

REPORT TO: Policy Performance Review Committee

MEETING DATE: 27 January 2015

BY: Chief Social Work Officer / Head of Adult Wellbeing and
Head of Children's Wellbeing

SUBJECT: Child and Adult Protection
Half year update to Elected Members
April 2014 to September 2014

1 PURPOSE

This report gives an overview of the half yearly statistical performance information for Child and Adult Protection for Quarters 1 and 2, 2014/15.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS



- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- a) Note the contents of this report

3 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 In September 2014 a report as presented to PPRC which gave an overview of the statistical performance information for Child and Adult Protection for Quarter 4, 2013/14 and a summary report for the full year 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.
- 3.2 It was agreed that a half yearly update report with regard to Quarter 1 and Quarter 2, 2014/15 would be provided at PPRC in January 2015, with the Public Protection Annual Report for 2014/15 being presented to PPRC in June 2015.
- 3.3 This report therefore includes statistics for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 2014/15 and summarises and comments on the main themes over the half year 01 April 2014 – 30 September 2014. The data is also set within a historical context showing annual trends since 2010/11.

4 EAST LoTHIAN CHILD PROTECTION SUMMARY

4.1 Trends and Patterns: April – September 2014/15

Measure	Short term trend	Long term trend	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Q1 2014 / 15	Q2 2014 / 15	Q3 2014 / 15	Q4 2014 / 15	Annual (average)
No of children on Child Protection Register (CPR) in East Lothian			53	66	53	59	65	63	-	-	64
			2013/14 (as at 31/03/14)			Quarter 1 (Apr-Jun)		Quarter 2 (Jul-Sep)			
No of children on CPR			59			65		63			
No of families on the CPR			35			35		33			
Rate per 1,000 on CPR (0-15 pop)			3.1			3.5		3.4			
No of IRD's within quarter			113			86		67			
No of children with repeat IRD's (within 15 months)			34 (38%)			31 (36%)		12 (18%)			
% Repeat registrations on CPR in quarter (within 12 months)			3%			2%		1%			
% of ICPCCC registered within quarter			77%			90%		100%			

- 4.2 National statistics tell us that in East Lothian, there were significantly more child protection IRDs undertaken than the national average and slightly less number of case conferences held.
- 4.3 Over Quarter 1 and 2 2014/15 East Lothian has seen a decrease in the number of child protection inter agency referral discussions (IRDs) undertaken. The IRD overview group, however, report that the cases presented to this group on a fortnightly basis are generally appropriate.
- 4.4 Over the two quarters, East Lothian has seen an increase in the number of children placed on the child protection register (CPR). However, it should be noted that a high percent of the children being taken to case conference are registered, which evidences appropriate thresholds and decision making at the earlier IRD stage.
- 4.5 Proposals from this evaluation reflect the previously identified need to focus on the threshold for intervention and supports the work underway to support professionals to focus on thresholds for intervention with a view to achieving proportionate responses and in turn the most appropriate outcomes for children and their families. This work is due to be completed and implemented into practice by the end of January 2015.

4.6 A multi agency evaluation is currently underway in relation to children who re-registered on the CPR within a 12 month period. This evaluation will also begin to consider how effectively we are engaging with families at the stage 3 intervention level. Despite the numbers in East Lothian being low the GIRFEC and Child Protection Quality Improvement sub-group agreed to go ahead to consider any specific learning points.

4.7 Getting it Right for Children and Families affected by parental problem alcohol and drug use training

Following an evaluation of the training that has taken place amendments have been agreed to the current training programme. A briefing with a link to the GIRFEC toolkit will also be distributed to all professionals who have undertaken the training to date. A further two training dates have been identified for December and January. But thereafter, it is proposed to put further training on hold until the introduction of the named person across East and Midlothian when refresher training will be offered.

5. EAST LOTHIAN ADULT PROTECTION SUMMARY

5.1 Trends and Patterns: April – September 2014/15

Measure	Short term trend	Long term trend	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Q1 2014 / 15	Q2 2014 / 15	Q3 2014 / 15	Q4 2014 / 15	Annual
Referrals	↑	↓	941	1065	1144	65	103	-	-	168*
Investigations	↓	↓				40	26	-	-	66
Duty to Inquire	N/A	N/A	307	363	271	For comparison only				
IRD	↓	—	145	132	102	30	21	-	-	51
Case Conferences**	↓	↓	95	141	64	15	14	-	-	29
Professionals meetings	↓	↓	-	40	21	5	1	-	-	6
No of open cases	↑	↑	56	48	47	35	39	-	-	74
Protection Orders	—	↓	5	11	4	0	0	-	-	0
No of Large Scale Investigations	↓	—	7	6	2	1	0	-	-	1

