



## Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership

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Partnership  
6 June 2017

### Present:

Neil Hunter (Acting Chair) – SCRA  
Iona Colvin – Chief Social Work Advisor  
Tom McNamara – SG Care & Justice  
Thekla Garland – SG Care & Justice  
Catherine Dowe – SG Care & Justice  
Liz Murdoch – SG Care & Justice  
Hannah Keates – SG Creating Positive Futures  
Belinda Robertson – SG Care & Protection  
Boyd McAdam – CHS  
Malcolm Schaffer – SCRA  
Lisa Bennett – SCRA  
Gary Dover – NHS  
Kate Rocks – ADSW  
Paul Beaton – COPFS  
John Urquhart – COSLA  
Joanne McMeeking – CELCIS  
Claire Lightowler – CYCJ  
Robert Gordon – Scottish Courts  
Marie-Louise Fox – SLAB  
Lex Bailey – Police Scotland  
Mike Burns – SWS  
Katherine Hudson – SG Care & Protection  
Lesley Dowdalls – Law Society  
Linda Jardine – Children 1<sup>st</sup>  
Marion Gillooly - Includem  
Judith Ainsley - SG Care & Protection

### Apologies:

Donald Henderson, Chair – SG Care & Protection  
Mary Hoey – Education Scotland  
Philip Denning – Education Scotland  
Jan Marshall – SG Civil Law and Legal System  
Marie Walker – ADES  
Catriona Whyte – SLAB  
Tim Barraclough – SCTS  
Sheriff Cubie – Judicial Institute  
Elaine Adams – SCRA  
Elliot Jackson – CHS  
Alyson Evans – CHS  
Jane O'Donnell – COSLA  
Angela Morgan – Includem



		<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and apologies</b>	
1.1	<b>NH</b> welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of March meeting and matters arising</b>	
2.1	Minutes of the previous meeting of 22 March 2017 were agreed.	
2.2	Outstanding Actions – Actions from previous meeting were either complete or work was ongoing.	Invite Who Cares? Scotland and Barnardo's to September meeting.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Education and Skills Committee</b>	
3.1	<p><b>TM</b> reported that The SG is currently coordinating the Ministerial response to the Committee's recommendations. The response will emphasise the multi-agency approach that is taking place to effect improvements in the Hearing System whilst also addressing each point raised by the Committee individually. Partners thanked for support for Ministerial evidence and drafting suggestions.</p> <p><b>LD's</b> particular drafting suggestion noted.</p> <p>It will also be important to highlight the valuable contribution made by all participants and the CHIP.</p>	All partners to send comments to <b>TG</b> by <b>15 June</b> .
3.2	<p>The draft response was discussed and <b>TG</b> asked that any comments be sent to her by the middle of following week.</p> <p>The sharing of Safeguarder Reports with social workers was discussed. <b>LJ</b> pointed out that under the Practice Standards the minimum requirement would be that the recommendations were shared and that failure to do so should be raised with Children 1<sup>st</sup>, but that under legislation social workers do not have an automatic right to see all papers. The Practice Standards for Safeguarders will be subject to review soon. SG would reflect on whether there were opportunities to revisit legislation where that was impeding delivery on the modernisation programme.</p> <p><b>NH</b> rounded off a wider discussion, indicating that the SG's 'takeaway' from this meeting was that CHIP partners were broadly supportive of the Minister's proposed response.</p>	



		<b>Action</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Working Groups – Update on Progress</b>	
4.1	<p><b>Generating Evidence &amp; Promoting Improvement</b></p> <p>The group has mainly concentrated on discussing the Feedback Loop.</p>	<b>BM</b> will circulate an update on the Feedback Loop discussions after the next GEPI meeting.
4.2	<p><b>Getting it Right in the Hearings System</b></p> <p><b>MS</b> explained that the GIRFEC strand of the work of the group had been on hold pending the results of information sharing discussions. Now that the new Bill is shortly to be introduced, the group will consider the implications for the hearings system. The group will also examine the use of the Child's Plan within the hearings system and look at introducing more local events / groupings like the previous one held in Glasgow.</p> <p><b>LB</b> outlined progress with the Blueprint work. There will be two pilot areas – Edinburgh and Falkirk with a third possible area still in discussion. These should run to the end of September 2017. Some discussion took place around the purpose of the Pilots and the need to ensure any changes included an emphasis on quality improvements as well as focussing on timescales.</p>	<b>MS</b> will update the CHIP on the results of the Pilots at the December 2017 CHIP meeting. If the written report is ready prior to the December meeting <b>LB</b> will circulate this.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Tri-Partite Group Update</b>	
5.1	<p>The focus on the group continues to be the Better Hearings work. <b>NH</b> will present a Project Initiation Document (PID) at the net Tripartite Group meeting which will outline the methods for taking forward the Action Plan signed off by CHIP. There will be great emphasis on feeding into work that already takes place within different localities rather than creating extra burdens for practitioners. The group will also look at mechanisms for measuring evidence of improvements.</p>	<b>LB</b> and <b>JM</b> will meet to discuss any possible links with the L&D work of Elaine Adams
<b>6.</b>	<b>Working Groups – Update On Progress (cont)</b>	
6.1	<p><b>(i) – Learning &amp; Development</b></p> <p><b>JM</b> explained the important role this group has in helping professionals understand the connections of all the CHIP work. The proposed work plan for the L&amp;D Coordinator was</p>	



		<b>Action</b>
6.2	<p>discussed and <b>JM</b> is happy to take any comments.</p> <p><b>(ii) – Permanence</b></p> <p><b>BR</b> said the group had not met recently but she is recruiting a secondee who it is hoped will be in a position to take this work forward.</p> <p><b>BR</b> also gave a short update on the progress of the PACE work taking place in 14 local authority areas. It is intended that PACE will be available to all 32 local authorities by 2018. The offer to link other pilot work with the PACE areas is still there but it would have to be handled in a strategic way.</p>	<p><b>BR</b> and <b>IC</b> will have a discussion about possible links with the different strands of work.</p>
7. 7.1	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p><b>Named Person</b></p> <p><b>HK</b> spoke about the introduction of the Bill to address information sharing which will be introduced in Parliament before July 2017. It will be a very narrow Bill solely concentrating on Parts 4 and 5 of the Children and Young People’s (Scotland) Act 2014. It is hoped to have Royal assent by April 2018.</p> <p>The Scottish Government’s aim will now be to reinvigorate the GIRFEC agenda in order to rebuild confidence with a programme of work.</p>	<p><b>HK</b> will bring to proposed programme of work to the September CHIP meeting.</p>
7.2	<p><b>Youth Justice Improvement Board</b></p> <p><b>CL</b> gave an update on the work of the YJIB. There will be a revamp of the 2015 Youth Justice Progress Report with next steps out soon and a paper relating to the experiences of young people in custody is being drawn up and will be available shortly.</p>	
8. 8.1	<p><b>Date Of The Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Wednesday 13 September 2017 – 10:00am – 12:00pm, Conference Room 1, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh  <b>(NB: It is the intention to separate the CHIP and YJIB meetings in future so this date may be subject to change)</b></p>	

