

**NAIRN, BADENOCH & STRATHSPEY AREA CHILDREN'S SERVICES FORUM MEETING
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NAIRN
ON MONDAY 8TH MAY AT 11.15am – 3pm**

Present:

John Bruce,	Senior Education Manager, ECS HC (Acting Chair)
Jean Pierre Siecazerek	LSM SE Highland CHP, Inverness & Nairn, NHS
Robbie MacDonald	Acting Inspector for B&S, Northern Constabulary
Rona Smith,	Head Teacher – Aviemore Primary School, ECS HC
Marion Mackay,	Head Teacher – Millbank Primary School, ECS HC
Rodger Redpath	Senior Family Liaison Officer, SW HC
Hayley Brown,	Childcare & Family Resource Officer, SW HC
Margaret Bentley,	Health Visitor/School Nurse, NHS
Lynn Johnson,	Arts & Community Development Officer CLLS
Margaret Kinsella	Integration Manager, ECS HC
Lyn Grant	Admin Asst. ICS, ECS HC (Minutes)

Apologies:

Pol McClelland,	Area Children's Manager, SW HC
William Gilfillan,	Area Manager – Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey, CE HC
Mags Duncan-Stirling,	Area Community Learning and Leisure Manager, ECS HC
Susan Dudgeon,	Designated Education Psychologist, HC
Inspector G MacLeod,	Northern Constabulary
Inspector L Donaldson,	Northern Constabulary
Jo Veasey,	Assistant General Manager, South East Highland CHP, NHS
Sheena Slimon,	Councillor, Children's Champion – B&S, SW HC
Laurie Fraser,	Councillor, Children's Champion – Nairn, SW HC

In attendance:

Anne Bates	Children 1st
Christian MacLean	CHiP+
Margaret Stitt,	Unit Manager, NCH Gaelog

There was a short refreshment break then the meeting started as a combined Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey ACSF.

Additional Support for Learning - Anne Bates, Children 1st & Christian MacLean, CHIP+

Children 1st PowerPoint Presentation Slides distributed

Children 1st has been tasked to establish a Mediation service for the ASfL Legislation in Highland. Leaflet distributed. Christine Lamont & Anne Bates both working part time.

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 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 1st

Killen Family Resource Centre

Avoch

Ross-shire, IV9 8RQ

Tel: 01381 620757 E-mail: killen@children1st.org.uk or anne.bates@children1st.org.uk

Christian MacLean – 'CHIP+'.

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.

ACTIONS

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

Raigmore Hospital

Inverness

IV2 3UJ

Tel: 01463 711189

E-mail: chip.birnie@ukgateway.net

Unit 6

Lotland Street

Inverness

IV1 1ST

Tel:01463 717727

1. **Welcome & Apologies**

John welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were given and introductions made.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes approved and agreed as accurate.

Matters Arising

Area changes

Paper distributed. John explained previous background and how things may work in future, this should not be seen as a diminution of the role of Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey and we will need to ensure that the different needs of the area are given due focus and attention.

3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Inverness ACSF Network meeting on 22nd will now be open to Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey. • There will be 2 separate CWSG meetings at moment. • The N, B&S Area Managers will meet with the Inverness Managers at regular intervals <p>Membership of ACSF – a paper was distributed and was requested for it to be completed and returned to Lyn.</p> <p><u>NCH-Gaelog</u> - Margaret Stitt</p> <p>Margaret gave update on services available – she distributed an information pack and gave background to the various works that has been done and is ongoing.</p> <p><i>ISS & Monitoring service</i> – explanation given of what the service is and its operation. Average time working with young people has developed from an original 6 weeks to 12 weeks. There have been 2 referrals from Badenoch & Strathspey and 4 from Nairn referred via RPG (Residential Placement Group) to The Intensive Support & Supervision Programme.</p> <p><i>Mentoring project</i> run by Gaelog – work with young people who are less of a high tariff than those on ISS Programme. Anyone can make referral – via Youth Action Team (Arthur Scott) who makes allocation. Reported little activity at present in N, B&S as funding has been quite tight. Funding has now been secured. 1 mentor in Nairn and 1 in B&S, 2 hrs per week for 6 months.</p> <p>Marion asked about names that were put on ‘waiting list’, Margaret Stitt will check and get back to Marion.</p>	ALL
4.	<p><u>Budget</u></p> <p>Paper distributed. Nairn academy will now receive funding for a CSW as part of the package of support from the ACSF. There has been a small inflationary increase to overall budget. Margaret gave an explanation on last years budget, she was asked to prepare a paper outlining the type of activity supported by Liaison Group and Caseworking spend.</p>	Margaret Stitt
5.	<p><u>Sure Start & Early Years Report</u> - Rodger Redpath</p> <p>Report distributed to meeting.</p>	Margaret

<p>9.</p> <p>10.</p>	<p>Kim Haywood, outreach worker had put together information on level of service in the area. Women's Aid seeking ACSF to support their request for office space in N, B&S - Agreed. There has been increased funding to Inverness Women's Aid to increase their focus on children's work. It was agreed that in WA absence Margaret asks for a report about their plans for N, B&S.</p> <p><u>AOCB</u></p> <p>Population Update Paper distributed for information.</p> <p>GIRFEC Paper distributed – network day on 22nd May. N,B&S ACSF members can register if there are still places available. If you wish to register then please contact Kay Ballantyne, 01463 702807. John gave explanation as to what GIRFEC is and how the pathway/project will work.</p> <p><u>Dates of Next Meetings</u> Not discussed.</p>	<p>Margaret</p>
----------------------	--	------------------------