

Angus Child Protection Committee



Annual Report 2008/09

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ANGUS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09

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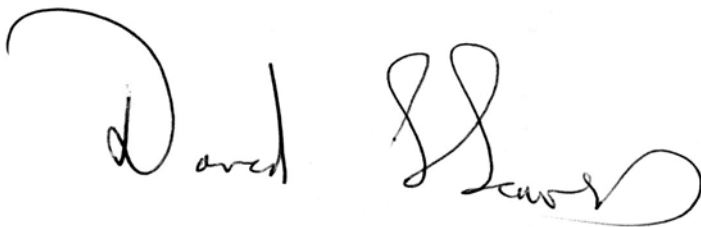
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2. FOREWORD

This is the 13th Annual Report of the Angus Child Protection Committee and the last I will be responsible for as Chair of the Child Protection Committee given my imminent retirement from Service.

Inevitably 2008/09 has been a busy one for the business of the committee and all its sub committees and front line staff and managers across all agencies involved in protecting the most vulnerable children in Angus. The report follows the format outlined in Scottish Government guidance and hopefully adequately describes the wide variety of work undertaken by Committee Members and the respective agencies involved in the field.

The past year has seen some turnover in the committee with members such as John Whamond and Heather Goudie retiring, who together provided many years of valued service and support to the work of the committee, as well as to their agency NHS Tayside and Detective Chief Inspector Graham McMillan who moved to a post in Police HQ, Dundee. Lastly, Chic Robertson retired as Chairperson of Angus Children's Panel and also from his role representing that organisation on the committee. Chic's strong support of the committee, in his influential role as Chair of the Children's Panel, was much valued over a number of years.



Mr David Sawers
Chief Executive
Angus Council



Professor Tony Wells
Chief Executive
NHS Tayside



Ms Justine Curran
Temporary Chief Constable
Tayside Police



Mr Gordon McIntosh
Chair, Angus Child Protection
Committee

3. INTRODUCTION

Angus Child Protection Committee sits within the new structure for Children's Services planning and service delivery in Angus. The Committee Chair and Lead Officer attend the Children's Service Collaborative Forum as part of that structure and the Chair also attends the new Quality Improvement and Performance Management Group as the Committee's representative and spokesperson. A new three year Children's Services Plan has been developed for the children and young people of Angus which includes input from the committee.

The committee has also contributed to the further development of the Single Outcome Agreement for Angus and in particular the promotion of the welfare of children and families and their protection from all forms of abuse and neglect.

The committee's work throughout the past year has in the main been guided by its business plan but has also had to take on board the work associated with the HMle Follow Through Inspection which took place in autumn 2008, reporting in early 2009. The findings from the HMle Follow-Through Inspection were that of the four actions requiring attention from the 2007 inspection, two issues were gauged as having made very good progress with the remainder having made good progress. The Inspectors intimated that consequently there would be no further visits in relation to the 2007 inspection.

A significant amount of work also went into consideration of two cases under the significant case review procedure. These cases were rigorously examined and reported on by the Practice sub committee and the report and findings were considered by the full committee and subsequently at the executive group. In both cases the recommendations made by the main committee were accepted and endorsed by the executive group and learning events looking at the lessons identified from the cases were delivered to staff within the key agencies involved.

An audit programme was undertaken by the Continuous Improvement sub committee using HMle Quality Standards. This work continues to have significant importance for the committee's responsibility for promoting service improvement and delivery as well as providing evidence of the good quality of local services.

As can be seen from the body of the report, the work of the Training sub committee and the committee's training co-ordinator continues to develop with a significant increase in the volume and scope of training evident, relative to previous years. Two planned future training developments are worthy of note. Firstly, planning is underway to develop a systematic process to evaluate the impact of training on service delivery by systematically seeking the views of managers of staff who have undergone committee training to evaluate what changes and improvements in practice can be evidenced. Secondly, as a result of the committee and executive group's consideration of the Haringey reports, it was agreed that child protection awareness training should be offered to local elected members and members of public agency boards such as Police boards and Health boards. Proposals will be presented to the committee and executive group in autumn 2009 and subsequently a draft programme will be submitted to local elected members for their consideration.

The number of children on the Angus Child Protection Register at 31st March 2009 was 30% down on the previous year's figure of 117. This figure over the years has proved to be volatile and as stated in the report can fluctuate significantly where families with large numbers of children are registered or de-registered during the course of the year.

The management information presented to the committee has continued to expand and data is used by both the main committee and the executive group to either request further enquiry or take action as required.

Consultation with service users, particularly children and young people, continues to be of primary importance for the committee and this is evidenced by the continued commitment to the development and uptake of Viewpoint, a software programme for obtaining young people's views about services they have been in contact with. The findings from Viewpoint have been analysed by council officers and presented to the committee throughout the year. Further work has been undertaken looking at the development of reliable methods for obtaining adults views regarding services.

The committee, in partnership with the Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, formerly the DAAT, was pleased to jointly promote and encourage the development of closer collaborative working across agencies working with children and families in Montrose where substance misuse is a concern. This initiative, named Link-Up, was formally launched by the council's Depute Chief Executive in early 2009 and will form the basis of a learning model for the future development of collaborative services across Angus. Link-Up is closely aligned to the development of GIRFEC practice implementation across Angus and is to be evaluated and supported by an external consultant funded by the Scottish Government.

A further operational development supported by the committee in the past year has been a multi agency operational Early Screening Group where concerns have arisen about children primarily as a result of Police enquiries. The work of this group, currently chaired by Tayside Police, is at an early stage but already seems to be having a positive effect in identifying cases for early intervention thus reducing the number of referrals to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration for consideration of compulsory measures of care.

Finally, it would be remiss if the work done by a small band of volunteers was not acknowledged. This work involves members of the committee and its staff, supplemented at times by other staff, attending various Angus public events throughout the year promoting awareness within the community of the importance of protecting children and providing information to the public about agency services. Volunteers give up their own free time to undertake these promotional activities which is greatly appreciated by the committee and the executive group.

4. EVALUATION AND INSPECTION

4.1 Joint Inspection of Services to Protect Children in the Angus Area

HM Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) published a report on the joint inspection of services to protect children and young people in Angus in February 2007. Working together, services within Angus Council area prepared an inter-agency action plan indicating how they would address the main points for action identified in the original HMIE inspection report - www.hmie.gov.uk/ViewEstablishment.aspx?id=11840&type=12

HMIE Inspectors revisited the Angus Council area in October 2008 to assess the extent to which services were continuing to improve the quality of their work to protect children and young people, and to evaluate progress made in response to the main points for action highlighted in the original report.

The HMIE Follow Through Inspection Report, published in February 2009 www.hmie.gov.uk/ViewEstablishment.aspx?id=11840&type=12 highlighted that the Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and the Angus Child Protection Committee has taken very effective action to implement the main points for action arising from the full inspection. The report noted that through the strong leadership of the Angus Child Protection Committee, services had continued to work well together and were active and productive in improving the provision for children in need of protection.

Notable planned improvements has included working with families affected by substance misuse through the Montrose Link-Up Initiative and central coordination of information and concerns about children by NHS Tayside's "Joining Up the Dots" Group.

As a result of effective performance shown by services in the Angus Council area in taking forward improvements, HMIE indicated they would make no further visits in relation to the 2007 inspection.

4.2 Evaluation undertaken by Angus Child Protection Committee

All child protection committees in Scotland are required to develop and implement interagency quality assurance mechanisms which aim to:

- Agree, implement and review multi-agency quality assurance mechanisms for inter-agency work, including auditing against Protecting Children and Young People: Framework for Standards; and
- Ensure that these quality assurance mechanisms directly contribute to the continuous improvement of services to protect children and young people.

Inter-agency audit in Angus has been progressed by auditing against one key question from the standards per audit. Using this approach ensures that the Angus Child Protection Committee fulfils the requirement to audit against all five key questions within the Framework for Standards.

The Continuous Improvement sub committee, chaired by the Education Department's Principal Officer Additional Support Needs, continues to oversee and progress this task.

An inter-agency audit was completed in April 2008 which centred on Quality Indicator 3, "How good is the delivery of key processes?" and focused on the following:

- Agencies and professionals sharing information about children where this is necessary to protect them; and
- Agencies and professionals working together to assess needs and risks and develop an effective plan.

Key strengths identified from this audit included:

- Parents understood why services were involved with them and they understood agency roles;
- Interpretation services were put in place when required;
- There were examples of good inter-agency joint working in terms of information sharing, assessment and decision making;
- The majority of staff from all agencies adhered to agency standards in terms of the content and storage of records;
- Parents and their children knew how to make a compliment or complaint;
- Parents had the opportunity to read child protection case conference reports prior to the conference, staff explained what could happen at the conference to them, the views of parents and children were represented at child protection case conferences and parents had the opportunity to discuss child protection plans with staff and had an opportunity to sign them;
- There was good participation by all agencies at child protection case conferences; and
- Young people commented favourably about many aspects of the involvement of staff with them.

Areas for development were also identified and an action plan prepared to address the key learning points.

- The next phase of audit will look at "How effective is operational management?" and "How effective is individual and collective strategic leadership?".

To evaluate the impact of the actions taken by the Angus Child Protection Committee in response to the findings of the joint inspection of services to protect children, a self evaluation exercise was undertaken in August 2008 involving social work, education, health, housing, leisure and voluntary sector. Responses to the Angus Child Protection Committee questionnaire 2008 highlighted that 98% of staff agreed they had clear guidance from their agency on child protection policies and guidance.

5. PUBLIC INFORMATION

5.1 Promotion of child protection awareness to the public

Over the past year much activity has taken place to raise awareness of child protection issues for the public and community of Angus using proven measures to publish and disseminate high quality information to the public.

5.1.1 “What to do if you have a concern about a child” leaflet

The committee continues to update and purchase further copies of this Scottish Government leaflet which details local agencies to contact in Angus should anyone have concerns about a child or young person’s welfare. These have continued to be distributed to police stations, local health services, schools, social work offices, sports and leisure centres, tourist information centres, post offices, food stores, voluntary organisations and private businesses and services throughout Angus including pharmacies, opticians, dental surgeons and solicitors and legal practices.

They also continue to be used to support staff training and are contained in all child protection committee conference delegate packs. This leaflet is also given to all new local authority staff as part of their induction and to new Angus childminders.

5.1.2 Leaflet explaining the purpose of visual recording of joint investigative interviews

The committee has developed guidance to ensure parents, young people and children understand arrangements for visual recording of joint investigative interviews in Angus. A leaflet is available for parents and carers and will be available shortly for children and young people who may become involved in this process.

5.1.3 Leaflet for professionals attending child protection case conferences

This leaflet has been produced to ensure professionals attending case conferences understand the purpose of the conference, the child protection register and their role within this process. This leaflet is also included in child protection committee training delegate packs.

5.1.4 Information leaflet for international workers regarding the legislation and practice in respect of children in Scotland

This leaflet was produced in Polish for families living in Angus advising them of the requirements of Scottish legislation in respect of children and provides information on local contacts and helping agencies. In January 2008, Angus Council Education Department surveyed the number of Eastern European pupils in schools. This highlighted that there were 74 Eastern European children and young people enrolled in Angus schools; 79% of whose main language was Polish, 6% Romanian, 5% Czech, 4% being Lithuanian and Georgian and 1% jointly speaking Romanian and Estonian. There are 56 Eastern European families accessing primary and secondary schools in Angus.

5.1.5 Information in school planners

Contact details of support agencies are inserted in school planners of all P7 and secondary school pupils throughout Angus.

5.1.6 Angus parenting handbooks

Parenting handbooks have continued to be distributed to parents of new P1 and S1 school pupils over the past two years and have been updated and will be distributed again in 2009. They have also been widely distributed to staff across the organisations working with children and young people as a helpful resource directory. www.angus.gov.uk/services/view_service_detail.cfm?serviceid=1022

5.1.7 Angus Child Protection Committee website

The committee has recently developed and launched an informative website which contains information for children and young people, parents, carers, professionals and members of the public about the protection of children. The website also outlines information about the Angus Child Protection Committee, its remit and details training the child protection committee provides. There are also useful links to other websites for young people such as NHS Tayside Cool2Talk, No 1 for Youth and Young Scot all of which provide useful information for young people about child protection.

Since the Angus Child Protection Committee website was launched on 22 January 2009 the website received 3010 hits by 31 May 2009.

All information about the Angus Child Protection Committee can be accessed on www.anguschildprotectioncommittee.org.uk

5.1.8 Local Public Events

The Angus Child Protection Committee has participated in a number of local events over the past year to promote public awareness about the protection of children to members of the public and professionals attending these events. These included Arbroath Sea Fest, Angus Show, Strathmore Highland Games, Monifieth Medieval Fair and Arbroath Seafront Spectacular. Promotional materials distributed at these events have consisted of written materials and leaflets as well as pens, pencils, highlighters, key rings, mouse mats, fridge magnets, trolley coins, and balloons; all of which contain details of the Angus Child Protection Committee website and the Angus Council ACCESSLine.

The promotion of public awareness continues to be a key priority within the committee's business plan 2009/10 (Section 15) which details how our communications strategy will be developed and progressed over the coming year in regard to highlighting public awareness of child protection and referral to appropriate services.

5.2 Consultation with young people

In March 2009, the committee engaged in a consultation with young people from the Angus area, in conjunction with No 1 for Youth, to talk with them about child friendly information and about keeping them themselves safe.

The results of this consultation demonstrated that young people look for information in a number of different ways including posters, mobile phones, and direct presentations within schools and youth groups in relation to who they can contact if they have a concern about their own or another person's safety or wellbeing. They also want written information to be short and to the point.

5.3 Promotion of public awareness by Education Department

For the second successive year, all Angus S1 pupils attended in-school performances of the Baldy Bane Theatre Company's "Cyberspyder" drama. The drama explores a number of pertinent issues surrounding young people's safe and responsible use of the internet and other communications technology including mobile phones. Following the production, seven of the eight Angus schools facilitated the participation of pupils in whole group workshops aimed at exploring further issues arising from the play. Evaluations (96%) indicated that the events were effective in communicating the issues.

The committee's website was promoted through the education department's electronic newsletter, VIEW and is to be incorporated into child protection information leaflets for Angus schools.

A short life working group was established to progress how learning about domestic abuse can be more effectively embedded in the curriculum. This work will incorporate the health and wellbeing outcomes within the Curriculum for Excellence. In order to ensure consistency across all schools in Angus, a teaching pack is being developed to support the inclusion of domestic abuse issues in the curriculum.

Information regarding ChildLine is displayed in all schools and contact numbers are included into the revised anti-bullying leaflet.

The review of 'Health and Wellbeing' programmes in line with Curriculum for Excellence (www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence/) includes a strong emphasis on personal safety. The education department continues to seek out innovative and creative social/learning opportunities to highlight personal safety issues. This has included 'Blue Light Discos' in partnership with Tayside Police, the Webster Theatre alcohol arts awareness event and the 'Safe-Drive-Stay-Alive' initiative.

5.4 Promotion of public awareness by NHS Tayside

NHS Tayside website now has a page devoted to child protection which gives information on how NHS Tayside works with other agencies for the best outcomes for children. It gives some links and discusses confidentiality and information sharing. This is to be developed further later this year. www.nhstayside.scot.nhs.uk

6. POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS

6.1 Policies and Guidance

This year the committee and Policy sub committee have contributed to the development and review of child protection policies, procedures and protocols identified in the Angus Child Protection Committee 2008/09 Business Plan as follows:

6.1.1 Interagency protocol regarding families who move frequently

This new protocol sets out arrangements within Angus Council Social Work and Health, the Housing Division, NHS Tayside and Women's Aid to ensure that when a child moves home frequently with his/her parents, an assessment is concluded and if appropriate a care plan is agreed.

6.1.2 Protocol for transfer of children's records cross authority – agreed principles

The purpose of this recently established protocol centres around shared principles for the transfer of children's records across authorities in Scotland. This agreement ensures that all authorities have an agreed policy in respect of file and case transfers which will bring consistent practice across the country.

6.1.3 Inter-agency Early Screening Group protocol

Over the last year the committee and Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse have worked together to develop improved interagency working for children affected by domestic abuse. In conjunction with this the committee has been looking at implementing a protocol to identify and respond to children about whom there are concerns as a result of police responding to incidents. This assessment of children affected by Domestic Abuse has been achieved through raising concerns via an Inter-agency Early Screening Group. This group consists of representatives from police, social work and health, NHS Tayside, education and housing who meet on a fortnightly basis to evaluate concerns, including issues relating to Domestic Abuse, and take any action deemed appropriate. This new initiative has facilitated greater inter-agency communication and information sharing about children in need and protection and identification of early intervention and services delivered on an inter-agency basis.

