

## **UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF OFFICERS GROUP (COG): Update from 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 Meeting**

Following the launch of “Aberdeen Protects”, members of COG agreed that they would provide a summary following each of its meetings. This will comprise a range of things: decisions taken, sharing of information, and providing updates on longer term pieces of work. We hope you find these updates helpful.

### New members

COG welcomed Chay Ewing to his first meeting of COG, following his recent appointment to the position of Local Senior Officer with SFRS, here in Aberdeen.

### Adult Protection Inspection

COG received a further progress report on preparations for the anticipated Care Inspectorate multi agency adult protection inspection. The progress report included a second draft position statement and an improvement plan, both of which will be submitted to the inspectors in due course. Formal notification of the inspection has now been received. The inspectors have advised that they plan to read records in March 2022. This takes into consideration the anticipated and unanticipated pressures that the partnership will experience over the coming winter months.

The focus of the joint inspection will be to provide:

- Independent scrutiny and assurance of how partnerships ensure that adults at risk of harm are kept safe, protected, and supported.
- Assurance to Scottish Ministers about how effectively partnerships have implemented the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007.

An opportunity to identify good practice and support improvement more broadly across Scotland. We will conduct this scrutiny using two quality indicators:

- Key adult support and protection processes.
- Leadership for adult support and protection

### Suicide & Drug Death Reviews

COG received an overview of our first ever multi agency review of a suicide death in a community setting. This work is being progressed on a pilot basis on behalf of the National Suicide Leadership Group alongside 2 other partnership areas. COG heard that a second review is planned for January and this second review will take on board the learning from the first review.

At our November meeting, we agreed to also start piloting multi agency drug death reviews. Limited progress had been made since our last meeting. We learnt of another partnership who are trying to integrate suicide and drug death reviews and agreed to investigate this approach further to see if it would address our capacity challenge. COG is keen to undertake these reviews to share the insight with frontline practitioners to enhance our approach to early intervention.

### Self-Neglect and Hoarding Guidance

Following a local case involving extreme hoarding, new multi-agency Self-Neglect and Hoarding Guidance was approved by the APC in April 2021 and was launched in June via an Event on Teams. Following the launch of the guidance, COG asked the APC to provide assurance about the impact of the Self-Neglect and Hoarding Guidance. APC undertook to do this via a two-phased approach; a short

questionnaire to be circulated widely to enable initial feedback to December meetings of the APC and COG, followed by a more in-depth review of case files, to commence in June 2022. COG noted the findings of the initial survey - and recognised that impact may have been limited so far, given current pressures on services. It was agreed that the results from the case file review in June 2022, would be reported back to COG.

#### Data Improvement workstream

A significant report was considered by COG at its October meeting, on how it could improve the flow and use of data across partners to enhance the 3-tiered intervention framework for children. Since our last meeting, work has focussed on 1) establishing and populating a model Children & Young People Data Catalogue, as a fundamental building block of data management and 2) the establishment of a Children and Young People Information Sharing Protocol to strengthen governance for information and data sharing. An initial Multi-Agency Data Office has also been formed, emerging from the work focused on cumulative neglect, its purpose and commitment is to:

- establish a proof of concept and drive the establishment of a multi-agency data model around children and young people data.
- identify early intervention and prevention indicators to be implemented at service and multi-agency level that align to COG priorities

In terms of next steps, we agreed:

- to undertake and complete facilitated sessions with key stakeholders to identify the data needs of Named Person; Lead Professional; Assurance; Commissioners.
- To complete work to finalise the model Children & Young People Data Catalogue; share and seek agreement with all partners; continue work to populate.
- Partners to provide feedback on the Information Sharing Protocol with the aim of all Partners shaping and supporting an agreed Protocol in December and signed by all Partners by the end of January 2022.
- Complete evaluation of needs and design a programme for data skills / data literacy, focussing on: “named person” and “lead professional” roles • the commissioning and evaluation of services

#### Enhancing our approach to early intervention and prevention

COG considered a report setting out proposals for the introduction of a Family Support Model (FSM). It was noted that FSM is increasingly a feature of the Scottish Government policy framework with a new framework emerging recently for the development of FSM within Alcohol and Drug Partnerships as well as the inclusion of it within “The Promise”. COG agreed the proposal and requested that an on-line event be hosted in the new year, to provide practitioners with an opportunity to learn more about the proposal and to input to the design of the approach.

Date of Next Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022