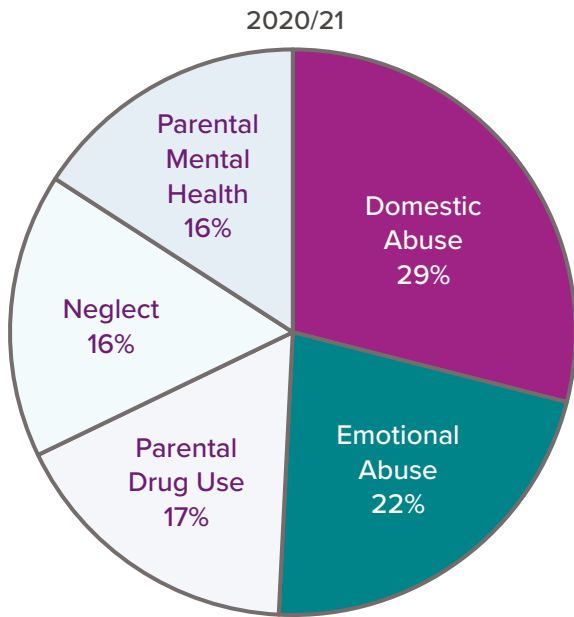


The below graph illustrates the monthly average number of children on, added to and removed from the Child Protection Register over the last 3 years.

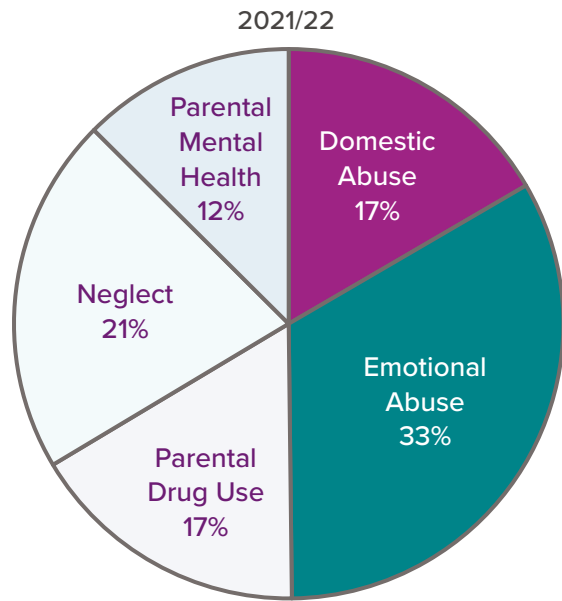




**The 5 most common concerns for registration 2020/2021**



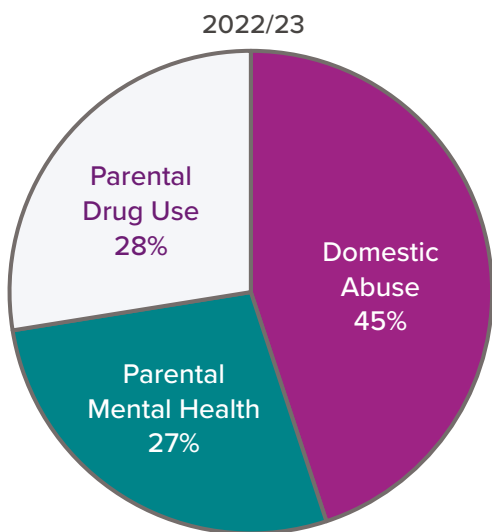
**The 5 most common concerns for registration 2021/2022**



**The 5 most common concerns for registration 2022/2023**

In November 2022, new categories of registration were introduced which are reflected in the below charts.

**Vulnerability Factors**



**Impact on/abuse of the child**

