

**INVERNESS AREA CHILDREN'S SERVICES FORUM MEETING  
HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM 3, HCHQ  
ON MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2006 AT 9.30am – 12.30pm**

**Present:**

Kate Birch,	Area Children's Manager, HC (Chair)
Gillian McCreath	Councillor, Children's Champion, SW HC
John Bruce	Assistant Area Education Manager, ECS HC
Neil Campbell	Resource Manager, SW HC
Jean Pierre Sieczkarek	LSM SE Highland CHP, Inverness & Nairn, NHS
Liz Taylor	Manager, NCH
Mairi Morrison	Area Team Manager – Carsegate, SW HC
Gillian Forrest	Senior Social Worker, Child Health Team, SW HC
Ian Kyle	Head Teacher, Beauly Primary School, ECS HC
Fiona Morrison	Childcare & Family Resource Officer, ECS HC
Jo Smith,	HPS Development Officer, ECS HC
Margaret Kinsella	Integration Manager, ECS HC
Lyn Grant	Admin Asst. ICS, ECS HC (Minutes)

**Apologies:**

Jo Veasey,	AGM, SE Highland CHP, Inverness & Nairn, NHS
Susan Dudgeon	Acting Area Educational Psychologist, ECS HC
Rebecca Raynes	Area Youth Development Officer, ECS HC
Calum MacSween	Rector, Charleston Academy, ECS HC
Wendy Allman	Area Team Manager – Culloden, SW HC

**In attendance:**

Jean MacKay,	Manager, Janny's Hoose
Anne Bates	Children 1st
Christian MacLean	CHiP+

		<b>ACTIONS</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p><b><u>Welcome &amp; Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Kate welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were given and introductions made.</p>	

<p>2.</p> <p>3.</p>	<p><b><u>Approval of Minutes</u></b>  Kate explained changes in Integration Manager Team &amp; new roles. There may be opportunity for joined up business, for instance the Inverness Network day will be open to Nairn, Badenoch &amp; Strathspey staff.  Dates and times may need to be amended but will look at this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Migrant Worker Families</b> – Short discussion on the difficulty in understanding whole picture.  Margaret to link with Carron McDiarmid and report back to ACSF.</li> <li>• <b>Learning Disability Change Fund</b> – Andrew Stevenson put bid in but no result yet (art therapy).  Jonathon Turner leading on work to consider needs and accommodation for young people with disability.</li> </ul> <p>Stakeholder day 24<sup>th</sup> March transition issues – very good and big success.  Children &amp; Families SW Teams need to ensure the transition protocol is being used.  Need to ensure that Hospital SW Team included in planning discussions, team keen to strengthen links with other departments / agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Children Affected by Disability</b>  Proposal for an Advisory Group - no work done on it.</li> <li>• <b>Disability Sub-group</b>  Agreed that business to be done through FHC2. Kate present at both meetings and will discuss with line manager if he wants her to continue.</li> <li>• <b>Women’s Aid</b>  Hope to have presentation at next meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Remainder of minutes approved and agreed as accurate.</p> <p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>  None</p> <p><b><u>Budget 2006 - 07</u></b>  Paper distributed showing IACSF budget distribution.  Interested in how money is used as GIRFEC will impact on liaison arrangements and there may be a need to consider how it’s resourced.</p>	<p><b>Margaret</b></p> <p><b>Marlyn/ Neil/Kate</b></p> <p><b>Kate</b></p>
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	<p>Margaret to contact schools, look more in depth at budget and report back to group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Better Behaviour, Better Learning</b> Not discussed.</li> </ul> <p>4. <b><u>Janny's Hoose – Jean Mackay</u></b></p> <p>Annual Report distributed. Jean informed group of the MFR Community Group Award they recently won. Lottery funding runs out Dec 07, IACSF will contribute a small amount of funding in current financial year, the NHS contributes £10k.</p> <p>Jean also spoke about the role of the Janny's Hoose and explained some of the report. Staff very much respond to communities agenda and there is a "Drop-in" available every morning. The Hoose provide childcare for anything that they're running and also offer, run or provide the space for a range of programmes i.e. Hypnotherapy, Marriage Guidance, cookery, swimming, tooth brushing programme at the school, stress busting etc.</p> <p>Contact details for Janny's Hoose is as follows:-  The Janny's Hoose  Merkinch Primary School  Telford Road  INVERNESS  IV3 8HY  Tel: 01463 226348      E-mail: <a href="mailto:jean.jannyshoose@scotnet.co.uk">jean.jannyshoose@scotnet.co.uk</a></p> <p>5. <b><u>Inverness Childcare &amp; Family Resource Partnership – Fiona Morrison</u></b></p> <p><b>Merkinch family centre</b> – Kate commented that there is still much work to be done but confident it will be a positive development. Parents are supporting the development with 23 x 3yr olds enrolled. Manager post was re advertised with interviews on 16<sup>th</sup> May. Linsey Webster (CFRP) is currently undertaking some of the managers' tasks until an appointment is made.</p> <p><b>Local partnership meetings</b>  Meet every 2 months. It is a multi-agency meeting which seeks to co-ordinate activity as well as identify gaps in provision. The Funding Sub Group oversees funds that's gone to groups as well as evaluating it.</p>	<p><b>Margaret</b></p>
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	<p>Inverness Highland Games (23/07 – 24/07/06) - The Partnership is involved in running a Childrens Village for kids up to approx 12 yrs. The event will seek to raise the profile of the Partnership through seeing what there is to offer. New literature will be produced and hope to pull voluntary groups together and see if they can have 1 document to incorporate everyone. Margaret suggested that there may be mileage in getting CLLS involved for kids over 12.</p> <p><b>Early Years Review</b> Both Playbox and Lochardil will no longer be commissioned, for 3 year old places. Pink Panther at Holm, Cauldeen Nursery and Cheeky Monkeys at Hilton Community Centre all have places available for 3 year olds.</p> <p>Parents at Lochardil, plan to extend their existing parent and toddler group to accommodate children up to their third birthday, and bring it forward to mornings rather than afternoon, as it is at present.</p> <p><b>Sure Start review</b> The Sure Start budget for this year has now been confirmed at £496,000, the main targets/costs of this funding are the new Merkinch Family Centre (running costs), the Community Early Workers and the Early Years Support Workers.</p> <p><b>Parenting Development</b> Alan Richards will be asked to report at next IACSF meeting.</p> <p><b>Early Years Liaison Update</b> SFLOs, Health Visitors, School Nurses, CFRP, and Marj Stewart &amp; MK have met to discuss EY Liaison and will meet again later this month (29/05/06) to finalise everyone's understanding. IACSF FSWG is chaired by Kate who asked that MK reports back to it re EYLGs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decided to re arrange the network day.</li> <li>• Agreed some good practice but not embedded in some practice.</li> <li>• Needs to be single point of contact –SFLO?</li> <li>• Good practice to involve parents in discussion and decision</li> </ul>	<p><b>Fiona</b></p>
6.	<p><b><u>IACSF Implementation Plan</u></b></p>	
7.	<p>Margaret to follow up with individual people and bring to next meeting.</p> <p><b><u>AOCB</u></b></p>	<p><b>Margaret</b></p>
	<p><b>Underage drinking</b> IACSF money allocated £1,700 but some priorities have changed. Rebecca Raynes and Margaret met to discuss this.</p>	