6.1.4 Implementation of child protection messaging

The multi-agency group established during 2007 to implement child protection messaging has continued to meet. This group links with the Tayside Data Sharing Partnership and oversees the implementation of messaging in Tayside.

Child protection messaging is an automated system for electronically sending nationally agreed messages about children in need of protection. It is planned that messaging will go live between Angus Social Work and Health and NHS Tayside in June 2009.

There are four different messages regarding a child who is or has been subject to child protection activity and another two relating to children who are linked to families where there is or has been child protection activity.

Work is underway to develop an adaptor for the Education Seemis system nationally. Once this work is complete the adapter will be installed in Angus, thereby allowing messages to be sent within education. Tayside Police will be afforded the opportunity to view messages via an NHS network located within the Custody Suite Force Headquarters.

6.1.5 Pre-birth Resource Allocation Meeting (PRAM) protocol

The PRAM has continued to meet monthly to consider new referrals of vulnerable expectant mothers and their babies, to share information and co-ordinate a multi-agency response and identification of supports. The number of referrals considered by this inter-agency group have seen an increase of 56% from the previous year.

The PRAM conducts a six monthly review of its functioning. The most recent in March 2009 identified the following areas for future work:

- Production of a leaflet for professionals and service users; and
- Review of the outcomes evaluation from the PRAM.

6.1.6 Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements

The Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) has been in force in Scotland since April 2007 and is now well established in Angus. The fundamental purpose of MAPPA is the safety of the public and the reduction of the serious harm caused by offenders convicted of offences of a sexual nature and the protection of vulnerable adults and children is paramount to these arrangements.

There are strong links, through joint membership, between Angus Child Protection Committee and the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements mechanisms.

Violent offenders are not currently subject to the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). Where a violent offender is assessed as presenting a high or very high risk of serious harm, a multi agency case conference is held to ensure that relevant information is shared to ensure the protection of the public.

In addition to MAPPA meetings and case conferences a Joint Assessment Group meets on a monthly basis and discusses information received by staff in Angus Council Social Work and Health Department and the police indicating that there may be a sex offender or other high or very high risk offender, not currently managed through existing MAPPA procedures, living in, or about to live in Angus. Information is shared to enable participants to make the necessary checks or further investigations within the context of the prevention of crime. Early discussion of these cases ensures the identification of children (and vulnerable adults) that may be at risk in order to ensure preventative measures are put in place. There were 87 MAPPA meetings held in Angus during 2008/09.

6.1.7 Angus Council Education Department

The Education Department's School and Family Support Service have two early years' workers and the overall aim of these arrangements is to allow these workers to intervene at an early stage to support the child's nursery placement.

The education department's anti-bullying policy has been updated and reviewed which includes up-dated information leaflets and websites for young people and their families.

All schools continue to be briefed regularly on child protection awareness and procedures at the beginning of each session. This is updated annually to take account of relevant policy changes and developments and this is to be extended this year to include case studies and scenarios to encourage participation and discussion. Specific training continues to be provided annually to child protection designated officers.

In order to raise awareness and understanding of domestic abuse issues, a pack for teachers is being developed which will promote good practice and consistency across Angus schools.

6.1.8 Angus Council Leisure Services (Formerly known as Sports and Countryside Services)

Angus Council Leisure Services have issued a policy and procedures document to all staff. All coaches and volunteers are issued with the service's *Pocket Guide* incorporating a code of conduct for the protection of children and vulnerable adults. This has been developed in conjunction with Children 1st and **sportscotland**.

Leisure Services have also signed up to the Children 1st Accord for the protection of children in Scottish sport and operate an action plan to promote and develop this part of the service. In tandem with this, the service has also introduced a quality accreditation programme called ACE that is available to all sports clubs in Angus. Over 44 clubs have achieved recognised standards in ensuring that their club provides a safe and secure environment for young people to participate in sport. A further 17 clubs have registered and are currently being assessed. Another 17 have asked for a self-assessment form so that they can register with the scheme.

Leisure Services also participate in the local authority child protection in sport network group that helps to provide advice that is used to give feedback on child protection issues at a national government level as well as a means of improving standards across Scotland at a local level.

6.1.9 NHS Tayside

A joint NHS Tayside and Education protocol in respect of sharing information between pre-school and health staff has been developed which requires health visitors and school nurses to have face to face consultation when there are concerns about a child who is due to go to school.

To ensure good communication between public health nurses and local authority nurseries and playgroups an information pack detailing contacts for public health nurses has been provided to all local authority nurseries and playgroups. This promotes early discussion between agencies when concerns exist about a child.

Joint working arrangements are also in place between education and health to ensure good communication when children on intensive support programmes fail to attend nursery.

6.1.10 Joining Up the Dots Group

This Tayside-wide initiative, aims to ensure that when a professional has a concern about a child's well-being, this can be recorded, collated and co-ordinated centrally via the Community Child Health Department. This enables a more comprehensive picture of a child's circumstances and wellbeing to be built up that may, in its entirety, warrant intervention, even in cases where a single piece of information may not in itself be a cause for further action.

In phase one the Tayside Child Health Early Warning (CHEW) Alert Form was developed. This is used to record the concern to disseminate to the public health nurse team. It has evolved during a pilot with certain NHS services, including Speech and Language Therapy, Orthoptic Service and Community Dental Services. Other services have expressed an interest in participating in the pilot and the second phase will roll the system out across other services gradually. Guidance for health professionals has also been developed.

6.1.11 Family Health Needs Assessment (FHNA)

This is a model used by public health nurses to identify the health needs of children and families and was introduced in 2008 in Angus. It is intended to assist public health nurses to prioritise their workload so as to meet the health needs of the most vulnerable children and young people. It is carried out routinely on families with new babies and those moving into the area as well as children for whom there is concern.

6.1.12 Multi-Disciplinary Information System (MiDIS)

In June this year the FHNA will be accessible electronically through this new system which will facilitate a more efficient approach to recording children's health needs and writing care plans. It will also allow several services within health to share information and reduce duplication of recording.

7. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

7.1 Child protection case conference attendance statistics

Management information systems are in place to collate information regarding staff attendance and provision of reports for child protection case conferences. A report is considered at each meeting of Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and the Angus Child Protection Committee regarding this information. There have been continued improvements in attendance and report provision by staff invited to these important meetings about children over the past year. Multi agency seminars continue to be delivered to ensure that staff are clear regarding the purpose of child protection case conferences, the child protection register and planning meetings and their contribution to them.

7.2 Child protection register trend information

The number of children on the child protection register and the underlying reasons for this are considered at each meeting of Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and the Angus Child Protection Committee.

Domestic abuse continues to be a significant factor contributing to children's names being placed on the child protection register. Consequently a sub group of the Angus Child Protection Committee and Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse was formed to agree joint working arrangements in respect of the identification and support provided for these children. This has been achieved through the Early Screening Group initiative which will enable information to be collated on the number of domestic abuse referrals, interventions and support which has been provided and what the outcomes have been to families who have experienced domestic abuse.

7.3 Viewpoint

Management reports for both children on the Angus Child Protection Register and looked after children are produced using Viewpoint which is an online consultation tool for children and young people between the age of 5 years to 16+ years which seeks their views through specific age related and issue based questionnaires. Various groups e.g. Angus Child Protection Committee and Looked After Children Joint Action Group are currently considering what outcome information they require which will influence strategic developments and inform service delivery.

7.4 Collation of trend information

Trend information regarding children in need of protection is collated by Angus Council Social Work and Health's database "CareFirst". This database has enhanced both the collection and collation of management information which is presented to the child protection committee and executive group for child protection regarding children subject to child protection investigations and registration. (Appendix 4)

7.5 National and local statistical trend data

This section contains Angus child protection statistics for 2008/09 based on the number of child protection referrals, those that resulted in a case conference, number of registrations, number of de-registrations, number of children on child protection register and category of abuse/risk.

These figures include children under the age of 16 years and unborn babies.

Scottish Child Protection Statistics which have been referred to are taken directly from the national statistics collected from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008.

7.5.1 Number of child protection referrals during 2008/09:

Angus figure

264 children under 16 years 13.3 per 1000** of child population 0<16

Scottish national figure

12,382 children under 16 years 13.5 per 1000** of child population 0<16

**Figure calculated using the General Register for Scotland mid-2008 estimates for children under 16 years in Angus (19,785 under 16 years in Angus) and national under 16 years population (913,534)

Angus figure	Scottish figure (2007/08)
264 (1.3%)*	12,382 (1.3%)*

*as a percentage of the total population under 16 years of age

The table above shows that the Angus referral rate is consistent with the Scottish national percentage.

It should be noted that an initial enquiry is undertaken in relation to all children and young people referred to the Department of Social Work and Health and the outcome of this enquiry determines the need for a joint social work and police response. This figure denotes the number of children subject to a joint social work and police investigation.

During the period of 01 April 2008 to 31 March 2009, 264 children were the subject of referrals to Angus Council Social Work and Health Department where child protection concerns or risk/abuse were identified as the presenting issue, an increase of 23% compared with the previous year. (Chart 1).

7.5.2 Number of child protection referrals that resulted in a child protection case conference during 2008/09:

Angus figure	Scottish figure (2007/08)
136 (48.5% of all referrals)	4,298 (35% of all referrals)

Of the 136 case conferences, 98 (72%) children were subsequently placed on the Child Protection Register during the reporting period of 2008/09. This compares with

65% of children nationally who were placed on child protection registers during the same period. In Angus, careful attention is paid to immediate safety concerns and to the need to respond proportionately to referrals; this results in a situation whereby children reaching Case Conferences are likely to be registered.

99% of children who were subject to a child protection case conference were living at home prior to being referred, compared with the Scottish national figure of 79%. Of the 136 referrals subject to a child protection case conference, 103 or 76% of the child's primary known/suspected abuser was the natural mother, which remains the same as the previous year's figures. In all cases the primary known/suspected abuser was known to the child. 13% of those were the child's natural father, 4% being a step-father or parent's co-habitee, whilst a further 4% were a relative (including sibling). The remaining 3% were due to other persons known to the family.

7.5.3 Number of registrations following a case conference by category of abuse/risk in 2008/09:

Category of abuse/risk identified by child protection case conference	Angus figure 2008/09	Scottish figure as a % of all children on child protection registers 2007/08
Physical Neglect	43 (44%)	48%
Physical Abuse	14 (14%)	21%
Sexual Abuse	9 (9%)	7%
Emotional Abuse	32 (33%)	23%
Failure to Thrive	0	0%
Other	5 (outcome not yet known)	1%
TOTAL	98	100%

(Chart 2)

The national figures reported for 2007/08 show a fall of 11% of the total number of registrations to child protection registers compared with the previous year.

As at 31 March 2009, there were **82** children registered on the Angus child protection register, a decrease of 30% compared with the previous year figure of **117** as at 31 March 2008. The number of children registered at a particular time is dependent upon the number of single and sibling groups registered at a given time. (Chart 3).

7.5.4 Number of children on the child protection register by age as at 31 March 2009:

Angus figure

82 children under 16 years 4.1 per 1000** of child population 0>16

Scottish national figure

2437 children under 16 years 2.7 per 1000** of child population 0>16

**Figure calculated using the General Register for Scotland mid-2008 estimates for children under 16 years in Angus (19,785 under 16 years in Angus) and national under 16 years population (913,534)

Age 0 – 16+ years	Angus figure 31 March 2009	Scottish national figure 31 March 2008
Unborns	0	22 (1%)
0 - 4	32 (39%)	1201 (49%)
5 -10	32 (39%)	789 (32%)
11 -15	17 (21%)	413 (17%)
16+	1 (1%)	11 (0%)
TOTAL	82 (100%)	2437 (100%)

The highest proportion of children on the Child Protection Register is between 0 to 11 years with 78% of children on Angus Child Protection Register under the age of 11 years old. This reflects the particular vulnerability of this age group to emotional abuse and physical neglect as a result of parental substance misuse and parental mental health difficulties. This compares with the Scottish national average where 82% are under the age of 11 years old. (Chart 4).

7.5.5 Number of de-registrations during 2008/09: breakdown by length of time on register

	Angus figures 2008/09	Scottish figures 2007/08
Less than 6 months	45 (32%)	39%
6 months to 1 year	60 (43%)	36%
1 year to 18 months	22 (16%)	15%
18 months to 2 years	5 (4%)	6%
2 years or more	7 (5%)	4%
TOTAL	139	100%

In Angus the average period of registration is between 6 - 12 months, which is 7% higher than the national average. This is compared to the previous year where 35% of children had been on the register for less than one year. The latest national picture shows a movement towards a reduced length of time on the register. 75% of those de-registered were children who had been on the register for less than one

year compared with 79% in the previous year. Angus's figures compare favourably with the national ones; although it would be desirable to reduce the figures for children registered for more than eighteen months, the only determinants for registration remain individual need or risk. Our ability to reduce numbers in these time groups is directly related to the intractability of many of the difficulties experienced by some families. (Chart 5).

139 children were de-registered during 2008/09. This represents an increase of 43% compared with the previous year figure of 97 de-registrations. National figures show 16% of children were known to have been previously on a child protection register, compared with 21% of children in Angus who have previously been on the child protection register.

Both the national picture and the Angus figures reveal that the main reason for de-registration is due to an improved home situation or reduced risk with Angus figures reporting 62% for these two areas, whilst the national figure is at 71%. (Chart 6).

7.5.6 Emergency child protection measures applied for during 2008/09:

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Child Protection Orders	8	18	11	17
Child Assessment Orders	0	0	0	0
Exclusion Orders	1	0	1 on interim basis	0

As at 31 March 2009, there were 17 Child Protection Orders sought by Angus Council Social Work and Health Department, an increase of 55% on the previous year. There have been no applications for Child Assessment Orders and only two exclusion orders have been taken since 2005/06. It has not been necessary to apply for a child assessment order as most parents have been willing to co-operate with the assessments required for investigations. Where this has not been the case, the immediate safety and welfare of the child takes priority and this is secured by other legal means such as a Child Protection Order. Exclusion orders are rarely used because of difficulties in securing the non-threatening parent, usually mothers, to support the application. (Chart 7).

In circumstances where immediate action is deemed necessary, police can utilise Emergency Powers and immediately remove a child(ren) to a designated place of safety. During the reporting period, there were no circumstances in which this course of action was taken.

The Pre-birth Resource Allocation Meeting (PRAM) continues to meet monthly to consider the needs of unborn babies, to assess whether the family situation would benefit from a multi-agency approach to determine levels of risk and concern, to

identify supports and to initiate a pre-birth assessment. The number of referrals to the PRAM has increased year on year since it commenced in 2006. The total number of referrals made to the PRAM between May 2006 and March 2009 was 145. The increase of referrals from 2006/07 was 118% and 56% in 2007/08. In 2008/09 there were 75 pre-birth risk assessments undertaken. The PRAM continues to develop partnership working and has contributed strongly to the development of pre-birth knowledge and assessment work in the area.

Domestic abuse has continued to be a significant contributory factor in the number of Child Concern Reports that are referred to the Early Screening Group with 850 domestic abuse incidents being recorded in Angus by Tayside Police between 2007/08.

The joint inter-agency protocol regarding children affected by domestic abuse developed last year has been an important initiative given the number of children on the Child Protection Register in Angus who have been affected by domestic abuse. This has led to increased partnership working and a more co-ordinated approach to supporting children and families affected by domestic abuse.

In February 2009 the Early Screening Group (ESG) which is a new inter-agency initiative, was piloted to respond to the increasing number of Child Concern Reports generated by Tayside Police, Eastern Division. Representatives from Police, Social Work and Health, NHS Tayside, Education and Housing meet on a fortnightly basis to assess and evaluate concerns and take any action deemed to be appropriate.

Between February and June 2009, over 400 child concern reports have been assessed by the Early Screening Group. This initiative has so far resulted in less referrals being made to the Children's Reporter for compulsory measures of supervision as a result of early identification and intervention.

7.5.7 Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) statistics

The table below details the trends relating to the number of children referred to the Children's Reporter between the periods of 2006 to 2009 as follows:

Trends	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Children referred to the Children's Reporter	561	494	506
Children referred on Offence related grounds	268	224	246
Children referred on Non offence related (care and protection) grounds	344	314	310
Number of Supervision Requirements	213	213	212
Number of Children's Hearings held	682	642	680
Number of Child Protection Orders	18	11	17
Number of Children subject to Place of Safety Warrants from a Hearing	13	37	44

The number of children referred to the Children's Reporter in 2008/09 has seen a slight increase of 2.4%. In 2008/09, 506 children were referred to the Children's Reporter, some of whom were referred for both offence and non-offence grounds.

There continues to be a trend in the reduction of children referred on care and protection grounds year on year with a 9% fall between 2006/07 to 2007/08 and a further 1.3% decline in 2008/09 whilst children referred on offence related grounds has steadily increased. 2006/07 to 2007/08 saw a climb of 16% whilst 2007/08 to 2008/09 there was a further 10% rise.

