

Education, Children and Families

10am, Tuesday, 7 December 2021

Edinburgh Child Protection Committee – Annual Report 2020-21

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee are asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note the content of the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2020-21.
 - 1.1.2 Note the positive contribution made by services and partners across the City in keeping children safe.

Jackie Irvine

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Edinburgh Child Protection Committee – Annual Report 2020-21

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report accompanies the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2020-21 (see Appendix 1), which summarises the work of this multi-agency strategic partnership within the past year. It highlights the core business of the Child Protection Committee as well as areas of strength and good practice, alongside identified priority areas for the coming year.

3. Background

- 3.1 Following the motion put forward by Councillor Dickie at Full Council on 15 October 2020.

“Council therefore requests

- That the Council, as a whole, reaffirms its commitment to the protection of children in our city, and elected members to actively seeking assurance about their protection.*
- That the Annual Child Protection Committee Report be submitted to Full Council, in one cycle, to ensure the widest commitment to open dialogue and the protection of children – and every year thereafter.”*

- 3.2 It has been agreed that this report would be submitted to the Education, Children and Families Committee annually with a referral to Full Council thereafter.

- 3.3 The Scottish Government guidance “Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer Responsibilities” (2018) sets out the functions of child protection committees:

3.3.1 Continuous improvement

3.3.2 Public information, engagement and participation

3.3.3 Strategic planning and connections

3.3.4 Annual reporting

- 3.4 Following endorsement by the Chief Officers Group (Public Protection) on 29 July 2021, the Annual Report is presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee for information and to comment as necessary.

4. Main report

- 4.1 The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee is a multi-agency strategic partnership, including membership from the City of Edinburgh Council, Police Scotland, NHS Lothian as well as partners including the Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC), Scottish Council of Independent Schools (SCIS) and Scottish Children's Reporter's Administration (SCRA). The Child Protection Committee's shared vision and commitment to continuous improvement was explicitly noted as a key strength in June 2019 by the Care Inspectorate, in their report of a joint inspection of services for children and young people in need of care and protection.
- 4.2 Several key achievements are highlighted within the Annual Report, including:
- 4.2.1 Consultation with members on both the revised National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland and the new National Guidance for Child Protection Committees Undertaking Learning Reviews, prior to their publication in September 2021. Both documents will be central to the development of child protection practice in the coming years.
 - 4.2.2 Further scrutiny and assurance activity around child protection data, in particular trends around the interaction between child protection processes and GIRFEC approaches.
 - 4.2.3 Engagement with families who have attended virtual child protection meetings, to further understand their experience of key processes during the pandemic.
 - 4.2.4 Establishment of baseline data and further improvement actions following Significant Case Reviews.
 - 4.2.5 Supported development of a learning culture through the development of staff briefings to share key learning points with staff across the partnership.
 - 4.2.6 Continued the development of our online training calendar, as well as working with partner agencies to draw on their expertise in developing course content and delivering learning events. This has included bespoke events such as Digital Risk and Resilience, as well as key elements of our interagency training calendar such as Honour Based Abuse.
 - 4.2.7 Concluded and evaluated the "All Of Us" campaign in partnership with NSPCC Scotland. The early phase of the campaign involved community events attended by almost 300 parents and children. Moving online from March 2020, we achieved tens of thousands of hits on the campaign website through targeted marketing, reaching peaks in the summer holidays (13,000 hits) and over the Christmas period (17,000 hits).

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The Child Protection Committee Annual Report highlights several areas of work to be taken forward over the coming year across the range of strategic functions.
- 5.2 Future areas of work include:
 - 5.2.1 Review of local interagency protocols following publication of the revised National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland and Learning Review Guidance. The Scottish Government has given an 18-24 month timescale for implementation and Edinburgh has taken forward early planning alongside key partners to deliver this action within timescale.
 - 5.2.2 Working collaboratively to deliver The Promise for Edinburgh's children.
 - 5.2.3 Continuing to improve our analysis of key trends within the context of the National Minimum Dataset for Child Protection Committees in Scotland.
 - 5.2.4 Integrating learning and development activity across the public protection landscape, through development of a joint Learning and Development Subcommittee.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The Child Protection Committee is funded by an inter-agency tripartite budget, with contributions from City of Edinburgh Council, Police Scotland and NHS Lothian. All work referred to above and in the Appendix is resourced from within this budget. As such there is no additional financial impact identified.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 As noted in Appendix 1, the work of the Child Protection Committee is closely aligned with the Edinburgh Children's Partnership via the priorities within the Children's Services Plan. This ensures there is connectivity between the aspirations for children, young people and their families across these strategic forums.
- 7.2 The views of children, young people and their families are central to the continuous improvement of child protection services. Participation and Engagement, including with stakeholders, is one of the themes within the Child Protection Improvement Plan. The Child Protection Committee will continue to actively consult with stakeholders going forward.
- 7.3 The Annual Report is a publicly available document, published online via the City of Edinburgh Council website at the following link: [Edinburgh Child Protection Annual Report](#).
- 7.4 There are no health and safety, governance, compliance or regulatory implications.

