

HIGHLAND CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting held on 18 March 2008, Highland Council HQ, INVERNESS

Present:

Mr Liam O'Neill, Children's Panel, HC
Ms David Goldie, Head of Housing, HC
Ms Harriet Dempster, Director of Social Work, HC (Acting Chair)
Ms Donna Munro, CP Training Officer, HCPC
Jan Baird, Director of Community Care, NHS Highland
Mr Bill Alexander, Social Work, HC
Mr Hugh Fraser Director of Education Culture & Sport, HC
Mr Gordon Urquhart, Northern Constabulary
Mr Ian Latimer, Chief Constable, Northern Constabulary
Ms Fiona Malcolm, Legal Services, HC

Ms Lisa McClymont, Clerk to the CPC, (minutes)

Apologies:

Mr Alistair Dodds, Director, Corporate Services, HC (Chair)
MS Rhona Morrisson, Chair of the Children's Panel
Ms Linda MacLennan, Principal Officer LAC&CP, HCs
Mr Tom Boyd, Authority Reporter, Highland, SCRA
Mr Andrew Laing, Procurator Fiscal
Ms Pene Rowe, CP Development Officer, HCPC

	Item	Summary of Discussion	Action Required
1.	Minutes of the last meeting of the C.P.C held on the 18th of December 2007	<p>The minutes of the last meeting of the C.P.C held on the 18th of December 2007 were read and accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting with the exception of the following amendment:</p> <p>Mr Roger Gibbins was in attendance, Ms Fiona Malcolm was in attendance but Ms Leslie Johnstone was not.</p>	Ms LMcc to amend minute.
2.	Matters Arising	None	
3.	HMIe Inspection - February 2008 FEEDBACK	<p>The committee discussed the feedback from the Inspection in February. It was felt that there were one or two areas where the Inspectors misunderstood issues, for example with regards to the police forms in Skye. Overall it was felt that it was a positive visit, highlighted by the fact that the Inspectors did not envisage having to come back to Highland.</p> <p>Ms Harriet Dempster informed the committee that the report from the Inspectors should be back in time to go to the next LOG for incorporation into the workplan, before coming back to this committee in June 2008. Ms Harriet Dempster has received a report which evaluates all the Inspections undertaken. Ms Harriet Dempster will circulate this by email.</p>	MS HD to circulate report.

	ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
4.	Feedback from Annual Reports 2006/07	MS Harriet Dempster has asked Ms Pene Rowe to look at this and undertake an audit against our own report to identify areas where we could improve. Individual feedback is awaited with interest by the committee.	
5.	Draft Workplan 2008-2011	A meeting set up with key members from LOG to look at the draft workplan did not occur and Ms Pene Rowe received no feedback – some individuals phoned with recommendations but these were single agency. Single Agency plans were discussed further. Ms Jan Baird stated that all actions need to be in this workplan, whether Single Agency or not. This was agreed. It was further agreed that feedback can still be forwarded to Ms Pene Rowe up until the next LOG meeting. Following the next LOG meeting a core group of Chief Officers will meet to tidy the document up and sign it off in time to go back to the next CPC in June 2008. Ms Pene Rowe to be informed and co-ordinate.	Ms PR to co-ordinate meeting of C.O's.

	ITEM	DISCUSSION	AGENDA
6.	ECS Policy for endorsement	Mr Hugh Fraser presented the new ECS Corporate Policy Statement for endorsement. One amendment was suggested and the policy was endorsed with the understanding that this amendment be actioned.	Mr HF to action amendment to policy.
7.	Training Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conference Topic 2008 – Ms Donna Munro reported that the training conference for this year has been scheduled for November and asked for committee guidance on the topic for the day. It was agreed that recovery services will be this year’s theme but Mr Bill Alexander requested a move away from the term ‘recovery’. It was further agreed that it should be an in depth day and therefore the training team needs to refine this and look at how it will fit together - there is a danger that it will be too much for one day. It was agreed that Ms Donna Munro will take this to April’s Training Group meeting initially, then to LOG with the aim of bringing it back to the next CPC in June 2008. 2. Chief Officers support for training dates – Ms Donna Munro explained that all the dates for this years training now have a Chief Officer to introduce them and thanked Chief Officers for this. 	Ms DM to take decision back to training group for progression to LOG
8.	Families experience of Case Conferences	The report from Ms Isobel Grigor was discussed fully. It was agreed that issues raised such as timing, venues, childcare funding and the numbers of people in attendance at case conferences will be discussed further in a managed way through Linda MacLennan. The report will be circulated to reviewing officer’s and agencies. It was agreed that Ms Harriet Dempster will ask Mr Alisatair Dodds to write to the author expressing thanks and clarifying that no follow up work will be required.	MS HD to ask MR AD to write to MS IG.
9.	Standing Items	<p>LOG Minutes. Ms Harriet Dempster has been in touch with Merkinch Family Resource Centre with regards to publicity materials and a new set of materials has been forwarded to them.</p> <p>Training Minutes – item 2. In Safe Hands Mr Bill Alexander reported that ECS lead on this and this will be taken up by the ECS management team.</p>	

	ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
10	Restricted Minutes	Critical Incident Review-discussed.	
11	Ombudsman's Report	A letter has been received from the Ombudsman requesting a meeting. This was discussed further.	
12	Date of Next Meeting	10th of June 2008 at 3pm – CR1, Highland Council HQ, INVERNESS	