The main source of referrals to the Children's Reporter continue to be received from police. In 2008/09 the total number of referrals (including both offence and non-offence grounds) referred by police totalled 1008 out of an overall 1156 referrals.

Supervision requirements are the most common forms of compulsory intervention made by the Children's Hearing and it is a statutory responsibility of the local authority to implement these. The number of Angus children subject to supervision requirements over the last three years has remained static; this is against a rise in the number of Children's Hearings.

As at 31 March 2009, the total number of hearings held in Angus was 680, an increase of 6% from 2007/08. The total number of child protection orders received in 2008/09 was 17. This compares to 11 with the previous year, an increase of 55% on last year's figures.

In 2008/09 there were 44 children subject to warrants to keep them in a place of safety. This compares to a 19% increase in warrants in 2007/08 and a rise of 238% over the past three years. The total number of warrants issued by the Children's Hearing has risen from 61 to 104, an increase of 71% compared to last year.

There continues to be considerable input from partner agencies in both the statutory and voluntary sectors - identifying children in need of compulsory measures of supervision and referring them to the SCRA, providing reports to assist reporters and panel members to make decisions about children and in some cases coming to court to give essential information to sheriffs in evidence to support grounds of referral or to assist the court to determine a matter under appeal.

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration highlight in their Annual Report 2007/08 (www.scra.gov.uk) a national decrease of 12.3% in the overall number of referrals to the reporter in 2007/08 compared to 2006/07 which has been attributed to the correct identification of those children requiring statutory consideration by the Children's Hearing System. The overall proportion of children referred was 5.5% down from 6.1% last year however in some authorities, the referral rate remains above 9% of the child population. Angus SCRA figures reverses the national pattern in so far that referral rates have increased year on year rather than decreased.

It is hoped that early intervention, pre-referral initiatives such as the Early Screening Group which was piloted in February 2009, Montrose Link-Up Initiative and the Pre-birth Resource Allocation Meeting will increasingly see the correct identification of those children who do require statutory intervention and identification of those

children for whom intervention can take place on a voluntary basis through universal services rather than being referred at the point of crisis. It is hoped that where these inter-agency screening arrangements are in place, only those children thought to be in need of compulsory supervision are referred to the reporter.

8. QUALITY ASSURANCE

8.1 Angus Child Protection Committee

8.1.1 HM Inspectorate of Education (HMIe) follow through inspection

HMIe inspectors revisited Angus Council in October 2008 to assess the extent to which services were continuing to improve the quality of work to protect children and young people and to evaluate progress made in responding to the main points for action in the initial report of February 2007.

HMIe commended the work undertaken in improving the provision for children in need of protection and effective performance shown by services in taking forward improvements. In particular very good progress was noted in:

- Improving the processes for assessment of need and ensuring that children who require compulsory measures of care are identified and receive this when they need it;
- Improving the recording, monitoring and assessment by health practitioners.

HMIe also highlighted good progress in:

- Developing clear and shared thresholds of risk to ensure that staff consistently applied procedures for reporting and responding to concerns and;
- Ensuring the full involvement of health and medical staff in child protection processes.

A further action plan has been agreed by the Angus Child Protection Committee and Angus Executive Group for Child Protection to take forward areas for continuous improvement in 2009/10 based on the findings of the follow through report published in February 2009.

8.1.2 Self evaluation action plans

The Angus Child Protection Committee has continued to consolidate its work in relation to self-evaluation and quality assurance activities in 2008/09 as follows:

- Completion of a self-evaluation exercise in April 2008 which involved a multi agency examination of a sample of cases. The views of children, young people and their families were also sought as part of this evaluation. This evaluation highlighted the very complex networks of staff with which members of social work services are required to communicate in investigating and assessing the needs of children. The committee and the executive group accepted a recommendation in June 2008 that interagency communication is structured in such a way that each organisation identifies key staff responsible for gathering information about children and reporting on progress with members of their agency. For instance child protection designated officers will be the key staff responsible within education. Within health, for preschool children, it is the health visitor and for school aged children it is the school nurse. Within police it is the Family Protection Unit;
- Completion of an initial case review in February 2009 by the Practice sub committee, the recommendations of which have been incorporated into an action

- plan to take forward the issues identified within the review;
- The committee has considered the published independent review report into the circumstances surrounding the death of Baby P and an inter-agency action plan has been developed based on the Haringey and Ofsted report's key recommendations;
- Evaluation in June 2008 of actions taken by the committee in response to the recommendations of the joint inspection of services to protect children in the Angus area. The results highlighted that 99% of staff knew what action to take if they are concerned about a child, 99% of staff knew who to go to within their organisation for advice and support when concerned about a child, and 96% of staff thought their organisation made it clear that protecting children is a priority. Responses to the Angus Child Protection Committee questionnaire in 2008 indicated 98% of staff had clear guidance on child protection; and
- A learning event was organised for all children's services managers in social work in early summer 2008 to explore the issues for the service arising from an initial case review, conducted by the committee. Managers attending the event took back the learning and discussion points to their own staff. Feedback from this event was extremely positive and an endorsement for a shared learning approach for future events.

8.2 Agency Developments

8.2.1 Angus Council Social Work and Health

The community resource team has been involved in developing services to support parents experiencing difficulties presented by adolescents and their families. Amongst the variety of interventions and services for parents available across the authority, the "Handling Teenage Behaviour" group work program for parents stands out as a successful and innovative way of engaging families whose children are at risk of harm, or becoming looked after or accommodated by the local authority. The program itself is specifically designed to monitor and build upon the parents and carers self esteem and this is revisited and charted on a weekly basis. By raising self awareness and reinforcing the importance of positive role modelling, parents are encouraged to reflect on their own experiences, views, values and subsequent behaviours and how they may be exacerbating the challenges they face.

In addition to participants self reporting, there were a number of specific areas relating to the young people against which performance was measured, these included data relating to the uptake and maintenance of employment, education and training, attendance and behaviour at school, reported incidents of offending behaviour, incidents of anti-social behaviour, misuse of alcohol and drugs and requests being made of support agencies which was compared against those families who had not accessed the service. Most of the children of the participants were maintained in their communities whilst some experienced periods of accommodation in the care of the local authority. Both the users of the service and professional colleagues involved in their support reported a considerable improvement in the confidence of the participants and the behaviour of the young people in their care.

8.2.2 Angus Council Clients Rights Service

The Angus Council Social Work and Health, Clients Rights Service (CRS) continues to have a positive impact for both individuals and the council's commitment to a culture of rights. This is best illustrated in the level of activity within the service over the past twelve months, as follows:

- 55 referrals related to children and young people age 18 and under;
- an increase in the number of referrals from and about the rights of ethnic minorities including gypsy travellers, EU and non-EU immigrants;
- 32 referrals by or on behalf of children and young people living at home or with relatives, 21 were living in residential, secure accommodation and foster care; and 2 from young people who had left care;
- 90 safeguard visits to residential, secure and foster care placements were made, 30% increase on last year's figure; and
- representation for both children and families was provided at 53 Looked After and Accommodated Reviews, Reception into Accommodation Meetings and Children's Hearings.

The CRS contribution to policy and promotion of a culture of rights over the past year has included:

- 94 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child information packs were issued to children aged 8 yrs and over, a 50% increase on last year's figure;
- As a complement to child protection training, 47 interactive presentations on rights matters, a 45% increase on last years' figures, were individually prepared and delivered to 42 different service outlets within the county. A total of 355 employees at all levels within Social Work and Health, including the four teams from the Joint Strategic Support Unit, and five final year social students from Dundee University, participated; and
- Research and preparation with children, young people and partner agencies of the new Angus DVD on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, launched in Angus in May 2008.

8.2.3 Angus Council Education Department

All school based documentation and record keeping relating to the protection of children is monitored by the Education Department Quality Improvement Officers during their planned school visits. This is further scrutinised by HMIE during school inspections. Through the self-evaluation process school staff measure the effectiveness of their arrangements using the framework "How Good is Our School?"

Other quality assurance mechanisms which directly contribute to the continuous improvement of services to protect children has been the development of a protocol for sharing information between pre-school and health staff to improve communication where there are concerns regarding children aged 3 - 5 years.

Child Protection Designated Officers (CPDO) within education continue to attend regular training events as well as CPDO Forums in order to maintain knowledge and quality of practice.

As a quality assurance measure, sampling of pupil progress records (PPR's) in schools will take place this year.

Education contributed to the action plans arising from case reviews and HMle follow through report.

8.2.4 Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA)

SCRA has in place a national case prioritisation scheme to monitor and ensure that the number of children experiencing unacceptable delays in the progress of their case is reduced further. This scheme is supported by data provision and national training and guidance to ensure a consistent approach across Scotland.

SCRA's performance against the agreed Time Interval Standards targets to reduce the time taken to progress referrals through the Children's Hearing system has continued to demonstrate good performance across all authorities based on findings of the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration Annual Report 2007/08, exceeding three out of the five relevant targets.

Children's Reporters in Angus have actively engaged with partners to support the implementation of the Early Screening Group, which is in line with the national framework on non-offence referrals and the "Getting it Right for Every Child" (GIRFEC) reform programme which ensures that children in need get the right support when they need it.

9. PROMOTION OF GOOD PRACTICE

9.1 Angus Child Protection Committee Practice sub committee

The work of the Practice sub committee is crucially concerned with the promotion of good practice. The advent of the interim guidance for Conducting a Significant Case Review has led to ongoing review of the role and remit of the Practice sub committee. During the last year, membership of the group has expanded to include a representative from housing.

The Practice sub committee has considered three cases between 2008/09. In each case the purpose of the referral has been for the group to ascertain whether or not earlier action might have benefited the child in question and if so what action could have been taken. Two initial case review reports have been completed in line with the Scottish Government interim guidance for Conducting Significant Case Reviews. One of these reports has been presented to the Angus Child Protection Committee for consideration and the Angus Executive Group for Child Protection accepted and approved the recommendations. An inter-agency action plan has been agreed to address the issues highlighted as a result of the case review. The review made a number of single agency and inter-agency recommendations.

The second initial case review was concluded in May 2009 in relation to concerns about neglect and its findings have been presented to the Angus Child Protection Committee and the Angus Executive Group for Child Protection. The report and the recommendations of this review were approved by both groups and an action plan and learning events for staff are to be taken forward by each agency.

9.2 Angus Child Protection Committee Continuous Improvement sub committee

The Continuous Improvement sub committee continues to meet quarterly to implement and review multi-agency assurance mechanisms for inter-agency work, including auditing against the Framework for Standards and “How well are children protected” as outlined previously in section 4.2. The Continuous Improvement sub committee will continue to audit aspects of child protection work in Angus using the revised HMle Quality Indicator Framework.

Over the past year the group has been involved in monitoring and reporting on the outcomes of various action plans and contributed to the preparation of the HMle inspection process in October 2008.

9.3 Angus Child Protection Committee Policy sub committee

The Policy sub committee has a key role to play in ensuring constituent agencies have in place their own up to date policies and procedures. All agencies child protection policies are reviewed by the Policy sub committee to ensure consistency and that they link with inter-agency guidelines. Over the past year the Policy sub committee has developed, disseminated and reviewed protocols around key local and national issues as outlined in section 6 of this report.

9.4 Alcohol and Drugs Partnership/Child Protection Committee sub group

Based on the findings from research undertaken to establish the number of children affected by parental substance misuse in Angus, a joint sub group of the committee and The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP), formerly known as the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT), was established to carry forward the agenda in relation to children and young people affected. This resulted in the Montrose Multi Agency Link-Up Initiative being launched to improve outcomes for those children where parental substance misuse is a key factor.

This group has been established for two years and has enjoyed the commitment of all partners in developing an appropriate local initiative to identify and respond to the needs of these children.

This initiative has attracted the support of the Scottish Government who attended an event in Angus in January 2008 to explore a range of innovative approaches to meeting the needs of these children. Representatives from the Scottish Government subsequently invited the project to become a Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) 'learning partner' for children affected by parental substance misuse.

The Montrose Link-Up Initiative was formally launched on 25 March 2009 and became operational on 5 May 2009. This initiative seeks innovative solutions to complex problems faced by children affected by parental substance misuse by utilising the skills and expertise of a range of professionals in responding more creatively to identifying and responding to the needs of these children.

Any professional who has a concern for a child where parental substance use is an issue, can make an "initial assessment" and pass this to their agency representative who sits on the Link-Up Steering Group. Consent from the parent and child should be sought at this time however if this is not possible or is refused, an assessment can still be submitted and will be considered on an individual basis. The Steering Group consists of representatives from Social Work (Children's Services, Intake and Alcohol and Drug Services), Education (primary and secondary), Housing, Tayside Police, Voluntary Sector, NHS Tayside (Adult Alcohol and Drug Services) and Angus Child Health. The initial assessment is passed to the Senior Clerical Officer who distributes this to Steering Group Members so that checks on the adults and children can be carried out within their own agencies. The Named Person for the child (under 5 years – Child Health; over 5 years– Head teacher in Education) is copied immediately into the assessment so they become aware at the earliest stage that there is a concern for a child.

Each agency provides the relevant information regarding the family so the initial assessment becomes enhanced by this information. At the monthly Steering Group meeting, this information is considered and stage II of the assessment is completed. The Steering Group agrees the level of intervention necessary to support the child and their family. Level 1 deems no further action is necessary. Level 2 deems some additional support is required for the child and/or parent/carer from more than one agency. Level 3 deems multi-agency coordination is required due to an increased level of concern or risk and a lead professional is appointed. The level and type of intervention is recorded on a Family Action Plan and a review date set. The

interventions considered within the Steering Group must have added value to what is already on offer from existing services. Link-Up Family Support Workers may be appointed to undertake specific and time limited pieces of work with children and/or parents and may undertake this work outwith normal working hours. This is an additional resource available to all the partners within the Steering Group.

The function of the Steering Group is to provide a basis for formal liaison between Children's and Adult Services, ensure added value by the promotion of a multi-agency response and ensure planned and focussed intervention for children and their families. The Steering Group also reviews the progress of the interventions to ensure the above. Between May 2009 and August 2009 19 initial assessments have been made to the Steering Group. Assessments have been received from Education, Tayside Police and Social Work.

An evaluation of Link-Up, funded by the Scottish Government, is to be undertaken and reported on by an independent consultant.

10. TRAINING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

10.1 Angus Child Protection Committee

10.1.1 Training strategy

A three year inter-agency training strategy for 2008 - 2011 was developed and approved by the Angus Child Protection Committee last year. The aims of the strategy are to:

- Use the Scottish Government Training and Learning Framework to organise and implement effective child protection training on an agency and inter-agency basis;
- Ensure that relevant staffing groups are targeted and correct levels of training information are delivered; and
- Develop, monitor and evaluate the impact of a range of different training methods and tools that may be used in both single and inter-agency training.

10.1.2 Multi-agency trainer's network

The trainer's network was due to meet twice a year to give support and guidance in relation to single-agency child protection training at basic awareness level.

At a meeting of the trainer's network in May 2008 it became clear that some members of the network were using the material more than others, and discussion on how to progress the use of the material on a single-agency basis was difficult. Consequently, a review of the make-up, role and remit of the trainer's network will take place and will help determine the future role of this group.

10.1.3 Child protection induction CD-Rom

A basic awareness CD-Rom which covers possible signs and symptoms of child abuse and what to do if there is a concern about a child was completed in 2008 and information regarding the tool was disseminated to various agencies across Angus Council and will be used primarily for induction processes with staff.

The CD-Rom is available on the Angus Child Protection Committee website and can therefore be accessed by all staff and members of the public.

www.anguschildprotectioncommittee.org.uk/cdrom.cfm

10.1.4 Training delivered by the Angus Child Protection Committee

The Angus Child Protection Committee has delivered training on the following topics in the last year:

- **Barnardo's FACE training**

Barnardo's FACE (Fighting Against Child Exploitation) Project, based in Dundee, has been campaigning against child exploitation since 2001. They are a service for young people who are at risk of, or have been affected by sexual exploitation. The training looked at identifying sexual exploitation, the influence of the media

and the internet, and look at what tools and resources are available for workers to use to support young people. The seminar was well attended by different agencies.

- **Information sharing and communication**

Having previously been delivered through the Pan Tayside Child Protection Training Consortium, this training was considered so relevant for new and existing members of staff that it was delivered in Angus again in 2008. This training looks at explaining the legislative and policy framework around information sharing, and the barriers to effective communication about children and young people and how they can be overcome.

- **Assessment and decision making**

This training covers a variety of topics, from developing participants' awareness of the needs of children and young people, to the consideration of personal and professional thresholds. As a result of positive evaluations, this training will remain in future training calendars as one of the core pieces of interagency provision.