7.5 There are no carbon impacts or impacts on climate change and sustainable development.

8. Background reading/external references

8.1 None.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix one - Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2020-21



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1. Introduction

Colleagues,

I am delighted to present the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Annual Report for 2020-21. Over the last year I have had the continued privilege of working with colleagues across the multi-agency partnership to keep children safe.

This report outlines the work we have done in the last year to continually improve our services.

Of course, the impact of COVID 19 has been widespread; this pandemic has reshaped how we deliver services and its impact will be felt for some time to come. The Child Protection Committee and associated Subcommittees have continued to meet throughout the pandemic – albeit virtually – in order to ensure protection of Edinburgh’s children.

This annual report is structured around the functions of the Child Protection Committee, as laid out in Scottish Government guidance. It highlights our achievements to date, and what we intend to do in the coming year. I hope you find it an informative document reflecting the good work being done to keep children safe. We know that this requires collaboration and cooperation, qualities which I have seen throughout the multi-agency partnership and which continues to provide strong foundations going forward.

Jackie Irvine

Chair – Edinburgh Child Protection Committee

Chief Social Work Officer

Service Director, Criminal Justice and Children's Services

2. Demographics

Between 1998 and 2019, the population of Edinburgh had increased by 17.6%. This is the 3rd highest percentage change out of the 32 council areas in Scotland and more than double the national figure. Edinburgh's population in 2019 was estimated at 524,930.

The population is projected to increase to 552,585 by 2028. This is an increase of 6.6% on the 2018 figure and is the 3rd highest of the council areas and compares to a projected increase of 1.8% for Scotland as a whole. Net migration (i.e. net migration within Scotland, from overseas and from the rest of the UK) is expected to account for most of this increase (5.4% compared to 1.2% due to natural change (more births than deaths)). The secondary school aged population is projected to increase by almost 24% by 2028 whilst over the same period the primary school aged population is projected to decrease by 10%.

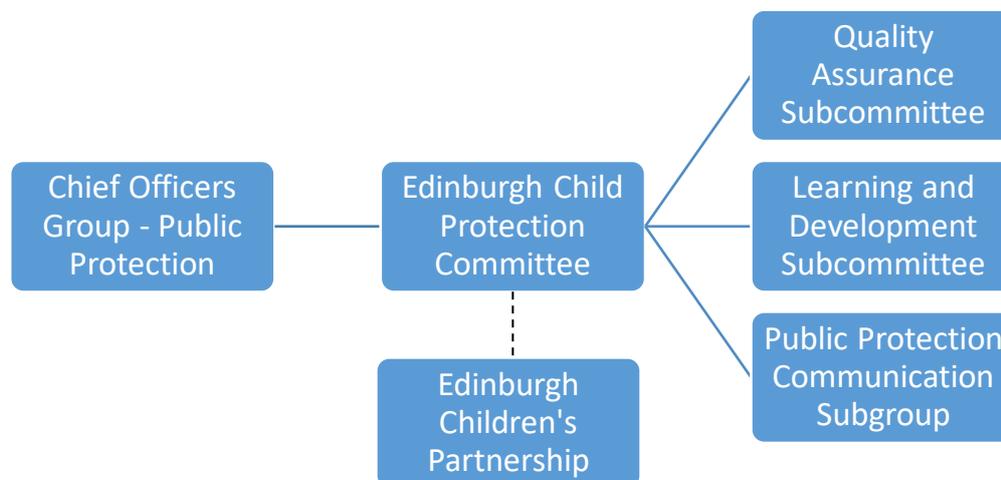
In 2020 of the 52,000 children and young people attending Edinburgh's local authority schools, 31% were Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) pupils with this being an increase from 23% in 2014. One in five pupils do not have English as their main language and 43% of pupils are assessed as having an additional support need with 1,900 assessed as having a disability. One in ten children had a least one developmental concern recorded at their 27-30 month review with one in five children in Primary 1, around 900 pupils, at risk of being overweight or obese.

Whilst around a fifth of secondary school aged pupils attend independent schools, there was an estimated 22% of all children in Edinburgh living in poverty in 2019. This rate varies widely, with some areas recording child poverty rates as high as 35% and these rates rank among the highest levels of child poverty recorded in any local authority in Scotland.

