



# Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership

## Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - 10:00-13:00

Conference room 1, Victoria Quay,  
Edinburgh

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

#### Attendees:

Michael Chalmers (SG) Chair  
Peter Imrie (SG) Minute taker  
Tom McNamara (SG)  
Liz Murdoch (SG)  
Belinda Robertson (SG)  
Alice Bayles (SG, GIRFEC)  
Rod Finan (SG, Better Life Chances Unit)  
Elaine Adams (CELCIS)  
Lisa Bennett (SCRA)  
Gordon Brechin (SCRA)  
Bryan Evans (Children 1<sup>st</sup>)  
Claire Arias (COPFS)  
Marie-Louise Fox (SLAB)  
Neil Hunter (SCRA)  
Jim Devoy (Police Scotland)  
Malcolm Schaffer (SCRA)  
Matt Forde, (NSPCC Scotland and CCPS Rep)  
Robert Gordon (Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service)  
Kate Rocks (SWS East Renfrewshire)

#### Apologies:

Elliot Jackson (CHS)  
Boyd McAdam (CHS)  
Claire Lightowler (CYCJ)  
Thekla Garland (SG)  
Pauline Stephen (ADES - Angus council)  
Marion Gillooly (Includem)  
Jane O'Donnell (COSLA)  
John Urquhart (COSLA)  
Joanne McMeeking (CELCIS)  
Iona Colvin (SG)  
Julia Donaldson (NSPCC)  
Duncan Dunlop (Who Cares? Scotland)  
Mary Hoey (Education Scotland)  
Mike Burns (SWS)  
Judith Ainsley (SG)  
Donald Henderson (SG)  
Sheriff Susan Craig (Scottish Courts)  
Gary Dover (NHS)



		<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and apologies</b> MC welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of 13 December 2017 and matters arising</b> Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.  <b>Update on actions from 13 December:</b> The Education & Skills committee update will be delayed to coincide with the Care Review outputs.  BME Short Life Working Group – a meeting has been set-up for 24 April. MS advised that he is looking for social work representation on the group. Any member wishing to participate in the BME group should contact Malcolm Schaffer directly.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Updates</b> <b>3.1 Learning and Development – EA</b> provided an update to the group.  Network connections are being formed locally and their experiences are feeding into the national picture. Better Hearings is part of the training being delivered locally and includes advocacy work.  Roles & responsibilities training has been created and is due to rollout – the intention is to increase the awareness of participants roles and encourage collaborative working.  The 3 pilot sites are progressing well, with action plans and base line assessments either complete or underway. This will be linked to work being delivered under PACE, with the intention to avoid duplication.  All members can assist by broadcasting CHIP achievements, as there is some unawareness of CHIP and its purpose.  <b>3.2 Getting it Right in the Hearings System and Blueprint – MS</b> provided an update to the group.  <b>Getting it Right in the Hearing System</b> – the group is progressing work, however information sharing continues to be topical. The “child’s journey” has been mapped, but awaits consideration by the SG legal team.  It was stressed that the positive GIRFEC messages should not be lost and that the profile needs to be raised.  The Child’s Plan is instrumental under GIRFEC. GDPR will also have an impact on the work of CHIP and GIRFEC. This is particularly key in Youth Justice, which has already seen an impact on information sharing to the EEI processes delivered by partners.	<b>PI</b> to add GIRFEC for discussion at a future meeting.