- **Training regarding Angus Child Protection Committee protocols for the protection of children**

In conjunction with the Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership, the committee delivered a seminar on Angus protocols for inter-agency working in the protection of children. The purpose was to raise awareness of the Angus Child Protection Committee "Inter-agency Guidelines for Professional Staff" and the Angus Child Protection Committee and drug and alcohol action team protocol "Working with Children and Families Affected by Parental Substance Misuse". This year Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse also joined the event, raising awareness of their new guidance, "Good Practice Guidelines for Working with Women Experiencing Domestic Abuse".

- **Child protection case conference and the child protection register**

This training was delivered again in September 2008 using role play and the workshops were used to develop the attendee's knowledge and understanding of the purpose of case conferences, the child protection register, planning meetings and the importance of their role in these processes. A short presentation on Viewpoint is also given to show how staff can be collecting the views of children prior to a case conference.

- **Role of the Children's Reporter**

This training seminar was introduced in 2008 and outlines the procedure around referrals to the children's reporter, the role of children's hearings, how the reporter makes decisions and the legislative processes involved. The Authority Reporter for Angus continues to deliver this seminar. Evaluations for this training are extremely positive and every session has been over subscribed.

- **“Thinkuknow” training from the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)**

CEOP works with key agencies in protecting children, young people, families and society from paedophiles and sex offenders, in particular those who use the internet and other new technologies in the sexual exploitation of children. “Thinkuknow” is the name of CEOP’s resources for young people, and has been created as part of its harm reduction strategy.

Three staff members from Angus Council who have undertaken CEOP ambassador training delivered two multi-agency CEOP sessions. Specific internet safety training may be scheduled in certain agencies; however the Angus Child Protection Committee will continue to deliver multi-agency events. Parent’s nights have also been held in schools and school cluster groups.

- **Training for community groups and volunteers**

In 2008/09 Angus Council Community Learning and Development Service delivered nine training programmes designed to raise awareness of the child protection responsibilities of community and voluntary organisations.

From the evaluations of the “Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003” training sessions in 2007/08, a new introductory course, Child Protection and You, was written and delivered to complement and follow on from the existing course. It is aimed at all those who work directly with children and young people, and aims to help participants protect children and young people by adopting good, safe, working practices. It covers a range of topics including roles and responsibilities, the nature of risk and harm, signs and symptoms of child abuse and knowing how to take appropriate action if concerns arise. Sixty-two people attended over six sessions, and evaluations were extremely positive.

10.2 Evaluation of the impact of training on practice

An online questionnaire has been set up to evaluate the impact that training has had on practice. A cross section of staff were sent a link to the online questionnaire and asked to complete it. The training co-ordinator then collates and analyses the results from the website.

Although only a small return of the questionnaires was collected, responses are encouraging and participants felt that the training has had a positive impact on their practice.

A further questionnaire will be submitted to line managers to ascertain their thoughts on the impact the Angus Child Protection Committee training has had on their staff and their practice.

10.3 Pan Tayside Child Protection Training Consortium

The Pan Tayside Child Protection Training Consortium continues to be supported by Angus Council, Dundee City Council, Perth and Kinross Council, Tayside Police and NHS Tayside who agreed to a period of funding through a minute of agreement from 1 April 2008 for a period of three years. The consortium will continue to offer multi-disciplinary training across the Tayside area, which is current, topical and relevant to all three area child protection committees.

The Pan Tayside Child Protection Training Consortium met with the training provider, Reconstruct Scotland to discuss the possibility of them commissioning and delivering set training topics across Tayside. An arrangement was made that 28 days of training would be delivered across Tayside by Reconstruct Scotland.

Topics that were decided upon were Chairing and Participating in Network Meetings, Child Protection and Children with Disabilities, and Development, Attachment and Resilience.

10.4 BASPCAN Scotland conference

Thirteen members of the Angus Child Protection Committee attended the BASPCAN conference in June 2008 on carrying out Significant Case Reviews.

10.5 Joint Investigative Interviewing Training programme (JIIT)

The JIIT programme continues to run as a partnership programme between Angus Council, Dundee City Council, Perth & Kinross Council and Tayside Police based on the national curriculum approved by ACPOS and ADSW and reflecting the Guidance on Interviewing Child Witnesses in Scotland (Scottish Executive 2003). The strategic planning group have continued to review the programme and plan to implement a number of changes which will improve the practice of practitioners including the enhancement of the DVD interviewing competences, facilitated learning, and refresher training to maintain knowledge and skills.

The training is aimed primarily at police officers and social workers who are carrying out joint investigative interviews with children (aged under 16). The Joint Investigative Interviewing Training aims to set national standards, and to provide practitioners carrying out interviews with day-to-day good practice guidance, so that the visual records made are of good quality and can be used for other purposes, including in criminal court if necessary.

The programme will be active in contributing to the national developments leading to an accredited programme with participants ultimately being competently assessed on their practice skills.

The programme has run on four occasions with members of social work staff being trained from Angus alongside colleagues from Dundee City, Perth & Kinross Social Work Departments and Tayside Police representing all three divisions of the force.

10.6 Agency Training

10.6.1 Angus Council Social Work and Health

The Department continues to offer courses within the 3 – year Child Protection Training plan as part of its workforce planning programme to attempt to ensure an adequate balance of experienced and child protection qualified staff within the fieldwork teams and family support teams. However in order to reflect ‘It’s everyone’s job to make sure I am alright’ the training plan is flexible enough to ensure identified staff and operational needs are met.

Accordingly the Risk Assessment and Interviewing part of the training course which includes the JIIT has been undertaken by ten social workers in the past year, although as only two places are available on the JIIT programme which is run four times a year only 8 have the full training qualification.

Four social workers have been supported in attending the University of Stirling Graduate Certificate in Child Care and Protection.

Three members of staff at senior social worker level are undertaking the Supervision and management Child Protection programme at Stirling University. This is due to all other eligible staff having previously completed this award.

All new staff to the department receive basic awareness child protection training as part of their induction programme, and this year the training has been delivered to 212 staff. This programme is now run in conjunction with basic awareness training in Adult Protection with a view to eventually delivering a Public Protection basic awareness training programme as part of the induction process within the Social Work and Health department.

10.6.2 Angus Council Education Department

Child protection update presentations were successfully delivered to all staff at the start of the new school year. The impact of these arrangements is being monitored by quality improvement officers and members of the educational development service. Child protection designated officers received information on new developments through attendance at their annual network meetings and further professional development on ‘Hidden Harm’ for these staff members took place in March. A further two teachers have received CEOP Ambassador training. Plans are being made to make CEOP training available to all school staff in forthcoming school sessions.

10.6.3 Angus Council Housing Division

The housing division’s lead officer’s role in child protection comes under the auspices of public protection and a multi agency approach.

The Senior Housing Officer (Liaison and Joint Future), delivered housing division child protection policy and procedure training internally to community housing

officers, housing inspectors and housing visitors. Key housing staff have benefited from a range of interagency training provided by Angus Child Protection Committee.

The housing division are continually monitoring attendance and are committed to further training opportunities.

10.6.4 Tayside Police

Tayside Police is committed to providing a high level of care and support to all children, young adults and their families. This is achieved through well developed and effective links with its partner agencies.

Tayside Police have embraced the recommendations of the HMle inspection and as a result all police staff have received guidance regarding the role of social work out of hours service and procedures in relation to contact.

The force has developed an online training and guidance package, which provides all officers and relevant support staff with the necessary training, awareness, guidance reference material and support appropriate to their particular post. This enables effective recognition of risk and the needs of individuals along with the ability to act in a way, which best ensures positive outcomes for children, young adults and their families.

Police officers attending basic training and management courses at the Scottish Police College receive an input on child protection at the appropriate level for the rank of the officer concerned.

10.7 Partnership Training

10.7.1 Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

STRADA is a partnership between the University of Glasgow's Centre for Drug Misuse Research, Department of Adult and Continuing Education and DrugScope. Its aim is to improve the skills of professional staff addressing drug and alcohol misuse throughout Scotland.

From January 2009 to April 2009, jointly with STRADA, Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership provided eight days of training. The courses that have taken place covered the issues of treatment and support; understanding risk, reducing harm; prevention; alcohol use and involving service users. .

All training courses were attended by representatives from a range of agencies including Social Work, Cair Scotland, Tayside Council on Alcohol, NHS Tayside, Criminal Justice, Pitstop Youth Café, Angus Women's Aid, The Web Project, St Andrew's Church and Rossie Secure Accommodation Services.

10.7.2 Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse (APODA)

Over a number of years the committee and the Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership has facilitated a multi-agency event which enables practitioners to examine inter-agency guidance in a training environment.

In November 2008, the Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse welcomed the opportunity to also participate in this venture and the event was well received by those in attendance.

We know that many women experiencing domestic abuse are also affected by substance misuse. This training initiative provides a safe environment for professionals working in the fields of domestic abuse and substance misuse to share knowledge and experience. In addition, this interaction also serves to improve working practices between the relevant agencies.

During 2008/2009, members of staff across Angus have accessed courses delivered in conjunction with the Tayside Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women Training Consortium.

For the first time, later this year, domestic abuse training will be available to staff via the Angus Education Early Years Training Calendar.

10.7.3 Angus Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum

Voluntary sector agencies are forwarded information regarding Angus Child Protection Committee training opportunities through Angus Association for Voluntary Organisations and have actively been attending the range of training available throughout the year. The Operations Manager from The WEB Project sits as the voluntary sector representative on the Angus Child Protection Committee Training sub committee.

10.7.4 Early Years and Childcare

Angus Council Education Service is committed to supporting Early Year's and Childcare workforce development and to ensuring the availability of continuing professional development opportunities for all staff working with children, young people and families across Angus.

A wide range of training and development opportunities are available to members of the early years and childcare workforce, including playgroup and out of school care staff via the Early Year's and Childcare training calendar. This is an annual publication which runs the academic year August - June.

Statutory requirements include child protection, first aid, health and safety and elementary food hygiene. Opportunities also exist in relation to a number of other topics including parental involvement, music and dance, photography, active learning and quality.

Specifically in relation to child protection, basic child awareness raising sessions have been offered to all members of the workforce working in early years and childcare settings. Uptake has been good and extra sessions were arranged due to the high demand for the course.

In partnership with Angus Council Education and Social Work and Health, a new child protection course specifically aimed at providing guidance to childminders has been developed. Plans are in place for more sessions to run during the coming year.

Before childminders can become registered with the Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care (Care Commission) they must attend a basic awareness raising of child protection training course. During 2008/09, 49 registered childminders attended the child protection training via the Early Years and Childcare Training calendar. Whilst 60 people attended the basic awareness child protection course via the seven week "Get Ready for Childminding" training during 2008/09.

Members of the Early Years and Childcare workforce across Angus have taken part in a number of training sessions facilitated via the committee which have proved helpful in strengthening practice and confidence.

The committee's training co-ordinator is a member of the Early Years and Childcare training working group.

10.7.5 ChooseLife

Training on suicide prevention continues to be delivered jointly with partner organisations and is open to all staff and volunteers in order to build capacity and increase awareness of issues relating to suicide and mental health.

11. COMMUNICATION AND CO-OPERATION

11.1 Inter-agency Partnerships

Strong strategic links continue to be important with the following partnerships:

- The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (formerly known as the Angus Drug and Alcohol Action Team);
- Youth Justice Forum;
- Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse; and
- Early years and Childcare.

This has led to better co-ordination of training delivered by each of the partnerships, the commissioning and delivery of the 'Cyberspyder' drama production for all S1 pupils in Angus, the commissioning and delivery of the Angus parenting handbooks and the development of Angus Child Protection Committee CD-Rom for child protection induction training across agencies.

11.2 Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse (APODA)

In support of the National Domestic Abuse Delivery Plan for Children and Young People and the Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse action plan, senior staff within the Education Department recently established a working group to consider how best to incorporate domestic abuse issues into the school curriculum.

This initiative is being led by a deputy head teacher and is progressing well. In support of this work, and to enhance personal understanding of the issues, over twenty members of teaching staff have attended specialised domestic abuse training events during the year.

The number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police in Angus during 2007/08 remained fairly static at 850, five up on the previous year. When relevant, police officers attending these incidents submit child concern reports to the Police Family Protection Unit. After initial assessment, those families considered vulnerable are screened by a multi-agency panel of professionals. This provides an opportunity to create an action plan which addresses the specific needs of individual families/children.

11.3 Education Child Protection Strategy Group

Meetings of the Education Child Protection Strategy Group continue to take place on a regular basis. This allows information and actions arising from the Angus Child Protection Committee to be taken forward strategically within education and for educational issues to be fed into the Angus Child Protection Committee via education representatives.

The Education Department is represented at the multi-agency Early Screening Group fortnightly meetings. Information from the police child concern reports are shared in confidence and passed to a named person in each school and pre-school centre. The purpose of the group is to support children who are part of households

where there has been police involvement. Therefore a summary of the information is shared with key staff who are in the position to support the child appropriately. Many cases involve children who are affected by domestic abuse.

11.4 The Early Years and Childcare Joint Action Group

The Early Years and Childcare JAG was established following the review of children's services undertaken in April 2008. The membership is broad ranging with representation from a number of public and voluntary organisations all who have a role to play in terms of early years and childcare services. The Senior Planning Officer (Child Protection) is a member of this group.

One of the key aims of the group is to maximise the effectiveness of joint management /partnership procedures to support the realisation of the shared vision for children in Angus.

The Early Years and Childcare Joint Action Group has been tasked with taking forward the recently published Early Years Framework. The group are currently preparing an Angus position statement and action plan in this respect. Communication and collaborative working will be crucial in taking this agenda forward and developments arising from the framework will create many opportunities to strengthen these elements of partnership working.

11.5 NHS Tayside Child Protection Action Group (CPAG)

CPAG is a group of health staff who are responsible for monitoring the contribution NHS Tayside makes to the protection of children. They consider the recommendations made in self evaluation, serious case reviews, inspections and other reports, and include appropriate ones in the CPAG action Plan. The group members ensure that these are implemented. The remit and membership have been reviewed this year and a Terms of Reference agreed. This group reports to the NHS Tayside Child Health Strategy Group regularly.

NHS Tayside continues to be fully engaged in the sub-committees and working groups of the full committee and contribute to operational and other strategic groups across the partnerships.

CPAG is assisted by a representative for the local authorities who is currently the Lead Officer for the committee. There are three CPAG sub-groups in place; Training, Policy and Continuous Improvement which link with the work of similar sub-groups of the Angus Child Protection Committee. CPAG is chaired by the Nurse Consultant for Child and Vulnerable Family Protection who is vice chair of the committee.

Through these health forums and the Child Health Strategy Group, there is a good network established to facilitate partnership working.

12. PLANNING AND CONNECTIONS

12.1 Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and Angus Child Protection Committee

The membership and constitutions of the Angus Executive Group for Child Protection, the Angus Child Protection Committee and its sub committees are outlined in Appendix 1. The work of the committee is strongly supported by the Training, Practice, Policy and Continuous Improvement sub committees.

In the last year the Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and the Angus Child Protection Committee have each met on four occasions to consider the work of the committee, the joint inspection of services to protect children and initial case review reports.

The links between the Angus Child Protection Committee, the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse are strengthened by the attendance of the respective Senior Planning Officers at each of these forums.

Communication between agencies and interagency partnerships regarding the work of the committee is further enhanced as membership of the committee is drawn from agencies and partnerships as outlined in Appendix 2.

12.2 Angus Integrated Plan for Children and Young People's Services

On 1 April 2008, revised structures to support the planning, delivery and evaluation of children's services came into being within the broader context of the Angus Community Planning Partnership. An overview of the new streamlined structures and their links to the Child Protection Committee and the broader Angus Planning Partnership framework is contained in Appendix 3.

The Angus Integrated Plan for Children and Young People's Services for 2009-2012 has been undertaken by Angus Council's Joint Strategic Support Unit, Children's Team. The location of the lead officer for the Angus Child Protection Committee in this unit has ensured an effective contribution by the Angus Child Protection Committee to the review of this three year plan.

12.3 The Angus Children's Services Training Co-ordination Group

The Angus Children's Services Training Co-ordination Group has been established to devise and deliver a shared approach by children's services to inter-agency training, designed to enhance the confidence and competence of practitioners in delivering high quality integrated services. As an initial step towards improving the quality and focus of inter-agency training for both mainstream and specialist service providers, an audit of existing training provision commenced in February 2009. It is anticipated that the findings from this audit will support the group's endeavours to deliver high quality training for all staff in joint working within children's services.

The Training Co-ordinator (Child Protection) is a member of the Angus Children's Services Training Co-ordination Group which enables effective links to be made to the training agenda of children's services.

Developments in 2009/10 will include the rationalisation of existing training within the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) agenda and the delivery of child protection training for elected members and members of relevant executive boards of local public bodies arising out of the Haringey Report considerations by both the committee and the executive group.