	<p>Margaret asked if the funding could be diverted to support the issues causing concern at Drakies &amp; Cradlehall – Margaret to speak to Gillian re this.</p> <p><b>Child Protection Plan</b> Kate gave verbal update. Briefing paper has been circulated. CP Inspection starts week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> June although timetable not necessarily in place.</p> <p><b>GIRFEC</b> Paper distributed.</p> <p><b>Population Update</b> Paper distributed.</p> <p><b>Early years</b> Discussed earlier in meeting, see item 5.</p> <p><b>Re-organisation of Youth Work Provision</b> Ask Rebecca to present on this at next meeting</p>	<p><b>Margaret</b></p>
8.	<p><b><u>Dates of next meetings</u></b> Not discussed.</p>	
	<p><b>There was a short refreshment break then the meeting re-started as a combined Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch &amp; Strathspey ACSF.</b></p>	
9.	<p><b><u>Additional Support for Learning</u> - Anne Bates, Children 1st &amp; Christian MacLean, CHiP+</b></p> <p><i>Children 1<sup>st</sup></i> PowerPoint Presentation Slides distributed</p> <p><i>Children 1<sup>st</sup></i> has been tasked to establish a Mediation service for the ASfL Legislation in Highland. Leaflet distributed. Christine Lamont &amp; Anne Bates both working part time.</p> <p>Anne opened her presentation by giving an explanation about what mediation is. Mediation is confidential and voluntary. A mediator is an independent third party who can help to build relationships. It's important to take on views of the child</p>	<p><b>Margaret</b></p>

and how much input child wants. After all initial meetings etc. it then moves to a joint meeting. Mediator drafts agreement which won't be shared outwith meeting in most circumstances. Look at having a review 2 to 3 months down the line, some people find this beneficial to know there will be a follow up.

Referrals can come from various bodies. An example of a type of referral that could be made is "If ECS believe a child needs assessment and parents don't agree". Generally it's where parents aren't happy with service child is getting if they have additional support needs.

Marion MacKay believes that it could be beneficial within school - the fact that's it's not an education person but an independent body – could reassure a parent.

Anne's contact details are as follows:-

Mediation in Education

Children 1<sup>st</sup>

Killen Family Resource Centre

Avoch

Ross-shire, IV9 8RQ

Tel: 01381 620757 E-mail: [killen@children1st.org.uk](mailto:killen@children1st.org.uk) or [anne.bates@children1st.org.uk](mailto:anne.bates@children1st.org.uk)

Christian MacLean – '*CHiP+*'. **Ask Christian for paper she read from to be distributed with minutes.**

CHiP Children in Highlands information Points has operated for 13 yrs in Highland, now renamed CHiP+.

There are 4 full time staff and Christian is part time. Based in 2 offices – Birnie Child Development Centre and also Lotland Street, Inverness. Bulk of funding through service level agreement from NHS Highland and HC. Prime role is to provide information, advice and support to children & families.

Gave example of the work covered in the last few days.

- Work closely with a range of specialist agencies i.e. autism, bereavement groups etc.
- Working with family for last year in a rural area supporting them in various aspects of their life.
- Aim to respond to requests within 5 days.
- CHiP+ has an extensive library & 4 books can be borrowed at any one time.

Leaflet recently produced regarding new legislation of ASfL. CHiP+ ran series of seminars for parents. More than 50% of calls/requests are secondary. 138% increase of calls/enquiries relating to new legislation. Future developments could be developing more information on alcohol, asylum seekers, transition issues etc.

Contact details or CHiP+ are as follows

Birnie Child Development Centre

Unit 6

	<p>Raigmore Hospital Inverness IV2 3UJ Tel: 01463 711189 E-mail: <a href="mailto:chip.birnie@ukgateway.net">chip.birnie@ukgateway.net</a></p>	<p>Lotland Street Inverness IV1 1ST Tel:01463 717727</p>	
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