** 2011/12 figures include Professionals Meetings. 2014/15 figure includes reviews.

- 5.2 In 2013-2014 Scottish Government identified five National Priorities within Adult Support and Protection. One of the priorities was to develop a National Data Set which would provide a template that would enable the collection of national data. The National Data set has impacted on how we collect and report on data and as a result there has been a significant reduction in the number of referrals because we are now screening Police referrals *into* Adult Support and Protection. The other change is that we are reporting the number of investigations rather than inquiries.
- 5.3 In Quarters 1 and 2, East Lothian Adult Wellbeing received 168 referrals for adults “known or believed” to be at risk of harm, Of these, the largest number of referrals were received from “other organisations” which are largely made up of Private and Voluntary Sector. It is thought that the rise in referrals from this sector is linked to Level 1 learning and development sessions of which there have been 5 sessions in total between January and October 2014 with 135 attendees mainly made up from the third sector.
- 5.4 Of all referrals received 39% (66), progressed to Investigation, and from these there were 51 (77%) Inter-agency Referral Discussions. Although there was a significant decrease in the number of Inter- Agency Referral discussions in Quarter 2, over the period, the numbers are broadly in line with last year.
- 5.5 With the implementation of the National Data Set, it is thought that, there appears to be more accuracy in the total number of adults **believed** to be at risk of harm that are being referred due to changes to Police Scotland’s internal systems. Although a significant number of the referrals received do not progress to investigation. The main primary source of harm continues to be financial harm, closely followed by psychological harm. Females across the lifespan appear to be at greater risk of harm of the total number of investigations undertaken, in comparison to their male counterparts. Analysis of the data collected shows the cumulative number of females for whom an Adult Support and Protection investigation has taken place fall within the 65 and over age groups indicating that this group is the largest group of people at risk of harm within East Lothian.
- 5.6 Case Conferences
In total there were 29 Adult Support and Protection case conferences in Quarters 1 and 2: 10 were initial case conferences and 19 were review case conferences. There was 1 Large Scale Investigation, commenced in Quarter 1 for a Care at Home service which has since closed. There were no Protection Orders within East Lothian within the period.
- 5.7 Financial Harm
Financial harm continues to feature as the most significant type of harm and remains one of Scottish Governments national priorities. A National Financial Harm Group is in the process of being set up with representation being sought through Social Work Scotland’s Adult Support and Protection sub-group.

There was a national event on financial harm, the main purpose of which was in relation to information sharing. The main issue raised for Local Authorities was the lack of information shared following the outcome of an inquiry / investigation and how this information might be helpfully shared with the banks. Financial Harm and Scamming is an area that will continue to grow and links with our local banks, trading standards and welfare rights teams are essential in support and protection of adults at risk of harm. There have been 3 financial harm workshops between January and May 2014 with a total of 63 attendees.

5.9 National Campaign

Scottish Government have commissioned a national media campaign through Media Scotland this will comprise of a series of TV programmes on STV and a Print and Press release stories to be published in the Daily Record and Sunday Mail. The campaign will run from 5 February 2015 for a period of 5 weeks. A request for case studies has been made to each Lead Officer within the Local Authorities. East Lothian Council has identified one case study that involved the successful prosecution of a perpetrator of Financial Harm; consent has been agreed and the case study will be anonymised.

6 Violence Against Women & Girls

- 6.1 East and Midlothian Public Protection Office now includes a fully staffed Domestic Abuse Service (DAS) which comprises a Violence Against Women Coordinator, MARAC Co-ordinator and two full time Domestic Abuse Advisors. The SMILE project is also fully staffed with a Substance Misuse Worker and Routes to Independence Worker who began taking referrals in August 2014. SMILE also funds one of the full time Domestic Abuse Advisors within the Domestic Abuse Service.
- 6.2 The current focus for the Violence Against Women Delivery Group is to streamline referral pathways by creating one referral hub which will ensure women receive the most suitable response from the appropriate service. This will be crucial for the successful introduction of the SMILE Project's Early Response Service which aims to offer women support within 48 hours of a domestic abuse incident. From February 2014 this will include a response at weekends which is a significant and exciting step forward for East and Midlothian.
- 6.3 We are also beginning to evaluate our Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and are proposing to purchase a package of chairs training, data analysis, facilitated evaluation and consultancy from CAADA to ensure we are working towards consistent, creative and effective MARACs.
- 6.4 The Violence Against Women Improvement Plan, based on the Scottish Governments Equally Safe Strategy has been drafted and along with a Performance Indicator framework these documents will drive forward the multi-agency Violence Against Women agenda.

7 Public Protection Office

- 7.1 East and Midlothian Public Protection Committee (EMPPC) was formally established in July 2014 and covers all functions and responsibilities of the Adult Protection Committee, the Child Protection Committee, the Offender Management Committee and the Violence Against Women Partnership, and maintains robust links with Midlothian and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership. The chair of the new Committee is Anne Neilson; the Assistant Director for Public Protection for NHS Lothian. To date East and Midlothian Public Protection Committee has met three times.
- 7.2 The Public Protection Team is now co-located in the Brunton Hall, and has strategic responsibility for Child and Adult Protection and Violence Against Women. MELDAP staff are now co-located with the Public Protection Team, and phase two which will see the police Public Protection Unit co-located as well is expected to be completed by April 2015. Improvement Plans are currently being developed in each of these areas and are reported via the Performance and Quality sub group of the EMPPC.
- 7.3 Reports go quarterly to EMPPC and CSOG (Critical Services Oversight Group) and an annual report for 2014-15, which will include all public protection workstreams, will be completed at the end of the year 2014-15. This report will be available for members of PPRC in June 2015.

8 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required on the performance reporting aspect of this report, however an Equalities Impact Assessment will be required on the implementation of the Public Protection Team and this is being planned in liaison with the Equalities Officer.

9 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Financial N/A
- 9.2 Personnel N/A
- 9.3 Other N/A

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