

Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership (CHIP)

NOTE FROM MEETING

Monday 9th June 2015

Atlantic Quay

10:00 – 1:30

Attendees

CELCIS

Jennifer Davidson (JD)
Joanne McMeeking (JM)

CHS

Boyd McAdam (BM)
Alyson Evans (AE)
Zoie Sneddon (ZS)

3rd Sector

Linda Jardine, Children 1st (LJ)
Alison Reid, Clan Childlaw, (AR)

SCRA

Neil Hunter (NH)
Malcolm Schaffer (MS)
Elliot Jackson (EJ)
Lorna McNaughton (LM)

Police Scotland

Elaine Morrison (EM)

Scottish Government

Robert Marshall, Deputy Director Care & Justice (RM) Chair
Tom McNamara, Youth Justice and Children's Hearings Unit (TM)
Thekla Garland, Children's Hearings Unit (TG)
Catherine Dowe, Children's Hearings Unit (CD)
Kirsty Doull, Looked after Children, (KD)
Marion Gillooly, Better Life Chances Unit (MG)
Jan Marshall, Deputy Director, Civil Law & Legal System (J/M)

Scottish Courts Service

Robert Sandeman (RS)
Robert Gordon (RG)

Education Scotland

Phil Denning (PD)

ADES

Maria Walker (MW)

SSSC

Mairi-Anne MacDonald (MM)

SLAB

Catriona Whyte (CW)

SWS

Mike Burns (MB)

NHS

Sally Egan (SE)

Law Society

Lesley Dowdalls (LD)

Youth Justice

Claire Lightowler (CL)

Crown Office

Paul Beaton (PB)

Judicial Institute

Sheriff Andrew Cubie (AC)

Clan Childlaw

Alison Reid (AR)

Apologies received from

Marie-Louise Fox (SLAB)
Robert Nicol (COSLA)
Alan Baird (SG)
Kate Rocks (ADSW)
Mary Hoey (Education Scotland)
Andreana Adamson (Scottish Government)
Maria Walker (ADES)
Angela Morgan (Includem)
Katherine Hudson (Scottish Government)
Grant Manders (Police Scotland)
David Doris (Scottish Government)
Jackie Robeson (Clan Childlaw)

1.	Welcome and Introductions	Action
	RM welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted.	
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	
	Minutes of the previous meeting on 9 March 2015 were agreed. Matters arising were discussed during meeting.	
3.	Working Groups – Update on Progress	
3.1	Generating Evidence and Promoting Improvement- AE	
	AE referred to the evidence into practice work the group had been exploring. A local authority has been approached to pilot work on this and she should hear in a couple of weeks.	
3.1.1	More discussion around the Practice Guidance which is almost complete.	CHIP group and Tripartite group will send any comments to AE by end of June and AE will have final paper prepared by end of July. LJ will contribute something on work of safeguarders.
3.1.2	Group is still working on developing a framework for improving outcomes.	
3.2	Getting It Right in the Hearings System – MS	NH agreed that Branding Group would look at designing the Practice Note using the new logo.
3.2.1	MS said his group would respond further to the GIRFEC consultation over the summer. MG stated that the final draft of the Guidance should be ready by early autumn. RM suggested there could be a special event to consider issues arising from the GIRFEC/Child Protection consultation outcomes.	RM will write to partners in September outlining when the event will be held and what the asks will be.
3.2.2.	The group hopes to further develop the Referral guidance it has	

	been working on and to target a local authority area to pilot it.	MS will take the lead on this.
4.	Digital Strategy for the Hearings System	
4.1	EJ explained that they have submitted costing plans for the Strategy to the Scottish Government (SG).	EJ asked partners to provide feedback to him about the prototype video and to consider whether it should be badged as a CHIP product. Consider a dissemination strategy for late summer. Set up a 'Digital Strategy Workstream' EJ/RM
4.2	The Digital Transformation Group will be conducting a peer review of the Strategy in July.	
4.3	EJ presented a prototype video to the group and there was some general discussion after the viewing.	
4.4	It is intended to be launched in late summer.	
4.5	RM raised the possibility of establishing a workstream to support the ongoing work in this area and proposed setting up a small group for testing.	
5.	Work of Tri-Partite Group	
5.1	NH outlined some of the discussions from the last Tri-Partite meeting. They are looking at what makes a 'good hearing' and are considering sending out a survey monkey to partners to get views from practitioners.	
6.	CHIP Logo/Branding	
6.1	The group was happy to accept the new design for a CHIP logo. It was felt it was colourful and dynamic. JM suggested that highlighting the 'CHIP' acronym would ensure better brand recognition and BM reminded everyone that the logo needed to reflect a broad age range. LJ wanted to ensure that the gravitas of the partnership was emphasised.	The design crew will take on board comments and bring a revamped example of the logo to the meeting in September. CELCIS and SCRA will include a link on their webpages which outlines CHIP's work and which organisations are members.
7.	Working Groups –update on progress (cont)	

7.1	Learning & Development/Raising Awareness across the Hearings System – JM	
7.1.1	JM described the seminar that had taken place on 8 June 2015 which was successful and provided the working group with a lot of useful information to help them take forward their work to prepare a national framework for a shared culture of learning and development amongst partners.	JM and TM will discuss possible funding for a scoping exercise and report back to the September meeting.
8.	CELCIS – ‘From Act to Practice’ – Final evaluation report	
8.1	JM and AR spoke to the final evaluation report arising from the ‘Act to Practice’ work. Many useful lessons were obtained from the engagement process which will be helpful for the future.	
9.	Scottish Government Strategies	
9.1	TM spoke briefly about the Youth Justice and the new Strategy. He explained there has been a marked reduction in head line indicators around youth offending. The Strategy will be published on Thursday 18 June 2015.	TM will send a copy of the Strategy to partners.
9.2	RM then discussed Family Justice Strategy which is still in the early stages. He and JM have joint ownership of this	
10.	SCTS – Evidence & Procedure Review (evidence of children) - update	
10.1	RM raised the recent SCTS Review which looked at how vulnerable witnesses are treated – including children. Tim Barraclough (TB) is Leading a series of engagement events. RM encouraged all to take part.	RM asked that partners make sure their organisations are aware of TB work and the events.
11.	Safeguarders	
11.1	Update - LJ informed the group that the new Safeguarder Standards have been sent to the Minister for approval. Ten events have been set up across the country where the standards will be shared with the safeguarder community.	Alan Baird, the Safeguarders Panel Team and
11.2	Safeguarder Research – JD outlined some of the findings of the Safeguarder research CELCIS had undertaken. This led to some interesting discussion on the roles of practitioners within a	

	Hearing.	SLAB to be invited to attend a meeting of the Tri-Partite group so that the issues which have been highlighted by the Research can be discussed in more detail and the report back to the September meeting.
12.	AOB	
12.1	TM spoke about a Benefits Realisation paper which is intended to highlight the benefits achieved so far from the implementation of the 2011 Act.	CHIP partners invited to consider draft report over the summer and send views to TM
12.2	TM will speak more on the Participation Charter at the September meeting.	
12.3	Advocacy Research project went live on 18 May and there are no issues to report at the moment.	
12.4	SLAB research looking at role of solicitors within the hearings System is also ongoing and there will be more to report in September.	
12.5	MB will report on the progress of the Non-Disclosure work being conducted in NW Glasgow at the next CHIP meeting.	
13.	Date of next meeting:	
	Thursday 10 September 2015 10.00am – 3.00pm, Conference Room 3, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh.	