12.4 Angus Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum

The voluntary sector has continued to maintain representation and full involvement on the Angus Child Protection Committee and on the Training sub committee.

This has included involvement in the Link Lead Officers Group for the recent HMle Follow-Through Inspection.

The voluntary sector also provided a response to the Angus Child Protection Committee with regards to the Haringey recommendations.

The Voluntary Sector Forum has also restructured over the past year establishing closer access to the wider Integrated Children's Services planning structure. This has included representation on the training co-ordination group.

13. LISTENING TO CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES

13.1 Use of Viewpoint – Child protection case conferences/LAAC reviews

March 2009 was the end of a two year pilot of Viewpoint in Angus. This online consultation tool sought feedback from Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC) as well as those attending Review Child Protection Case Conferences.

Angus Council Child Protection Committee in conjunction with the Viewpoint Implementation Group requested an independent evaluation be undertaken from March 2008 to May 2008 of children and young peoples experience of completing their Viewpoint questionnaire. For the purpose of this evaluation nine children and young people who had experienced a Child Protection Conference and who had been placed on the Child Protection Register took part in the evaluation.

Key themes highlighted from the results.

- The majority of the young people felt that Viewpoint was age appropriate and relevant for them
- Every young person stated that it was easy to get to the centre where they completed Viewpoint. The majority said they felt safe and comfortable at the centres and that Viewpoint was easy to navigate. The young people that stated that they felt uncomfortable tended to visit a venue at busy times of the day and said it didn't feel private.
- The majority of young people considered that they had been able to put some of their opinions across through their answers and that most of their views had been heard.

Perhaps the most encouraging report is over 90% of children and young people aged 5 to 14 years who have used the tool are prepared to use it again in the future. A significant percentage of these children are also prepared to take part in further discussions about Viewpoint. This opportunity should be taken up by Angus Council with the views of this group contributing to any future adaptation of the reports.

HMIe placed a high priority on consulting with stakeholders and in particular with children and families who had first hand experience of services to protect children. HMIe record a *“notable improvements included the introduction of Viewpoint to gather the views of children and young people to inform child protection meetings and to evaluate the effectiveness of services.”* (Joint follow-through inspection of services to protect children and young people in the Angus Council area February 2009). Following inspection HMIe met with representatives from Angus Council Social Work and Health Department to gain further information about the Viewpoint tool. HMIe informed staff they intend to acknowledge the use of the tool as an example of good practice upon their website.

Overall the pilot of Viewpoint has significantly increased Angus Councils consultation with children and young people including an ability to demonstrate how their views inform the development of services.

13.2 Parental questionnaire

Following discussion at the ACPC Policy sub committee, and in line with the implementation of viewpoint giving children and young people the opportunity to share their views, the importance of encouraging parents/carers to have the opportunity to share their views at conference in the form of written submission was recognised. Therefore, questionnaires were devised for parents/carers attending initial and review child protection case conferences. This was implemented in July 2008 and has been reviewed on two occasions by the Policy sub committee subsequently. Unfortunately numbers returning questionnaires have been low but it is recognised that continuing to give parents/carers the opportunity to share their views is important and will continue.

Since July 2008 we have requested seventy one questionnaires for conference and received twelve. Sixty five were requested for reviews and six were received.

13.3 Consultation with school aged pupils

In reviewing the Angus Integrated Community School Partnerships, 458 secondary school-aged pupils were consulted on the quality of a range of existing services throughout Angus. Intelligence gathered from this exercise, in relation to children and young people's safety at home, in school, and in the community, contributed to the follow through inspection of services to protect children in Angus.

13.4 Having Your Say leaflet

To ensure all children and young people's views are presented at Children's Hearings, the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) "Having Your Say" leaflets are sent to all children and young people notified to attend a Children's Hearing. To raise awareness of these leaflets and to allow workers the opportunity to support children in their completion, an electronic copy of the leaflet has been circulated to partner agencies in Angus. A large proportion of older children submit "Having Your Say" leaflets for consideration at their hearings.

14. CONCLUDING COMMENTS

As noted earlier in the report, the numbers of children on the child protection register continue to be higher in comparison with the national figures. The committee examines the trend information in respect of children on the child protection register quarterly. The main reason for children's names being placed on the child protection register is physical neglect which compares with the national landscape. Underlying factors contributing to children's names being placed on the child protection register continue to be as a result of parental substance misuse, domestic abuse, mental health issues and parenting difficulties.

During 2008/09, committee has continued to develop and consolidate the range of interagency training, policies, procedures and protocols to support staff in their work with children and their families through the work of the Policy, Practice, Continuous Improvement and Training sub committees.

This work has been enhanced by productive partnership working and through the good links which have been developed with other local multi agency partnerships such as Angus Partnership on Domestic Abuse and the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership. The Link-Up Initiative developed under the guidance of the committee and the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership is focusing particularly on ways of improving interagency working regarding the identification and support of children and young people affected by parental substance misuse.

Over the past year much activity has been sustained on effective measures to ensure that members of the public and staff across a wide range of services know when to report a concern and who to contact. This is an area which will continue to remain a high priority for the committee.

All agencies in Angus and the committee have worked hard over the past year to address the findings of the Joint Inspection of Services to Protect Children and Young People in the Angus area. This combined with actions taken in response to local case reviews and self evaluation exercises; consideration of the findings of external reviews and the findings of child protection inspections in other local authority areas has resulted in an extensive quality assurance agenda which will continue to be monitored by the committee through the work of the Continuous Improvement sub committee.

The HMle Follow-Through Inspection undertaken in October 2008 highlighted that through the strong leadership of the child protection committee and the executive group, services had continued to work well together and were active and productive in improving the provision for children in need of protection. As a partnership we will continue to build on the good progress made across the range of services to ensure that the children and young people of Angus continue to receive high quality services to meet their needs, are kept safe and supported to realise their full potential.

The next year will see the committee continuing to provide a strategic overview of partnership improvement actions and developments aimed at improving the outcomes for the children and young people of Angus through our business plan which sets out our key priorities and improvement agenda for the coming year.

15. ANGUS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE - ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

A full account of Angus Child Protection Committee's financial position as at 31 March 2009 is as follows:

Interagency Child Protection Training

	£
Refreshments	2211.34
Equipment	279.97
Commissioned training	1050.00
Room hire	637.77
Consultancy	170.40
	4349.48

Events

	£
BASPCAN	1240.00
SCCPN	50.00
Holyrood conference	240.00
West of Scotland event	75.00
	1605.00

Publications

	£
Public information & promotional materials	2733.50
ACPC leaflets	3590.71
Professional guidance	365.00
Annual Report	1527.00
	8216.21

TOTAL SPEND = £14170.69

£12000 budget was supplemented by funding from Youth Justice and Children's Services and additional partnership funding which totalled £2757.

16. ANGUS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE BUSINESS PLAN 2009/10

1. Public Information

Aim:

CPCs are required to produce and disseminate public information about protecting children and young people. Each CPC will develop, implement and regularly review a communications strategy that includes the following elements:

- To raise awareness of child protection issues within communities and with the general public, including children and young people.
- To promote the work of agencies in protecting children to the public at large.
- To provide information about where members of the public should go if they have concerns about a child or young person and what could happen.

Objective 1. Produce and disseminate public information	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resource do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
Develop a strategic communication strategy with a consequent annual plan for delivery of the strategy and evaluate the impact and effectiveness of this in raising public awareness	Set up and implement a Communication and Public Information working group to progress and co-ordinate the public information strategy	July 2009	Staff time	Communication and Public Information working group in place and delivering the public awareness strategy	Senior Planning Officer Communication and Public Information working group
	Compile a public information database listing information, format currently available, where distributed and review date to ensure all information is up to date and relevant	June 2009	Staff time	Database in place, operational and kept up to date	Senior Planning Officer

Objective 1. Produce and disseminate public information	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resource do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
	Review / update all current CPC information available to the public and users of children's services and gaps identified	Annually	Staff time	Information is reviewed and updated and logged in database	Senior Planning Officer
	Increase public awareness of CPC work by making available the Annual CPC report available on the CPC website	CPC report annually	Staff time	CPC business is published and available to the public via CPC website	Senior Planning Officer
To raise awareness of child protection issues within communities and with the general public, including children and young people	Provide child friendly information for children and young people about what they should do and who to contact should they have a concern about their own or others safety or well-being	December 2009	£2000 Consult with young people re their views on how they would prefer to access information and engage them in producing child friendly information in a number of different formats	Child friendly information is available in different formats for children and young people to access	Senior Planning Officer in conjunction with No 1 for Youth, young people and Volunteer Centre Angus
	Publish and distribute to schools and libraries bookmarks promoting the CPC website and contacts	December 2009	£1000	Bookmarks produced and distributed	Senior Planning Officer

Objective 1. Produce and disseminate public information	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resource do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
	Display child protection promotional materials in public areas, council premises, local businesses promoting CPC leaflets/website	March 2010	£1000 for promotional materials and CPC leaflets	Information available to public in all public access points and local services	Senior Planning Officer
	Assess need to produce other information to the public in different formats and languages to meet the need of equality groups	March 2010	Staff time to undertake a public consultation	Communication strategy identifies what information the public need in different formats and languages	Senior Planning Officer
As part of the information strategy include how the public can be made aware of how referrals are treated and dealt with	Produce a leaflet informing members of the public about what happens when they make a referral about a child	September 2009	£1000 Staff time	Leaflet produced and available to members of the public	Policy Sub committee
	Attend public events throughout Angus promoting the work of the CPC and agencies involved in the protection of children. Provide the public with information on what to do if they have a concern	June - August 2009	£1000 Staff time, promotional materials, information leaflets	Public awareness increased by providing information and advice	Senior Planning Officer, Training Co-ordinator, Child Protection Committee representatives

Objective 1. Produce and disseminate public information	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resource do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
	Hold workshops to publicise the work of the CPC and agencies involved in the protection of children to inform members of the public and professionals about what to do if they have a concern and how this will be responded to and dealt with	March 2010	£2000 Staff time, promotional materials, information leaflets	Members of the public and professionals informed of how to report concerns and how these will be dealt with through information events	Senior Planning Officer, Training Co-ordinator CPC representatives
External and internal publicity campaign to raise awareness of child protection issues providing information on reporting child welfare and child protection concerns	Expand the circulation and distribution of "What to do if you have a concern about a child" leaflet to local facilities and services used by the public. Target internal staff through newsletters, intranet and wage slips	Throughout 2009/10	Promotional materials, information leaflets Staff time Budget	Information widely available in local facilities within Angus and to professional staff across agencies.	Senior Planning Officer
	Raise awareness of Angus CPC and other CP links/information through distribution of mouse mats to schools, colleges, libraries, internet cafes and leisure centres	June 2009	£1000 Mouse mats Staff time	Mouse mats distributed to local establishments for public use providing details of CPC website and other contacts	Senior Planning Officer

Objective 1. Produce and disseminate public information	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resource do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
	Produce other formats to promote basic awareness DVD for members of the public about how to report a concern	December 2009	Staff time	Basic awareness DVD available in other formats to members of the public including child and young persons version	Senior Planning Officer
Ongoing (maintenance) Targets					
To ensure young people and children understand arrangements for visual recording of joint investigative interviews in Angus	Complete leaflet explaining the purpose of visual recording of joint investigative interviews	July 2009	Work commissioned in 2008/09 plan	Leaflet printed and available for children and young people	Policy sub committee
Continue to raise awareness of Angus CPC website to professionals, members of the public and children and young people	Promote CPC website through other internet sites and links, local press, agency newsletters and child protection committee newsletter	Throughout 2009/10	Staff time	Website successfully promoted	Senior Planning Officer
Continue to ensure young people receive information on who to contact if they need help, support and advice	Update contact information in secondary school pupil planners	July 2009	Staff time	Inserts detailing contact numbers of agencies who can help children available in pupil planners	Senior Planning Officer and Angus Council Education Department

Objective 1. Produce and disseminate public information	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resource do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
Primary and secondary parents/carers have access to a resource directory of contacts and information on supports and services if they need help and advice	In conjunction with other partners update and distribute the Parenting Handbook to new P1 and S1 intake	June 2009	Handbooks for 2010 intake will be dependable on funding streams being identified from partner agencies	Handbook available to all parents of school aged children in Angus	Senior Planning Officer in conjunction with other partner agencies
Continue to support the national Child Protection Line	Display Child Line information on promotional materials and CPC website	March 2010	Promotional materials Staff time	Child Protection Line promoted to the public and agencies	Senior Planning Officer

2. Continuous Improvement

Aim:

CPCs have a key role to play in the continuous improvement of child protection work. A number of functions relate directly to this role including:

2.1 Policies, procedures and protocols

2.2 Management information

2.3 Quality Assurance

2.4 Promotion of good practice

2.5 Training and staff development

2.1 Policies, procedures and protocols

Aim:

- Ensure constituent agencies have in place their own up to date policies and procedures.
- Regularly develop, disseminate and review interagency policies and procedures.
- Ensure that protocols are developed around key issues where there is agreement that this is required.

Objective 2.1 Policies, procedures and protocols	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
New Priorities					
IRD form to be reviewed and updated. Reference to the new medical protocol and Paediatric Snr Nurse CP involvement to be included in the revised form. Developments in the arrangements for carrying out medical examinations to be included in the Interagency guidelines for professional staff.	Short life Working group to take forward review of IRD processes and procedures to take cognisance of the new medical protocol and include revised updates in the Interagency Guidelines for Professional Staff.	June 2009	Staff time	IRD form and Inter-Agency guidance updated.	Policy Sub-committee IRD Working Group
	Implement Scottish Government Guidance on procedures relating to children suspected of being trafficked.	October 2009	Staff time	Procedure implemented and contained within the Inter-agency Guidelines for Professional Staff	Policy Sub-committee
Evaluate the effectiveness of the Early Screening Group pilot and impact on	Report back to CPC with proposals re development of this approach on early	September 2009	Staff time	Early Screening Group evaluated and outcomes measured	Senior Planning Officer

Objective 2.1 Policies, procedures and protocols	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
children and their families on early intervention	identification of need and outcomes including resources				
Evaluate and review the Pre-Birth Resource Allocation Meeting and its impact on outcome for children and families	Report back to child protection committee on outcomes and proposals re PRAM review	December 2009	Staff time	Outcomes identified and evaluated	Senior Planning Officer
	Produce a leaflet for both professionals and the public about the PRAM	September 2009	Staff time	Leaflets produced	Policy sub committee
Agree policy on implementing a Parental Substance Misuse Risk Assessment tool across all substance misuse services to reflect GOPR protocol	Implement the Parental Substance Risk Assessment tool for use by all substance misuse services across Angus to identify and assess children who are affected by parental substance use	March 2010	Staff time	All substance misuse services using the Parental Substance Misuse Risk Assessment tool	ADP/CPC
Explore the possibility of expanding the use of e-Care/Child Protection Messaging facility to implement an on-line child protection register	Agree interagency resources, protocols and procedures to implement an on-line child protection register	March 2010	Finance Staff time	On-line child protection register implemented	Senior Planning Officer

Objective 2.1 Policies, procedures and protocols	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
Ongoing (Maintenance) Targets					
To ensure up to date agency and interagency policies, procedures and protocols are in place and disseminated	Review and disseminate agency and interagency policies, procedures and protocols	Ongoing as required	Staff time	Consistency in agency and interagency policies, procedures and protocols in Angus	Policy sub-committee
To review and update, in the light of new legislation, national and local guidance and case review findings, Angus Child Protection Committee Interagency Guidelines for Professional Staff	Review and keep up to date Angus Child Protection Committee Interagency Guidelines	Annually	Staff time	Up to date Interagency Guidelines in place	Policy sub committee
To maintain an overview of all action plans being progressed through the Continuous Improvement sub committee	Quarterly reporting of the Continuous Improvement sub committee on progress against the action plans	Quarterly	Staff Time	Action plans are progressed and completed	Child Protection Committee Continuous Improvement sub committee

2.2 Management information

- To have an overview of information relating to children and young people on the Child Protection Register
- To receive regular management information reports, which include analysis of trends
- To identify and address implication of these reports for services
- To ensure that these reports inform the Interagency Child Protection Strategy

Objective 2.2 Management Information	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
Analysis of trend information to inform agency and interagency strategic and operational developments and policy initiatives, including analysis of training needs	Provide statistical reports to Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and Angus Child Protection Committee on child protection and implications for strategic and operational service delivery	Quarterly to the Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and Angus Child Protection Committee	Staff time	Trend information used to inform the interagency child protection strategy	Senior Planning Officer
Strategically review the use and success of "Viewpoint" with children and young people and identification on how "Viewpoint" can be expanded and developed	Evaluate "Viewpoint" and its effectiveness of obtaining the views of children and young people who are subject to child protection plans	December 2009	Staff time	Use and success of "Viewpoint" analysed and findings evaluated	Senior Planning Officer

2.3 Quality Assurance

- Agree, implement and review multi-agency quality assurance mechanisms for interagency work, including auditing against the Framework for Standards.
- Ensure that these quality assurance mechanisms directly contribute to the continuous improvement of services to protect children and young people.
- Contribute to the preparation for the Inspection process nationally and in relation to the inspection of their area.
- Consider the findings and lessons from the Inspection process nationally and in relation to the inspection of their area.
- Report on the outcome of these activities, and make recommendations, to the Chief Officer Group, who are accountable overall for the quality of services including child protection systems.