The number of child welfare concern contacts in 2020/21, at 10,959, was 8% higher than the level seen in the previous year though the 1,086 inter-agency child protection discussions was 10% lower than 2019/20. The number of children on the Child Protection Register has decreased over the last five years to historic low levels that continued throughout 2020/21 with a monthly average of 106 and a figure of 101 at March 2021. Correspondingly there has been a decrease in the number of Child Protection Case Conferences with a total of 568 child/conference instances in 2020/21, a 5% decrease on the previous year and 28% decrease on 2018/19.

The number of Looked After Children also continued the six-year decreasing trend throughout 2020/21 with 1,092 children looked after at March 2021.

3. Child Protection Committee Structure and Functions - overview



The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee is a locally-based, inter-agency strategic partnership, responsible for the design, development, publication, distribution, dissemination, implementation and evaluation of child protection policy and practice across the public, private and wider third sectors in the City of Edinburgh area. Through our local structures and membership, we provide individual and collective leadership and direction for the management of child protection services.

The Committee is made up of senior representatives from across all key areas and partners concerned with the care and protection of children. Guidance issued by the Scottish Government requires every local authority area to have a Child Protection Committee.

Strong links exist between the Committee and the Edinburgh Children’s Partnership (the Partnership) through the Edinburgh Children’s Services Plan (2020 - 23).

The vision for both the Committee and the Partnership is to ensure that all Edinburgh’s children and young people enjoy their childhood and achieve their potential. The Children’s Services Plan was developed following consultation with children, young people, parents, carers and staff, whose collective feedback assisted the formation of the Plan’s three main aims – the 3Bs:

- Best Start
- Bridging The Gap
- Being Everything You Can Be

In line with the GIRFEC well-being indicators, we aim to ensure children and young people are safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, responsible, respected, and included. The Committee has a key role in achieving these aims along with the Children’s Partnership, recognising that the environment for some children in Edinburgh is more challenging, requiring additional measures to ensure children are protected from harm.

The governance of the Committee is the responsibility of the Edinburgh Public Protection Chief Officers' Group. This group consists of high-level representation from City of Edinburgh Council, Police Scotland and NHS Lothian, meeting on a regular basis to provide scrutiny and oversight.

In 2019, the Scottish Government published the document "Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer Responsibilities". This sets out the functions of the child protection committee, which are:

- continuous improvement
- public information, engagement and participation
- strategic planning and connections
- annual reporting on the work of the CPC

4. Continuous improvement

The Committee has a pivotal role in ensuring that services to protect children and young people are effective and continue to improve. This covers several areas:

i. Policies, Procedures and Guidance

The Committee:

- supports all agencies to have their own up to date policies and procedures in place
- regularly develops, disseminates, and reviews inter-agency policies and procedures
- ensures protocols are developed for key issues where agreement is required.

What we have done:

Kept our interim guidance for child protection in response to COVID 19 under review, ensuring that key processes continue to operate during the pandemic. This guidance, produced in April 2020, covers topics such as the operation of key meetings and arrangements for direct contact with families in line with government restrictions.

Continued to support the operation of key inter-agency protocols such as those covering child sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation. Where relevant, multi-agency strategy meetings have taken place to share information, plan jointly and reduce risk.

We have ensured that all relevant multi-agency protocols are available to partner agencies as required, through hosting in accessible online spaces.

We have consulted locally on the revised National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland and National Guidance for Child Protection Committees Undertaking Learning Reviews. Edinburgh's views have been fed back to the Scottish Government and contributed to the development of these key documents ahead of publication.

What we will do next:

We will review our child protection procedures in partnership with colleagues in East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian, to ensure these are in accordance with the revised National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (scheduled for publication June 2021).

ii. Data and Evidence

The Committee retains an overview of management information from all key agencies relating to the protection of children and young people. The Committee:

- has an overview of information relating to children and young people with their names listed on the Child Protection Register
- receives regular management information reports, which include analysis of trends
- identifies and address the implications of these management reports
- ensures that management information informs the inter-agency child protection strategy and provides an oversight for the Public Protection Chief Officers Group (PPCOG).

What we have done:

This year, we have embedded the National Minimum Dataset for Child Protection Committees in Scotland into our programme of work. This provides three-year trend data which helps us understand the operation of key processes as well as any emerging issues in the protection of children.

We have carried out further assurance activity with multiagency colleagues following analysis of relevant data, to further understand the interaction between GIRFEC and Child Protection Processes.

Continued to submit key public protection data to the Scottish Government on a weekly basis, allowing us to carry out real-time analysis of data trends over the course of the pandemic.

Engaged with families who have attended child protection meetings, utilising virtual surveys and phone conversations, to help us understand how they were experiencing services during the pandemic.