		<b>Action</b>
	<p><b>Blueprint</b> – draft standards are approaching completion. The intention is to deliver this to CHIP in June. Court standards are presently challenging.</p> <p>A meeting of chief social workers is due to take place in May.</p> <p><b>3.3 Generating Evidence and Promoting Improvement – BM</b> was unable to attend the meeting due to a ministerial visit to CHS.</p> <p><b>3.4 Tri-Partite Group – NH</b> advised that the group has not met in 2018 but is due to reconvene before the summer. The main focus for the group is the delivery of Better Hearings. <b>LB</b> updated the group on the better hearings work, confirming that 29 out of 32 local authorities are committed to better hearings.</p> <p>There is a consistency of need within all areas and a confidence that the respective action plans are being completed openly and honestly.</p> <p>“Our Hearings Our Voice” will be up and running by the end of the year and are expected to offer a greater insight for CHIP.</p> <p>Currently the emphasis should be on ensuring the young person’s voice is heard. It was noted that the Care Inspectorate are looking at young people’s engagement in practice within social work.</p> <p><b>Glasgow City Partnership arrangements – GB</b> advised that partnership engagement has recommenced.</p> <p>There has also been increased acceptance and willingness to participate in networking and joint working, leading to greater participation by the courts.</p> <p>The latest meeting updates are available on the CHIP website.</p>	
4.	<p><b>CPIP Update – NH</b> confirmed that there are 4 CPIP actions being considered by CHIP.</p> <p>NH has been leading a short life working group which is considering 2 of the 4 actions – 16/17 year olds in the hearing system and compulsory supervision orders. A paper has been drafted on 16/17 year olds in the hearing system. The finalisation of the paper has been delayed but will be presentation to CHIP for discussion at the next meeting in June.</p> <p>It is likely that a recommendation will be made that the</p>	<p><b>PI</b> to add CPIP 16/17 year olds discussion to the agenda for June.</p>



		<b>Action</b>
	paper is put to the CPIP group for progression.	
5.	<p><b>CHIP Development Day – Future of CHIP</b> A next steps/strategy paper had been drafted for discussion, based on the CHIP survey and discussions at the development day on 19 February.</p> <p>The paper outlines proposals for the future priorities of CHIP and the structure of future meetings.</p> <p>A comprehensive discussion took place regarding the proposals and the direction of travel. There was broad agreement that the three priority themes cover all of our on-going requirements. It was agreed that there would be some amendments made to ensure that improving practice is considered rather than processes, that children and young people will be supported coming out of the hearing system (transitions) and that as much as the child should be at the centre there should be a bullet point around supporting families and others in the hearing system.</p> <p>The 3 workstreams (Better Hearings, Policy Consideration and Response and Data &amp; Evidence) were also agreed in principle, although there was some concern around the volume of potential work within the “Policy” group. It was felt that some of the priorities for this group should be addressed ahead of others.</p> <p>Leads for the 3 groups was discussed and it was suggested that a less traditional approach should be tested, where by there is a rotating chair.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Better Hearings group would include the members of the Tri-partite group (SCRA, CHS and SWS) and that MS would be involved in the Policy group. This would be discussed further out with the meeting and members were invited to put themselves forward for the groups.</p> <p>SG offered a level of governance and representative on each group.</p> <p>The current groups would cease and any on-going priorities would fold in to the 3 new groups.</p> <p>The Governance was discussed. Confirmation was provided that there would be a separate planning group which sit alongside CHIP to support the work of CHIP and to plan the quarterly main CHIP meetings. Clear terms of reference will be developed, which stress the importance of communication.</p>	<p>LM to update the next steps paper following discussion and re-issue.</p> <p>All members to volunteer for the 3 groups.</p> <p>Planning group to reconvene to discuss membership of the 3 groups and to ensure that the 3 groups are set up with meetings to take place in May and that terms of reference are drafted.</p> <p><b>PI</b> to contact the current chairs to explain that the groups will fold and to request a closure report detailing progress made and priorities outstanding and suggestions from current membership for the new groups.</p>



		<b>Action</b>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p><b>BR</b> advised that consultation is currently underway to review Part 1 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995. This is led by Justice colleagues but will have an impact on young people. <b>BR</b> will be in touch with members to garner opinions on the review.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> 12 June 2018, Conference Room 2, Victoria Quay.</p> <p>Members were advised that due to the new agreed format for CHIP, future meetings will be separate from the Youth Justice Improvement Board and therefore, previous timings in diaries may be amended. New meeting requests will be issued as necessary.</p>	<p><b>PI</b> to issue new meeting requests to members, if required.</p> <p><b>SG</b> to consider the Ministers attendance at the December meeting.</p>