Objective 2.3 Quality Assurance	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
New Priorities					
Support continuous improvement within the context of interagency provision using the national performance framework "How well do we protect children and meet their needs" to evaluate the quality of services to protect children	Identify strengths and areas for improvement through self-evaluation within and between services, using the quality indicators in the national performance framework to evaluate the quality of our work to protect children	Ongoing through out 2009/10	Staff time	Baseline audit identifying areas for improvement established, action plan developed setting clear and tangible priorities and necessary actions progressed	Continuous Improvement sub committee

Objective 2.3 Quality Assurance	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
	Gather effective evidence to support reliable self-evaluation and for external scrutiny through interagency quality assurance mechanisms via -performance data; -survey of stakeholders and service user views; -direct observation -auditing of practice; and -assessment of risk	Ongoing throughout 2009/10	Staff time	Evidence available to support reliable self-evaluation processes across all agencies	Continuous Improvement sub committee
Update the Interagency Audit Protocol to reflect revised guidance of "How well do we protect children and meet their needs?"	In light of the revised framework, review and update the Interagency Audit Protocol	September 2009	Staff time	Protocol for interagency audit by child protection committee updated to reflect changes to the revised national performance framework	Continuous Improvement sub committee
Ongoing (Maintenance) Targets					
Consider the findings and lessons from the inspection process both nationally and locally, findings from significant case reviews and local case reviews and implement the recommendations and actions to improve services and outcomes for children	Implement, monitor and report on progress to the Angus Executive Group for Child Protection and Angus Child Protection Committee in respect of outstanding actions within the HMle follow through action plan and the integrated action plan	Quarterly	Staff time	Action plans reviewed and necessary actions progressed and completed, checking against what has actually been delivered	Continuous Improvement sub committee

2.4 Promotion of good practice

- Have in place mechanisms to identify and disseminate lessons from past and current practice, including systematic reviews of significant cases.
- Ensure that these lessons directly inform training and staff development.
- Identify opportunities to share these lessons more widely.

Objective 2.4 Promotion of good practice	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
Cases are considered, good practice is developed and strengthened and areas for improvement are identified	Hold interagency seminar and de-briefs on commonality of issues across agencies, share good practice findings and how we can focus on our capacity to improve on outcomes for children	Ongoing	Staff time	Seminar held, good practice identified and areas for improvement addressed	Training sub committee

2.5 Training and staff development

- Have an overview of single agency child protection training and consider the implications for interagency training.
- Plan, review and quality assure interagency training and development activities.
- Have in place, and review at least annually, a programme for interagency child protection training.
- Ensure relevant, effective and consistent interagency training is provided for practitioners, managers, non-statutory agencies and for CPC members themselves.

Objective 2.5 Training and Staff Development	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
Inter-agency training identified and delivered by Angus Child Protection Committee for staff and volunteers working directly or indirectly in the protection of children	In consultation with Angus Child Protection Committee members identify training needs and design, deliver or commission training appropriately. Rerun previous courses where need and demand are identified. Develop new courses as appropriate and agreed	Ongoing	Staff time and training budget	Training delivered and evaluated	Angus Child Protection Committee Training sub committee
	Agree the content of Pan Tayside Child Protection Training Consortium commissioned training for 2009/2010	September 2009	£12,000 per annum shared costs with Dundee and Perth & Kinross Child Protection Committees	Training delivered	Pan Tayside Child Protection Training Consortium

Objective 2.5 Training and Staff Development	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
	Jointly consider the training needs of staff who carry out child protection investigative interviews and provide necessary training to meet these needs	Ongoing	Staff time	Training needs agreed and training delivered	Tayside Police, Angus, Dundee and Perth & Kinross Council Social Work Departments Strategy Group
	Develop material to show the processes of ICRs and SCRs for staff who may become involved in them	March 2010	Staff time and training budget	Materials produced	Training sub committee Practice sub committee
	Develop Angus Child Protection Committee Trainers Network to support and facilitate the delivery of training on an agency and interagency basis	March 2010	Staff time	Training delivered within agencies and on an interagency basis	Training Co-ordinator

Objective 2.5 Training and Staff Development	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
	Identify training delivered and address existing gaps in single and interagency child protection training using the Scottish Government Child Protection Training and Learning Framework	Ongoing	Staff time	Match outcomes against framework	Collation – Training Co-ordinator Framework – Training sub committee
	Continue to implement the evaluation tool to measure the impact of training on practice	Ongoing	Staff time Survey Monkey online questionnaire	Collate questionnaire responses and act on information gathered	Training Co-ordinator
	Continue to co-ordinate child protection committee training with agency and cross partnership training	Ongoing	Staff time	Partnership training calendar developed	Training Co-ordinator
Roles and responsibilities awareness raising briefing for Elected Members	Develop and jointly deliver a briefing session on interagency working in the protection of children	March 2010	Staff time	Briefing session delivered	Training Co-ordinator

3. Strategic Planning

Aim:

The Child Protection Committee is the key local body in terms of the planning of child protection work. This needs to be done in conjunction with other planning mechanisms and priorities, in particular integrated children's services planning and Community Planning. The contribution of the Child Protection Committee to strategic planning falls into the following categories:

3.1 Communication and Co-operation

3.2 Planning and Connections

3.3 Listening to Children and Young People

3.1 Communication and Co-operation

Aim:

- Effective communication and co-operation, both within and between professions and agencies, is essential to the protection of children.

Objective 3.1 Communication and co-operation	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
To ensure there is effective communication between the child protection committee and other relevant bodies	Senior Planning Officer will link with counter parts in other CPCs in Scotland and attend the quarterly Lead Officer and Chairs Group Meetings	Ongoing	Staff time	Work of other CPCs has assisted in progressing the work of Angus Child Protection Committee	Senior Planning Officer
	CPC members are responsible for reporting the work of the CPC to agency and interagency partnerships of which they are members	Ongoing	Staff time	The work of the CPC is reported to agency and interagency partnerships	All CPC members

3.2 Planning and Connections:

- There is clarity about the CPC links into other multi agency partnerships and structure

Objective 3.2 Planning and connections	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do this?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer / Group
To maintain effective links into other multi agency partnerships and structures and identify issues where joint working would be beneficial	Link with Adult Protection Committee to identify joint working benefits with CPC	Ongoing 2009/10	Staff time	Links with Adult Protection Committee strengthened	Senior Planning Officer
Ensure child protection is represented in the Single Outcome Agreement and other strategic plans	Senior Planning Officer and CPC contributes to the Single Outcome Agreement and other strategic plans	April 2009	Staff time	CPC involved in the development of the Single Outcome Agreement and links to the CPC business plan	CPC members Senior Planning Officer
Ensure that the child protection agenda is reflected in the Integrated Plan for Children & Young People's Services	Senior Planning Officer and CPC contributes to the review of the Integrated Plan and development of new plan with JSSU	April 2009	Staff time	Involvement in the review of the Integrated Plan which reflects the child protection agenda	CPC members Senior Planning Officer
	New members of the CPC will receive induction regarding their responsibility on the CPC	As new members join	Staff time	Members of the CPC are clear regarding their role and responsibility.	The agency nominating the representative and the Senior Planning Officer

3.3 Involving Children and young people

Objective 3.3 Listening to Children and Young People	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do it?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer/Group
Ensure the work of the child protection committee is informed by the perspective of children and young people	Continue to Pilot "Viewpoint" (an interactive online approach to seeking and collating children's views)	Ongoing 2009/10	Staff time	Children's views are presented at child protection case conferences and this information is collated and considered by Angus Child Protection Committee	Viewpoint Implementation Group and Angus Child Protection Committee
	Evaluate "Viewpoint" and its effectiveness in obtaining the views of children and young people	March 2010	Staff time	Report available regarding the views of children and young people' about "Viewpoint"	Viewpoint Steering Group and Senior Planning Officer
Ensure that children and young people are involved and consulted on the planning and delivery of services to keep them safe	Consult with children and young people through involvement of clients right officer, youth organisations, focus groups and children's services	Ongoing 2009/10	Staff time	Children and young peoples views are sought and influence decision making processes and service delivery	Child Protection Committee members Senior Planning Officer

Objective 3.3 Listening to Children and Young People	What are we going to do?	When will we do it by?	What resources do we need to do it?	How will we know we have done it?	Lead Officer/Group
	Pilot exit interviews throughout children's services to gather the views of children, young people and families about the services provided	August 2009	Staff time	Information used to effectively evaluate and improve the quality of services to children and their families	Continuous Improvement sub committee
Identification of best practice examples of methods to engage with children and young people	Through other CPC area inspection report findings	Ongoing 2009/10	Staff time	Work with children and young people continues to be informed and enhanced through best practice examples	Senior Planning Officer

Membership of Angus Executive Group for Child Protection, Angus Child Protection Committee and sub committees

**ANGUS EXECUTIVE GROUP FOR CHILD PROTECTION
MEMBERSHIP 2008/09**

Name	Address
David Sawers Chairperson	Chief Executive, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
Gordon McIntosh	Senior Manager (Children & Families), Social Work and Health, Ravenswood, Forfar
Dr Robert Peat	Director of Social Work and Health, St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
Kate Mearns	Development Manager (Child Protection), St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar (April – December 2008)
Sharon Robertson	Acting Development Manager (Child Protection), St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar (January – March 2009)
Jim Anderson	Director of Education, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
Chief Superintendent Alan Campbell	Tayside Police, West High Street, Forfar
Detective Chief Inspector Graham McMillan	Tayside Police, West High Street, Forfar
Caroline Selkirk	Director of Change and Innovation and Child Health Commissioner, NHS Tayside, Kings Cross Hospital, Clepington Road, Dundee
Dr Joy Mires	Lead Clinician Child Protection, NHS Tayside, Armitstead Child Development Centre, 94 Monifieth Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee
Susan Wilson	General Manager, Angus Community Health Partnership, St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar

ANGUS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – 2008/09

Name	Address
Gordon McIntosh Chairperson	Senior Manager (Children & Families), Social Work and Health, Ravenswood, New Road, Forfar
Lindsay Ferguson Vice Chairperson	Nurse Consultant Child Protection, Lochee Health Centre, 1 Marshall Street, Lochee, Dundee, DD2 3BR
Det Chief Insp Graham McMillan	Tayside Police, West High Street, Forfar
Kate Mearns Chairperson Policy sub committee	Development Manager (Child Protection), St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar (April – December 2008)
Sharon Robertson Chairperson Policy sub committee	Acting Development Manager, St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar (January – March 2009)
Roger Bromage Chairperson Training sub committee	Training Officer, Social Work and Health, Training Section, Bruce House, Arbroath
Veronica McCall Chairperson Practice sub committee	Independent School Representative, Rossie Secure Accommodation Service, by Montrose
Jennifer McKay	Training Co-ordinator (Child Protection), St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
George Bowie	Service Manager (Children & Families), Social Work and Health, Academy Lane, Arbroath
Audrey Jenkins	Senior Education Psychologist, Montrose Road Centre, Forfar, DD8 2HT
Dr Joy Mires	Associate Specialist and Lead Clinician Child Protection Dundee and Angus, Seymour Lodge, 259 Perth Road, Dundee, DD2 1JP
Melvyn Lynch	Head Teacher, Forfar Academy, Taylor Street, Forfar
Rosie Campbell	Authority Reporter, SCRA, Merrin House, East Abbey Street, Arbroath
John Whamond	Senior Nurse, Child Protection, Angus NHS, Bellevue House, Springfield Terrace, Arbroath

Bill Strachan	Senior Service Manager, Chief Executive's Department, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
Andy Homfray	Children's Panel Chairman, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
Sharon Laing	Welfare Officer, RM Condor, Arbroath
Iain Turnbull	Development Manager, Drug and Alcohol Action Team, St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
Elisabeth Miller	Procurator Fiscal, Procurator Fiscal's Office, 15 Hill Street, Arbroath
Donna Brown	Procurator Fiscal Depute, Sheriff Court, Market Street, Forfar
Heather Duncan	MAPPA Liaison Officer, Housing Department, William Wallace House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar, DD8 1WH
Charlotte Douglas	Service Manager, Angus NHS, Whitehills Health and Community Care Centre, Station Road, Forfar
Ron Johnston	Sports & Development Services Manager, The Yard Queenswell Road, Forfar, DD8 3JA
Gillian Strachan	Principal Officer, School and Family Support Service (SFSS), Montrose Road Centre, Montrose Road, Forfar
Isobel Townsend	Service Manager, Criminal Justice, 9 Fergus Square, Arbroath
Susan Reid	Angus Voluntary Sector Representative, The Web Project, 29b Canmore Street, Forfar
Mark Watson	Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator, St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar
Evelyn Allardyce	Chair APODA, St Margaret's House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar

Angus Executive Group for Child Protection
Chair: David Sawers (Chief Executive)

Angus Child Protection Committee
Chair: Gordon McIntosh (Social Work and Health)

Angus Child Protection Committee
Vice Chair: Lindsay Ferguson (NHS Tayside)

Policy sub-committee
Chair: Sharon Robertson
(Acting Development Manager,
Child Protection)

Audrey Jenkins, Senior
Educational Psychologist

D.S. Fraser Mitchell, Family
Protection Unit, Tayside Police

John Whamond, Senior Nurse
Child Protection, Angus NHS

George Bowie, Service Manager,
Social Work & Health

Eunice McLennan, Senior
Community Assessment & Review
Officer, Social Work & Health

Charlotte Douglas, Service
Manager, Angus NHS

Heather Duncan, MAPPa Liaison
Officer, Neighbourhood Services

+ co-options as necessary

Practice sub-committee
Chair: Veronica McCall
Rossie Secure Accommodation

John Whamond, Senior Nurse
Child Protection, Angus NHS

Dr Joy Mires, Associate Specialist
& Lead Clinician Child Protection
Dundee & Angus

Sandra McKenna, Senior School
and Family Support Worker,
Education

D.S. Fraser Mitchell, Family
Protection Unit, Tayside Police

Elizabeth Ross, Senior Community
Assessment & Review Officer,
Social Work & Health

Sharon Robertson, Acting
Development Manager (Child
Protection), Social Work and
Health

Heather Duncan, MAPPa Liaison
Officer, Neighbourhood Services

+ co-options as necessary

Training sub-committee
Chair: Roger Bromage
(Social Work and Health)

John Whamond, Senior Nurse
Child Protection, Angus NHS

Davina Campbell, Senior
Community Learning &
Development Worker, Education

D.S. Fraser Mitchell, Family
Protection Unit, Tayside
Police

Sharon Robertson, Training Co-
ordinator, NHS Tayside

Fiona Robertson, Depute Head
Teacher, Brechin High School

Susan Reid, The Web Project

Jennifer McKay, Training Co-
ordinator (Child Protection)

Heather Duncan, MAPPa Liaison
Officer, Neighbourhood Services

+ co-options as necessary

Continuous Improvement
sub-committee
Chair: Paul Meighan
(Education Department)

