This newsletter highlights the most recent updates to CP Procedures and also recaps on things you may have missed!

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Learning from Audit

Consider who is involved in the child’s life – expand on the question “Who are the people in the household?” to include “Who does the child have regular contact with?”, “Who is in the child’s life?”, “Who do we need to speak to?”. This will ensure the right people are invited to case conferences and the right information will be recorded.

Remember, regardless of who you are responsible for – child or adult – you have a responsibility to consider risks for everyone in the family group.

Neglect Toolkit

A reminder to consider the use of this toolkit. The term “neglect” can be uncomfortable to use but if you don’t “name it” then the parent will not know what they need to change. Thanks to everyone who has provided feedback: please keep it coming to Fiona Jones.

Scottish Borders Child Protection Committee Website - http://onlineborders.org.uk/community/cpc
Providing information to other Local Authorities.

At times we need to communicate with other Local Authorities and this is particularly prevalent with Looked After Children residing in another Local Authority. Sometimes communication can be difficult and it is important to bear in mind that equally a child from another Local Authority may be residing within the Scottish Borders and we should be amenable and open to communicating with colleagues from other Authorities. If you can’t get the information you need – escalate!

Feedback to Referrer

It is everyone’s responsibility. All are reminded that feedback should be provided to the referrer. Equally it is a two-way process so some understanding is required – if you have not received feedback: please pick up the phone and ask.

Stepfathers’ youth a factor in child homicides

A study says being young, rather than not being related biologically, could be a main factor in telling if a father figure is likely to maltreat a child. This study by the University of East Anglia (UEA) challenges an assumption that children are more likely to be abused if cared for by a step-parent. Data was reviewed to find that age was a more significant factor and that younger fathers are more likely to abuse or kill their children rather than older fathers, and regardless of whether they are stepfathers. Small studies like these are always subjective BUT they remind us to carefully consider everyone in the child’s life whether resident in the household or involved but living elsewhere.
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

- CSE training is now mandatory for Social Workers and Social Worker Assistants.
- A dedicated web page is being developed to provide links to resources and information in relation to CSE.
- There is consistent Child Protection reference on all school websites and a link will be provided to the above web page which is currently under development.
- A Sexual Health, Relationship and Child Protection Pathway is being piloted in all schools.

- S6 Child Protection Awareness Raising sessions are being facilitated in Scottish Borders schools.
- A group of Young People are working on ways to raise awareness to their peers of keeping safe on the internet and of on-line grooming. The group have presented their ideas to the CPC and continue to report on their progress.

Learning from Reviews

- A workflow is provided overleaf to provide a system to involve other teams including the Learning Disability Team to ensure assessments consider the ability and situation of parents.

- We continue to encourage the use of the escalation policy. Managers are also encouraged to record instances of escalation for evaluation purposes.

- Needs of young people/young adults – if a young person requires multi-agency support then the multi-agency forum must identify a lead professional who will be responsible for co-ordination and ensuring effective implementation and review of the multi-agency plan. (Whether this relates to support for a child, young person or adult, the principles apply to both NHS Borders and SBC settings.)

- Continue to maintain Chronologies. Chronologies being up-to-date and USED when we are considering what action to take is vital to protect children.

- Need for improved information sharing and working together comes up over and over again when children die.
Learning from a Review

A workflow with services and their contact numbers was produced as a result of learning from a Case Review. Various services can support each other and input to provide a quality Assessment for an adult with learning difficulties or addiction issues. This aim of this document is for everyone to gain specialist knowledge from colleagues from different disciplines and to work in partnership to manage risk with well-informed Assessments and achievable Plans. This pathway is purely for advice and guidance to inform your in-depth assessment.

**Adult Learning Disability Service** - To locate the care manager for allocated cases and for support with unallocated cases go through the Duty Officer (Mon-Fri 9:30-12:30). The contact number for both is 01896 840200.

**Addaction**
Drug addiction treatment
Gill Donnan, Service Manager - 01896 757843

**Borders Addiction Service**
Fiona Nicol, Team Manager – 01896 664436

**Youth Justice Team**
Robert Jamieson – Team Leader
01835 828826

**Child Protection**
Duty Child Protection Reviewing Officer – 01896 664159

**Adult Social Care and Health** –
Gwyneth Lennox – Group Manager, SC&H Operations
01835 825080
07816453924

**Adult Mental Health Team** -
Initially ask for Duty worker who will locate the most appropriate person for you to speak with -

- Community Mental Health Rehab Team: 01896 664424
- East/West Team: 01896 827270
- South Team: 01450 364314

**CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services**
Contact 01750 23715

We must ask ourselves –
“Who is in this child’s and adult’s lives?”

“Who do we need to speak with to gain a better understanding of their situations?”

**Locality Children and Families Teams & Central Duty**

**Allocated cases**
- Teviot – Laura Mitchell, Team Leader Long Term Team East – 01450 364777
- Berwick – Matt Thomas, Team Leader Long Term Team East - 01361 886115
- Galashiels (Central) – Jean Wilson, Team Leader Long Term Team West - 01896 664158
- Tweeddale – Sheona Newton, Team Leader Long Term Team West - 01361 886115

**Unallocated Cases**
Central Duty
01896 662787

**Justice Service Team**
- Generic – 01896 664140
- Specialisms:
  - High Risk/ Reg Sex Off – Sarah Henderson, Team Leader, Justice Service – 01896 664147
  - Domestic Abuse – Ishbel McKenzie, Team Leader Justice Service – 01896 664148
  - Unpaid Work – Rayan Nolte, Team Leader Justice Service – 01896 665816

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Eyes Open Campaign

Child Protection Committees Scotland (CPCScotland) promoted an “Eyes Open Campaign“ across local and national media at the beginning of summer 2018 to raise public awareness about child protection issues. It asked members of the public to be more watchful over the summer period and to act if they were concerned about the welfare of a child. The campaign was supported by 23 Child Protection Committees including the Scottish Borders CPC. In preparation for the campaign a test call was conducted and positive feedback was received following the test call made to the Duty Team in the Scottish Borders. The campaign was a success in terms of CPC Scotland’s Communications Strategy to communicate more proactively and show how everyone can play a part in our children’s safe-keeping.

Children Affected by Parental Substance Misuse (CAPSM)

Information Sharing Reminder

Have confidence in information sharing! The Information Commissioner’s Office has noted that “It is important that those whose work brings them into contact with children and young people continue to share child protection concerns in the same way as they did previously.”

Worried about a child?
Contact the C&F Duty Team: 01896 662787
Out of hours:
- 01896 752 111
- Police – 101 and in Emergency 999

If a child is open to a Long Term Team (LTT) contact:
- Galashiels: 01896 664158 (West LTT)  Duns: 01361 886115 (East LTT)
- Peebles: 01721 726310 (West LTT)  Hawick: 01450 364777 (East LTT)

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