

UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF OFFICERS GROUP (COG): Update from 9th May 2023 Meeting

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

GENERAL UPDATES

COG received an update about the planning for the first ‘in person’ Aberdeen Public Protection event on 31st May, to which members of all public protection committees and partnerships were invited. The programme covered both national and local speakers on a range of current developments, including Bairns’ Hoose and the National Care Service, and those attending would be participating in discussion groups during the day. Members agreed to encourage attendance from their organisations and partnerships.

INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

No current inspection activity underway

ADULT PROTECTION

The Adult Protection Committee had agreed an end date for actions in its current Improvement Plan of the end of September 2023. COG members welcomed the planned alignment of the timeframe for the all the high-level APC governance documents: the next Improvement Plan; a refreshed APC Strategy; and the next Biennial Reporting period (2024-2026) - all pointing towards the trailed end of this parliamentary session in 2026 ‘go live’ date of a National Care Service.

CHILD PROTECTION

The COG heard that the Child Protection Committee had held a Development Session on 15th February. The session had covered three key areas: the Aberdeen City [Neglect Toolkit](#); a refreshed [Quality Framework for children & young people in need of care and protection](#) (2022); and the Care Inspectorate’s report on East Renfrewshire’s recent inspection.

Members noted the good work carried out on the Aberdeen City Neglect Toolkit [ThingLink](#), and the implications and learning that could be taken from East Renfrewshire’s grading of ‘excellent’ from their recent inspection.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AND OUR RESPONSE

Scottish Government National Care Service (NCS) Proposals

Representatives from Scottish Government had spent three days in Aberdeen on a 'Study Visit', hearing about developments in the city across a range of adult care services, including public protection, to help inform thinking around a National Care Service.

LEARNING, AND DEVELOPMENT

Child Exploitation Guidance

Multi Agency Child Sexual Exploitation Guidance had been developed by the Child Protection Committee. The meeting heard that a webinar launch of the Guidance is planned for staff from across partner services and agencies. The COG endorsed the Guidance, which will be published on the Aberdeen Protects website following the launch.

Date of Next Meeting: 4th July 2023