George Bowie, Service Manager,
Social Work & Health

Heather Duncan, MAPPa Liaison
Officer, Neighbourhood Services

Frances Hynd, Team Leader,
Community Mental Health Team

D.S. Fraser Mitchell, Family Protection
Unit, Tayside Police

DCI Graham McMillan, Tayside Police

John McLean, Operations Manager,
Tayside Substance Misuse Services

Audrey Jenkins, Senior Educational
Psychologist

Ron Johnston, Sports & Development
Services Manager

Lindsay Ferguson, Nurse Consultant
Child Protection

Lorraine Turnbull, Prin Officer Quality
& Improvement, Social Work & Health

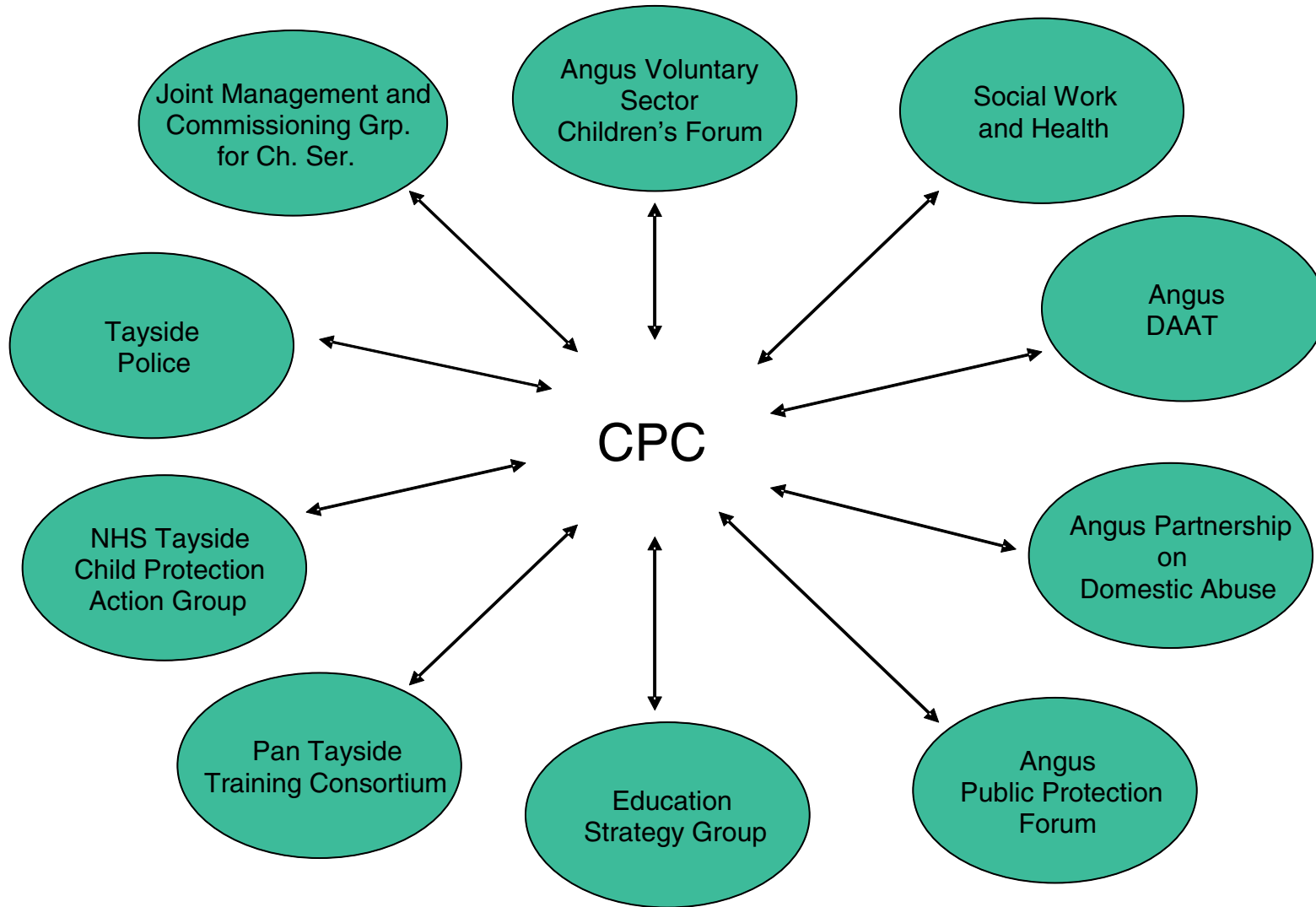
Sharon Robertson, Acting
Development Manager (Child
Protection), Soc Work & Health

Rosie Campbell, Authority Reporter,
SCRA

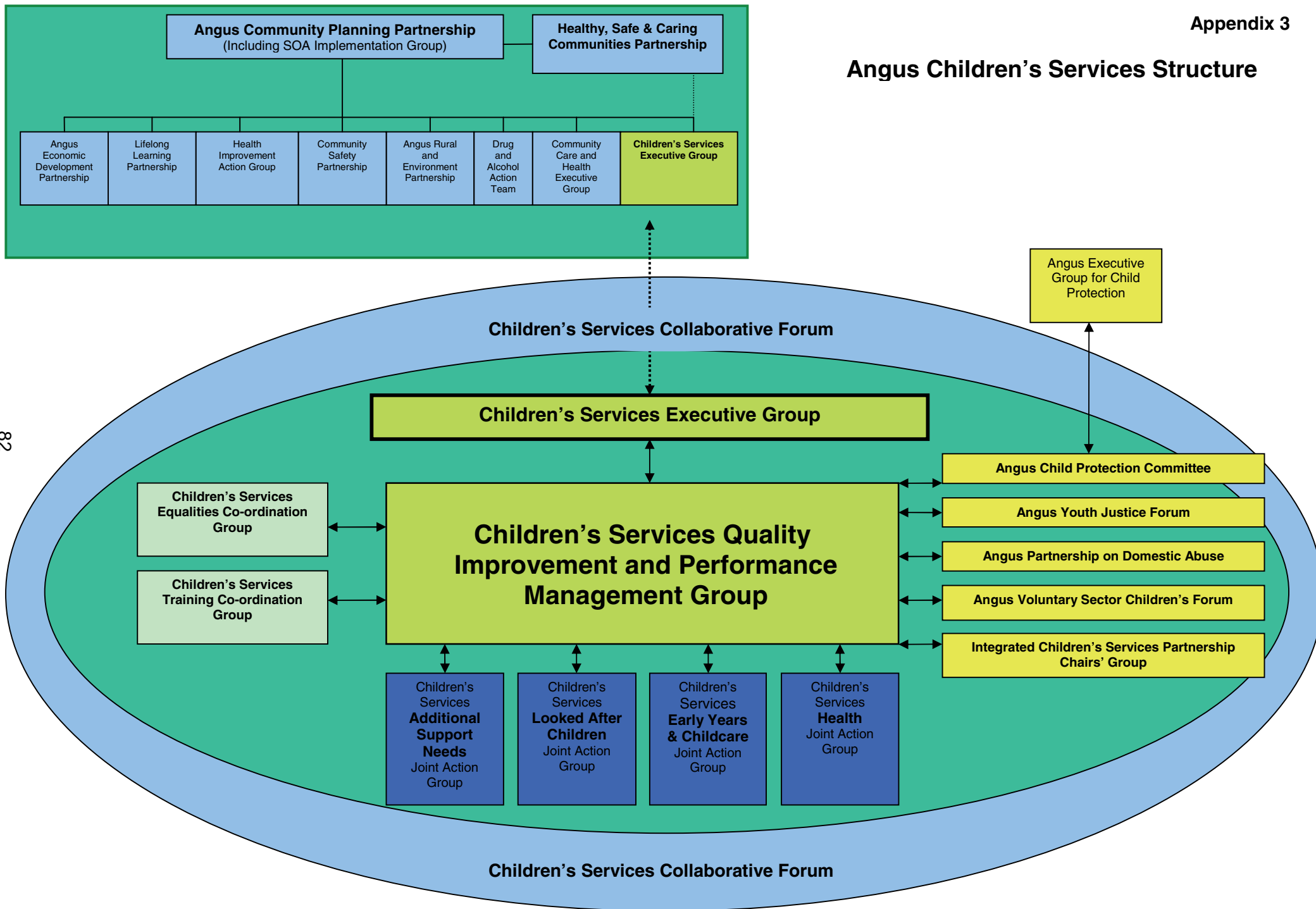
Isobel Townsend, Service Manager,
Criminal Justice

+ co-options as necessary

Interface between Angus CPC, Agencies and Local Partnerships

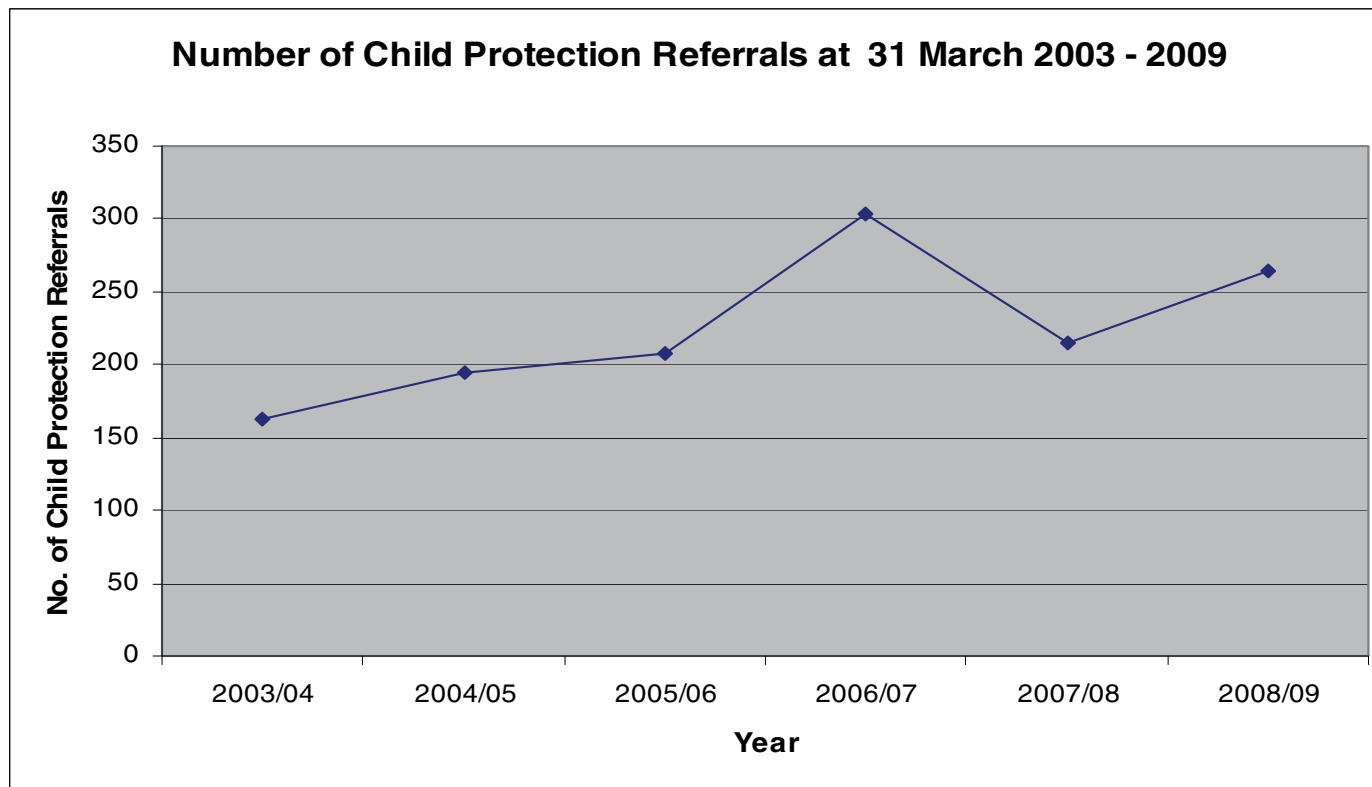


Angus Children's Services Structure



Angus Child Protection Trend Information

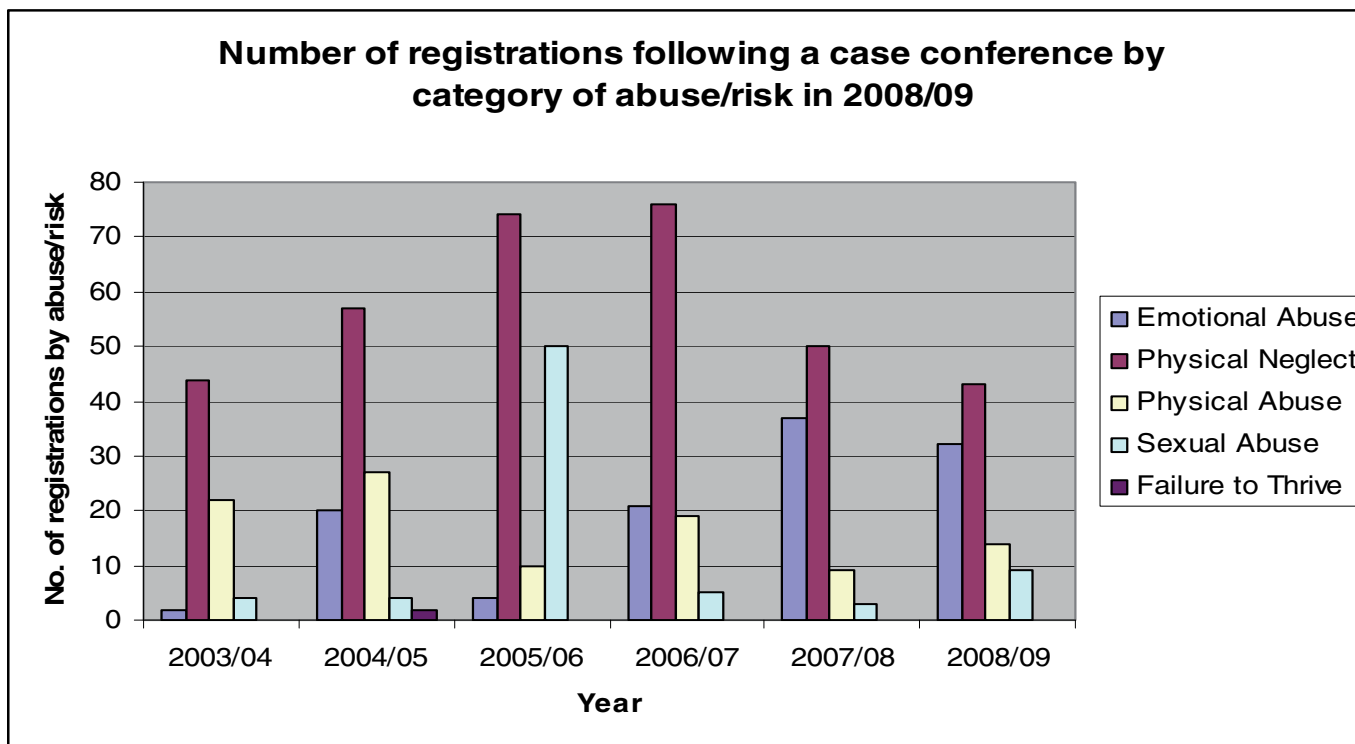
Chart 1



Number of Child Protection Referrals at 31 March 2003 - 2009

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total	152	192	207	304	223	264

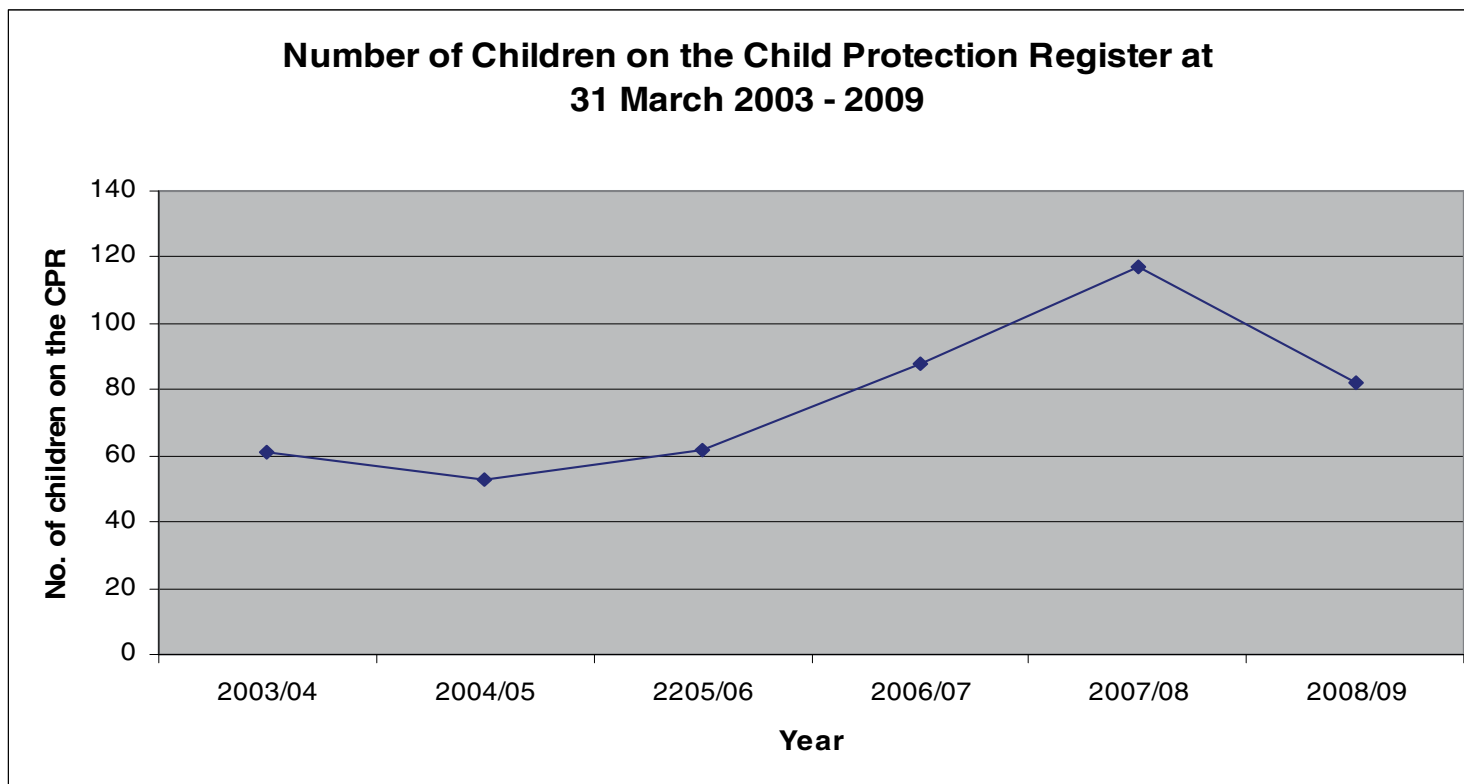
Chart 2



Child Protection Investigations

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Emotional Abuse	2	20	4	21	37	32
Physical Neglect	44	57	74	76	50	43
Physical Abuse	22	27	10	19	9	14
Sexual Abuse	4	4	50	5	3	9
Failure to Thrive	0	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	72	110	138	121	99	98

