

**INVERNESS AREA CHILDREN'S SERVICES FORUM MEETING
HELD IN UHI MILLENIUM INSTITUE, NESS WALK, INVERNESS
ON TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2006 AT 9.30am – 12.15pm**

Present:

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| Kate Birch, | Area Children's Manager, HC (Chair) |
| John Bruce | Senior Education Officer, ECS HC |
| Jo Veasey, | AGM, SE Highland CHP, Inverness & Nairn, NHS |
| Susan Dudgeon | Acting Area Principal Educational Psychologist, ECS HC |
| Gillian Forrest | Senior Social Worker, Child Health Team, SW HC |
| Ian Kyle | Head Teacher, Hilton Primary School, ECS HC |
| Linsey Webster | Childcare & Family Resource Officer, ECS HC |
| Rebecca Raynes | Area Youth Development Officer, ECS HC |
| Morven Gabriel | Manager - The Family Centre, Merkinch, SWS HC |
| Iver Forsyth | Day Centre Manager, Housing HC |
| Sylvie Nichols | Snr. FLO., SWS HC |
| Margaret Kinsella | Integration Manager, ECS HC |
| Lyn Grant | Admin Asst. ICS, ECS HC (Minutes) |

Apologies:

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| Neil Campbell | Resource Manager, SW HC |
| Calum MacSween | Rector, Charleston Academy, ECS HC |
| Jo Smith | HPS Development Officer, ECS HC |
| Mairi Morrison | Area Team Manager – Carsegate, SW HC |
| Liz Taylor | Project Manager - Family Project, NCH |
| Joyce Gartshore | Youth Justice Resource Manager, SWS HC |
| Tricia Morrison | Public Health Practioner, NHS |
| Gillian McCreath | Councillor, Children's Champion, SW HC |
| Jean-Pierre Sieczkarek | LSM, SE Highland CHP, Inverness & Nairn, NHS |

In attendance:

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| Pablo Mascarenhas | Principal Youth Development Officer, ECS HC |
| Donna Munro | Child Protection Training Officer, SWS HC |
| Sheena Stubbs | Service Co-ordinator, Osprey House |
| Lorna Foulger | Children's Worker, Women's Aid |
| Laura Goddard | Children's Worker, Women's Aid |

| | | ACTIONS |
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| 1a. | <p><u>Welcome & Apologies</u></p> <p>Kate welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were given and introductions made.</p> | |
| 1b. | <p><u>Approval of Minutes</u></p> <p>Approved and agreed as accurate.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Budget – Margaret is still making progress re contacting schools.</p> <p>Better Behaviour, Better Learning - through now and repeat of last years allocation.</p> <p>Inverness Highland Games – went well. CLLS met with CFRP yesterday and CFRP will look at advice for next year in getting involved but not funding it.</p> <p>Parenting Development – meeting being held on Thursday (28/09/06). FSWG asked to prepare an action plan - Margaret will update group at December meeting.</p> <p>Child Protection – positive feedback from audit.</p> <p>GIRFEC – Marj Stewart had prepared an update which was distributed and Jo Veasey spoke to it. Implementation date may now be March. Jo spoke about the NHS involvement and how GIRFEC was to be rolled out on phased basis, the timescales etc. Request to Marj for another briefing to wider audience.</p> | <p>Margaret</p> <p>Margaret</p> <p>Kate</p> |
| 2a. | <p><u>Migrant Families Update</u> – Margaret Kinsella</p> <p>Paper distributed with quantative information but gathering a full picture is difficult as not all services hold relevant information. Equality Forum developing a ‘Welcome’ booklet, an element of draft copy was discussed. Group were asked their opinion of what should be in it. Linsey spoke about a day that was held in the Town House &</p> | |

information form CFRP. Basic information is in the Young Scot booklet.
Margaret and Susan to discuss doing a piece of work round a couple of Inverness schools.

**Margaret/
Susan**

2b. Update on Inverness Childcare & Family Resource Partnership – Linsey Webster

Linsey spoke about the Training and Information Guide. All Early Years Workers have copy of Training and Information Guide. There is an anxiety that may not have qualified workers in future.
11th November ACT Seminar (see attached flyer).

New provision in Inverness –

Wimberley Estate, provision not just for service families – joint provision between agencies will provide about 50 places.

- Les Enfants open in Culloden – 120 childcare places and Out of School places available.
- Issues in Drakies and Inshes – transport a problem.
- New ‘Out of School’ clubs - Kinmylies open & Raigmore due to open with 40 out of school places.
- Merkinch After School Club (now Flipperz) has 40 places but these are more for kids needing additional hours.
- Fort Augustus and Ardersier in process of setting up After School Clubs.
- Playbox and Lochardil decommissioned and not going ahead.

Some smaller groups not going ahead as Managers need to be qualified up to SVQ Level4.
Minutes available from CFPR meeting - please contact Linsey Webster or Fiona Morrison.

2c. The Family Centre, Merkinch – Morven Gabriel

Morven spoke about Family Centre & it's on track – planned completion date - 20th October.

Internal building totally revamped. FC will have playroom for nursery & support worker, a parent's room & a multi-purpose room. Some Early Years Workers (EYW) transferred to Family Centre from The Orchard & a Children's Service Worker (CSW) is in post. Posts still to be filled – interviewing underway.

