

AGENDA ITEM NO 4

REPORT NO 269/16

SCHEDULE 3

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 09 AUGUST 2016

ANGUS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Annual Report of the Angus Child Protection Committee (ACPC) for the period April 2015 to March 2016 presents the work we have undertaken in Angus, individually and in partnership, to deliver national and local child protection outcomes to improve the lives of vulnerable children and their families.
- 1.2 The final report will be published on 08 August 2016 (<http://www.anguschildprotectioncommittee.org.uk/Library.cfm>). In the meantime, we have attached the draft report for the interest of the Children and Learning Committee.

2 CURRENT POSITION

- 2.1 The Committee have continued to work together to improve child protection practice in Angus. Of particular note this year is our focus on reviewing the trends of young people on the child protection register in line with changes to services and the on-going implementation of GIRFEC. We believe that by taking a sustained and persistent look at the data over 18 months that we have understood the interrelationship between our early intervention and child protection processes which has allowed us to realign resources more effectively. Consequently we have successfully reduced the numbers of children on the child protection register.
- 2.2 During 2015 we have successfully appointed a new independent Chair to the ACPC and see this is a positive move in ensuring an independent overview of the priorities being set by Committee.
- 2.3 The ACPC reports directly to the Angus Public Protection Executive Group and revised terms of reference and structure has facilitated improved scrutiny and accountability.
- 2.4 We identified last year a need to fully revise and re-launch a comprehensive learning and development calendar for child protection. The appointment of a full time workforce development officer for child and adult protection has enabled this to happen, the outcome being a comprehensive and streamlined training calendar for staff working across wellbeing and child protection.
- 2.5 The priorities for the coming year are set out in the Business Plan for 2016/17. We intend to improve the safety of children at risk by improving the quality of chronologies and assessment in order that risk is recognised and timely action taken. These improvements are in line with the findings of our own self evaluation and that of the Care Inspectorate, Integrated Inspection of Children's Services in Angus. We intend to work with Angus Integrated Children's Services Group (AICSG) to develop a 3 year improvement plan for child protection alongside the AICS Plan currently being developed for 2017-2020. We will maintain a focus on vulnerable children including those at risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Contact for further information:

Kirsty Lee, Senior Planning Officer for Child and Adult Protection

Email: PEOPLE@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices:

Draft Child Protection Committee Annual Report for 2015/16 and Business Plan for 2016/17.