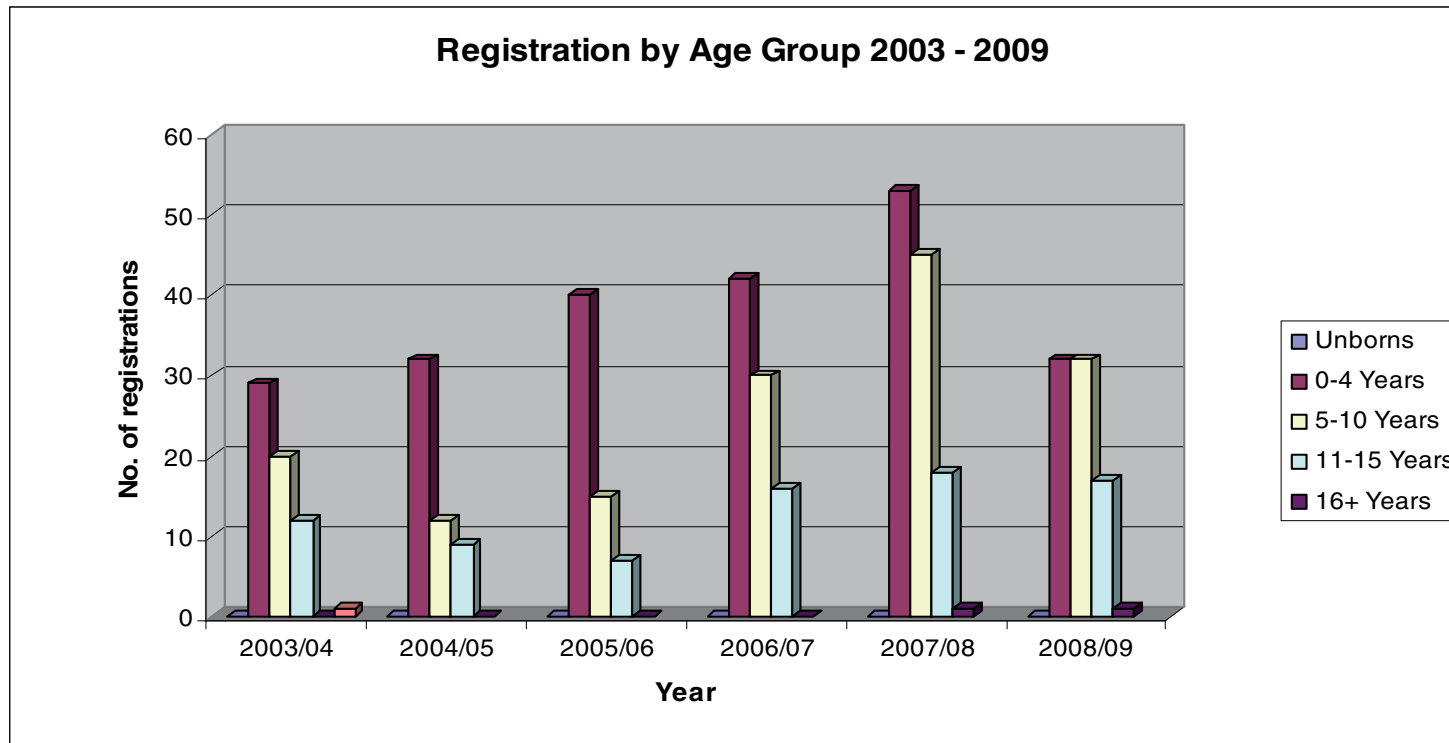
Chart 3



Number of Children on Child Protection Register at 31 March 2003 – 2009

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
TOTAL	61	53	62	88	117	82

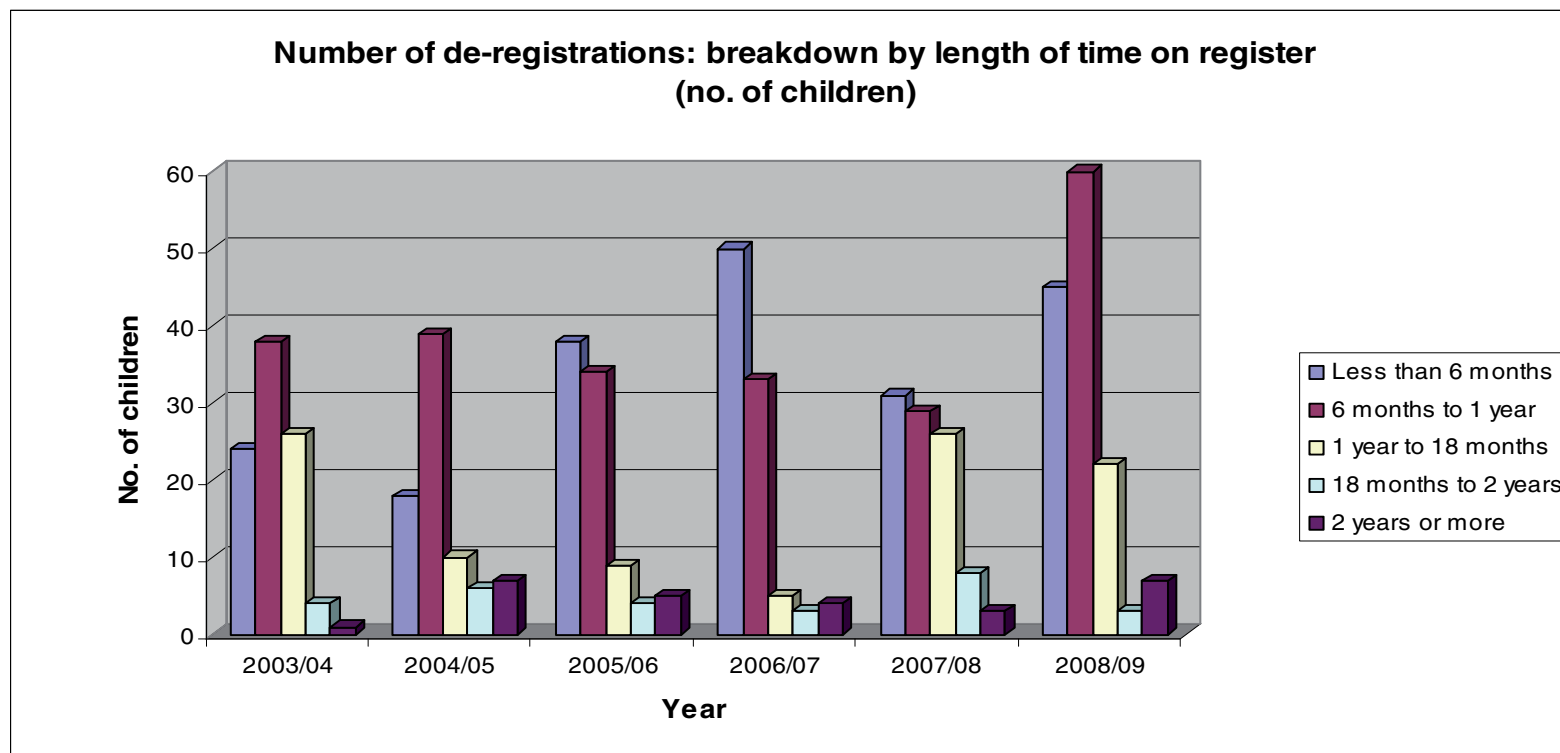
Chart 4



Number of Children on the Child Protection Register by Age Group 2003 -2009

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Unborns	0	0	0	0	0	0
0-4 Years	29	32	40	42	53	32
5-10 Years	20	12	15	30	45	32
11-15 Years	12	9	7	16	18	17
16+ Years	0	0	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	61	53	62	88	117	82

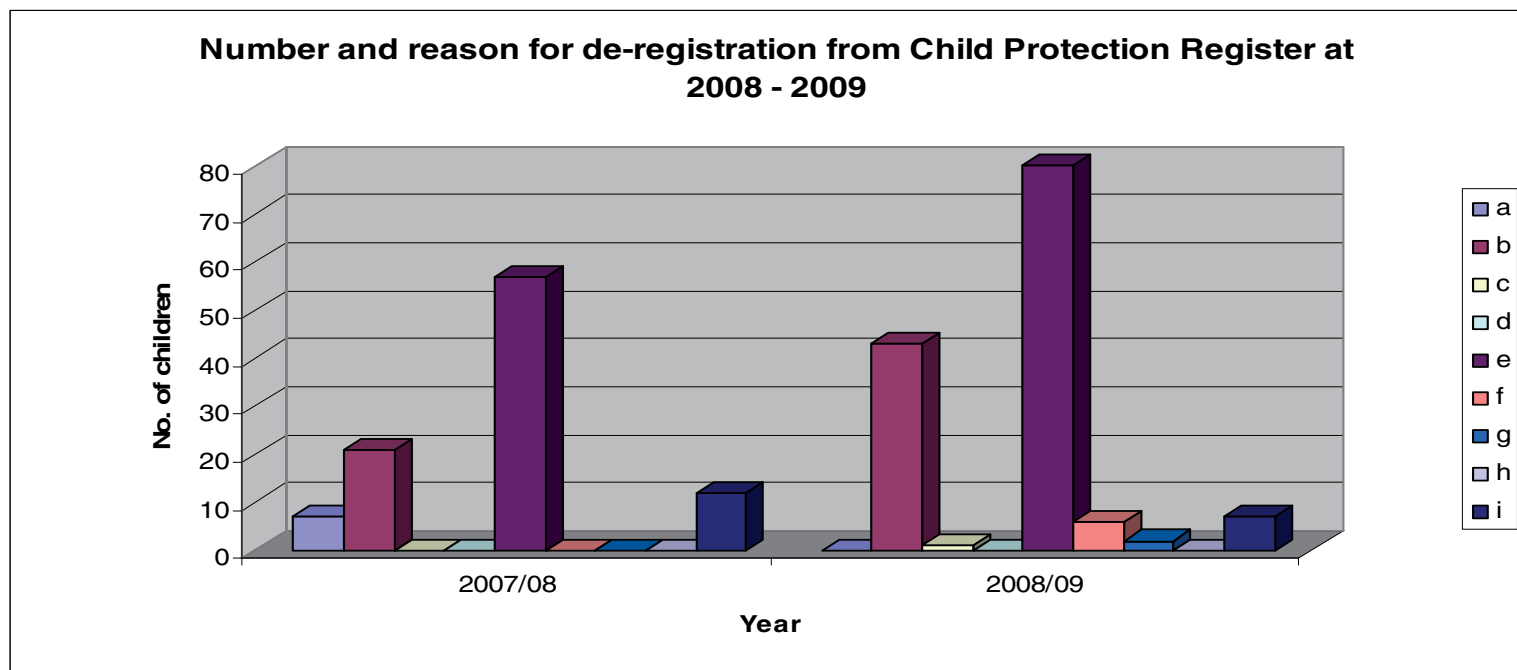
Chart 5



Number of De-registrations: Breakdown by length of time on register (No. of children) at 31 March 2003 - 31 March 2009

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Less than 6 months	24	18	38	50	31	45
6 months to 1 year	38	39	34	33	29	60
1 year to 18 months	26	10	9	5	26	22
18 months to 2 years	4	6	4	3	8	3
2 years or more	1	7	5	4	3	7
TOTAL	93	80	90	95	97	137

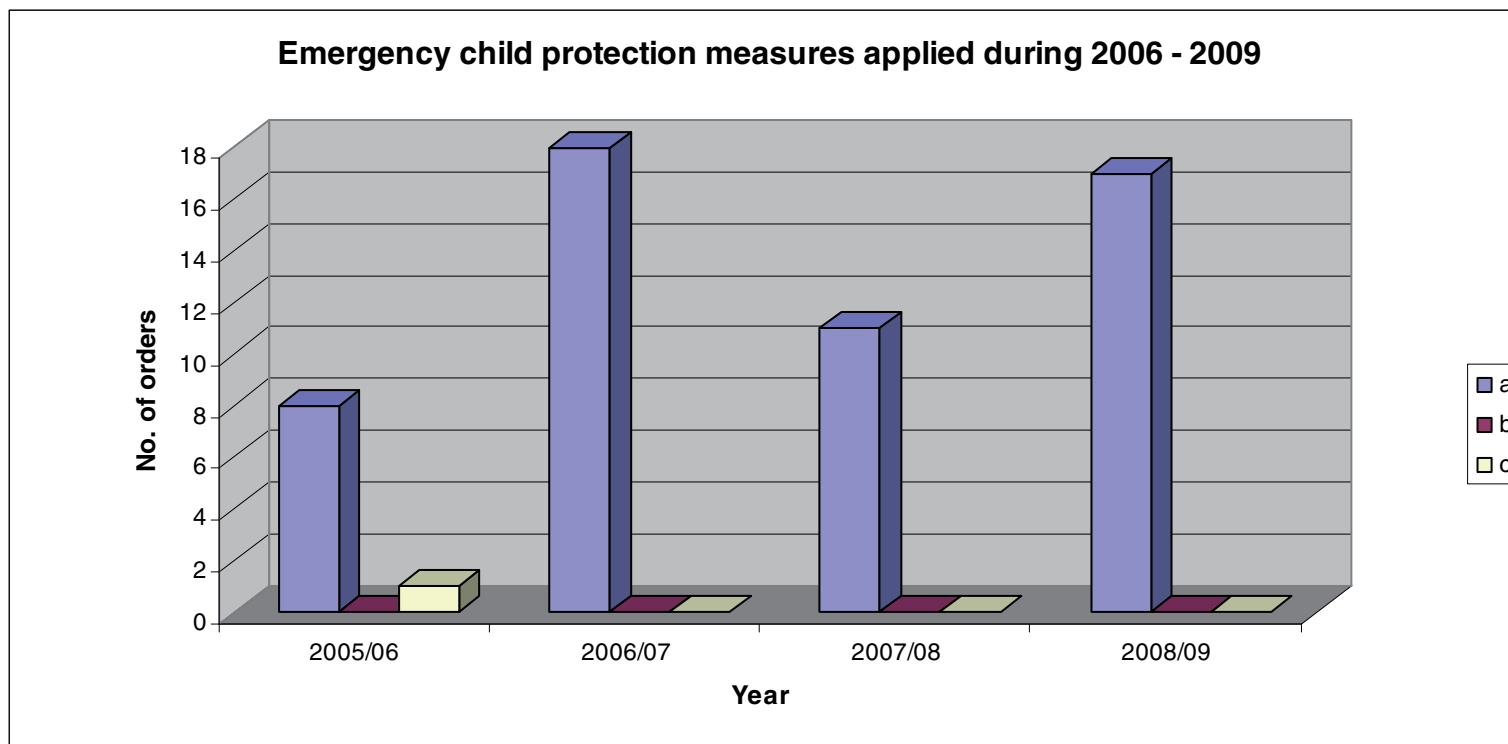
Chart 6



Number and Reason for De-registration from Child Protection Register at 2008 - 2009

		2007/08	2008/09
Child taken into care & risk reduced	a	7	0
Child with other carers	b	21	43
Child died	c	0	1
Removal perpetrator	d	0	0
Improved home situation	e	57	80
Reduced risk (other)	f	0	6
Child automatically de-registered because of age	g	0	2
Child moved away - no continued risk	h	0	0
Child transferred to another local authority	i	12	7
TOTAL		97	139

Chart 7



Emergency Child Protection Measures Applied During 2006 – 2009

		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Child Protection Orders	a	8	18	11	17
Child Assessment Orders	b	0	0	0	0
Exclusion Orders	c	1	0	1 on interim basis	0
TOTAL		9	18	11	17

acpc@angus.gov.uk