Sam Brogan circulated Sure Start ‘Request for Services’ procedures which are starting to come through. Inverness area for EY support requests to go through Morven.

2c. Young People and Housing – Iver Forsyth

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| | <p>Iver spoke about homelessness and how the housing system works for young people – he gave figures relating to people in B&B, hostels and temp accommodation. Spoke about increased capacity for homeless accommodation in Inverness. Iver was asked if there was a role for the IACSF. Iver reported on work undertaken by NHS but clients have to buy into it. Possibility for CLL & Homeless team to work together.</p> <p>2d. <u>Underage drinking</u> – Rebecca Raynes</p> <p>Work undertaken in Cradlehall by CLL with young people & wider community, significant issues over summer. YP met with the Community Council to discuss what they are looking for - positive experience all round. CLLS continuing to work with YP & looking at youth shelter. A portacabin has been identified & want it to be put somewhere communal for them to meet. Underage drinking will be an issue as CLL continue to work with YP. YAT also involved in these discussions.</p> <p>4a. <u>AOCB</u></p> <p>Not discussed.</p> <p>4b. <u>Dates of next meetings</u></p> <p>ACSF -Tuesday 5th December, 9.30am – 12.30pm, HQ. Network Event – Monday 11th December. 9.30am – 1pm, HQ.</p> <p>There was a short refreshment break then the meeting re-started as a combined Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey ACSF.</p> <p>3. <u>Youth Work Issues</u> – Rebecca Raynes & Pablo Mascarenhas</p> <p>Pablo distributed paper and talked to it. Gave background about work over the last couple of years. £600k agreed this year – this is a considerable commitment. May 06 Council agreed a youth work policy (see attached). Youth participation - big push on to support this, a Youth Convener post created, & continued development of support to Youth Councils. Spoke about designing Youth services around Associated School Groups (ASG) next year – whole range of services should configure about the 29 ASG's. 2 posts in system at the moment - 2007/08 posts will rely on successful bid –</p> | <p>R.Raynes/ Margaret/ Iver</p> |
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budget bid should give some of the operational funding. The Secondary School will be the operational unit but the posts will be community focussed.

Web address for national youth work strategy –
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/YouthWork/Consultation>.

5. **Hidden Harm: Substance Misuse, Children & Young People in the area - Donna Munro, CPC Training Officer, HC**

Donna circulated paper copy of the Power Point presentation.

'Hidden Harm' (2006) came on the back of 'Getting our Priorities Right' (2003) (Donna asked that old copies be discarded). These booklet need to be used in conjunction with each other. Letter of assurance receive from Scottish Executive – we have assured ministers that next year all children of drug using parents will be identified.

2 day training course on "What are the Risks" – please contact Donna for more information.

Guidelines on Women, Pregnancy & Substance Misuse – passed 2 weeks ago and can be accessed Sandra Harrington Training also available, please contact Donna for more information.

Update and Discussion on issues in SE CHP Area – Sheena Stubbs, Osprey House

Osprey House is a substance misuse service for adults which offers alcohol & drug service and has accommodation for clients travelling any distance. Papers distributed by Sheena who explained the referral & numbers of clients.

Although an "adult service" Osprey can offer service to people 16 years and over if not at school & will accept referrals from any service.

Prioritising services – not done it up to this point, first come first served.

A key priority at the moment is for pregnancy would try to see client next day, everyone else try to see within 7 days.

Childcare is an issue raised by some clients but numbers not huge.

Linsey stated that childcare places are there but financing may be a problem. Linsey/Sheena/Hayley perhaps to meet and discuss.

Margaret to ask Naomi Knott her thought at the meeting on Thursday and go back to Sheena.

Margaret handed out presentation from Scottish Drugs Forum and talked about the service accessibility. There is probably links with CLLS and Adult Education surrounding substance misuse. Some work going on in Nairn and they are hoping to appoint an Adult Education worker very soon.

**L.
Webster/
H. Brown /
S. Stubbs.**

Margaret

6. Women's Aid work with Children & Young People in I,N, B&S – Lorna Foulger & Laura Goddard

Lorna spoke about Inverness Women's Aid, how it ran and gave the history from 1985 to date. She explained what services are on offer to the young people – children can access service in their own right, mum doesn't have to use it. Developing outreach work at the moment. Hope to offer drop in sessions in schools. Working at advertising their service.

Outreach services in N, B&S – new resource for adults in Aviemore - hope to visit all schools & distribute information & develop drop-in sessions.

Margaret Bentley spoke about the drop-in sessions in Kingussie High School. Grantown Grammar hopes to set one up soon. She asked what age group they are looking to catch in schools – Lorna said previously 4th & 5th years but would like to work with younger teenagers.

Gillian asked what happened in family in crisis situation if beds not available – Women's Aid would look to see if anything available in other areas if they were willing to move.

7 Report back on Network Day – Margaret Kinsella

Margaret handed out paper & spoke about the I, N, B&S Network event held on 4th September 2006 – discussion took place. Jo felt due to budget constraints that we could have them less frequently. Also need to distribute better information to managers/staff so a decision is made on its relevance. Highlight those in adult services for whom it may be relevant. December Network even will look at Mental Health – propose that it now be a half day rather than full day.

Margaret questioned how to better involve young people in LG arrangements? Young people want to be able to inform others how they can be involved more and have more information. Margaret will speak to Snr. FLO's re this and will also speak to GIRFEC team.

Margaret