

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**ANGUS COUNCIL COMMITTEE – 6 DECEMBER 2018**

**ANGUS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2017 to 2018**

**REPORT BY KATHRYN LINDSAY, CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER, ANGUS COUNCIL**

**ABSTRACT**

This report presents the Angus Child Protection Committee (ACPC) Annual Report for 2017 to 2018.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Angus Council:

1.1 Note and endorse the contents of the Angus Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2017 to 2018 (appended to this report).

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/ CORPORATE PLAN**

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) and priorities contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017 – 2030:

2.2 Our Priorities: Tackling inequalities; Building services around people and communities; Focusing on prevention; and Working together effectively.

2.3 Local Outcome 4 - The best start in life for children

Local Outcome 5 - More opportunities for people to achieve success.

Local Outcome 6 – Improved physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing.

Local Outcome 9 - Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 The previous ACPC Annual Report covered the period from 2016 to 2017.

3.2 The Annual Report of the ACPC for the period April 2017 to March 2018 presents the work we have undertaken in Angus, individually and in partnership, to deliver national, Tayside and local child protection outcomes to improve the lives of vulnerable children and their families.

3.3 The Annual Report has been approved by the ACPC and the Angus Chief Officers Group.

**4. CURRENT POSITION**

4.1 The Committee have continued to work together to improve child protection practice in Angus.

4.2 Of particular note this year is:-

- Angus Child Protection Committee has continued to build on previous strengths in 2017-18. The development of its first three year strategic plan, based on an agreed vision, values and

strategic goals demonstrates a commitment to joint working, improvement and self-evaluation.

- Through the protecting people partnerships we have ensured that our work is coordinated with the work of other partnerships, considers a 'whole family' approach to child protection and makes best use of the resources we have available. With this in mind, we have worked closely with our 5 thematic partnerships (Angus Adult Protection Committee, Angus Violence Against Women Partnership, Angus Suicide Prevention Collaborative, Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and MAPPA) to develop a 'Protecting People' identity.
- A good example of our joint working was the 'Making Connections' Conference that took place in March 2018 and focussed on adverse childhood experiences and the impact across all areas of work. This was well attended and well evaluated by professionals from all partnership areas and has helped us launch our shared approach to 'protecting people'.
- We have continued to play a significant part in the Tayside Children's Services Collaborative with Dundee City, and Perth & Kinross council, along with NHS Tayside, Police Scotland and third sector organisations. The three Child Protection Committees collaborate as one of five priority groups (Priority Group 5) taking forward the priority for safeguarding and child protection set out in the Children's Services Plan 2017 – 2020.
- The Child Protection Committee Training Programme was reviewed and updated. A new core training programme has been introduced which includes web based interactive material.
- Tackling domestic abuse – Safe and Together model implemented within Angus. The Safe and Together approach is child centred and provides a concrete framework for advancing practice, improving outcomes for children and collaboration with families where Domestic Abuse is a factor.
- Tackling neglect - Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP) implemented within Angus. The GCP is a tool to aid assessment where neglect is a risk factor for children. Practitioners from social work and health in Angus have been trained in the use of the tool. A multiagency approach was used during the awareness raising training sessions on the use of the tool.
- Assessment – A new short Guidance on chronologies has been developed and issues in Angus to improved assessments and support decision making for children and young people, a number of training sessions focusing on the use of chronologies have been delivered. Chronology meetings have also been piloted within Angus and feedback from these is generally positive.
- The report highlights the reduced number of children on the Angus Child Protection Register. The impact of the above developments on both early intervention and child protection practice in Angus continues to be explored via the Child Protection Committee to ensure that improvements in practice are sustained.

## **5. PROPOSALS**

Angus Council Committee notes and endorses the content of the ACPC Annual Report for 2017 to 2018.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

**NOTE:** No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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Appendix

Angus Child Protection Committee Annual Report for 2017 to 2018