What we will do next:

We will take forward actions following engagement with education staff, to further enhance the quality and consistency of practice at key points such as the intersection between GIRFEC and Child Protection Processes.

We will continue to gather qualitative evidence on the impact of child protection practice upon families, through increased engagement with those who use our services. This will inform our practice as we go forward.

Continue to develop and embed the practice of engagement with families at all points.

iii. Quality Assurance and Self-Evaluation

Whilst individual agencies have responsibility for the quality assurance of their own service, the Committee has responsibility for the development and implementation of inter-agency quality assurance mechanisms. The Committee:

- agrees, implements, and reviews multi-agency quality assurance mechanisms for inter-agency work, including auditing against the framework for standards
- ensures that the quality assurance mechanisms contribute directly to the continuous improvement of services to protect children and young people
- contributes to the preparation for the integrated system of inspection of children's services
- considers the findings and lessons from inspection on a national basis, in relation to practice in Edinburgh and from initial and significant case reviews.
- co-ordinates initial and significant case reviews as necessary
- reports on the outcome of the quality assurance processes and make recommendations to the Committee and the Chief Officers' Group.

The Quality Assurance Subcommittee is the central coordination point for this work in Edinburgh.

What we have done:

Completed a further round of Multi-Agency Practice Evaluations in order to gather qualitative data from practitioners and families. Several areas of positive practice were identified, which further demonstrated the strong working relationships which exist within the City.

Established baseline data and put in place improvement actions relating to findings of Significant Case Reviews. For example, we have worked in conjunction with Looked After Children's Nurses to promote attendance at medical appointments across our residential houses.

Overseen the progress of the Child Protection Improvement Plan, ensuring multi-agency activity is completed within agreed timescales. This includes key multi-agency work to tackle neglect through the introduction of a revised toolkit to support early assessment and identification.

What we will do next:

Continue to refine and improve our use of quantitative and qualitative data, in order to better understand systems, processes and their impact on children.

Consider targeted pieces of self-evaluation and assurance activity, focussed on emerging themes from trend data and engagement with families.

iv. Conducting Initial and Significant Case Reviews

Child Protection Committees, on behalf of the Chief Officers, are responsible for undertaking Initial Care Reviews (ICRs) and reporting / recommending a Significant Case Review (SCR) when the agreed criteria are met.

The Committee uses the learning from ICRs/SCRs to promote good practice, improve practice and contribute to improved outcomes for children and young people.

What we have done:

Maintained a combined, streamlined process for tracking and reporting ICR and SCR action plans.

Taken forward learning from Initial Case Reviews completed throughout the year, including the development of staff briefings to share learning widely across the multi-agency partnership. These are now hosted on the Knowledge Hub and accessible for use in supervision and team meetings.

We have also considered learning from Significant Case Reviews carried out elsewhere in the country and reflected on their applicability to an Edinburgh context.

Continued to liaise with and consider feedback from the Care Inspectorate, in their role as the central repository for ICR and SCR reports.

Contributed to the development of the Learning Review Hub – an online resource run by the Care Inspectorate with the aim of sharing learning from case reviews across the country.

What we will do next:

We will produce updated local guidance on Learning Reviews following publication of relevant national guidance (scheduled for June 2021).

5. Learning and Development

Child protection training and staff development must be undertaken at both single agency and inter-agency level, for those working with children and families. This is underpinned by the promotion of children's rights and GIRFEC principles.

Through the Learning and Development Sub Committee, the Child Protection Committee is responsible for promoting, commissioning, and assuring the quality and delivery of inter-agency training. The Committee:

- retains an overview of single agency child protection training and considers the implications of inter-agency training
- plans, reviews, and quality assure inter-agency training and learning and development activities
- implements and reviews annually, a programme for inter-agency child protection training
- ensures relevant and consistent inter-agency training is provided for practitioners, managers, non-statutory agencies, and Child Protection Committee members.

What we have done:

Continued to develop and deliver a varied programme of interagency training, both as self-directed e-learning and virtual training sessions.

Worked with partner agencies to draw on their expertise in developing course content and delivering learning events. This has included bespoke events such as Digital Risk and Resilience, as well as key elements of our interagency training calendar such as Honour Based Abuse.

Begun collating attendee feedback via online methods, enabling us to increase the uptake compared to traditional methods.

Reviewed our course calendar and commenced development of new courses to meet unmet needs – for example, the gap in training specifically focussed on adolescents.

Collaborated with partners across public protection, such as the Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee, to fund and deliver Safe and Together training to tackle domestic abuse.

What we will do next:

Routinely consider reports which outline key themes from course participants and use this to further develop our learning offer.

Integrate learning and development activity across the public protection landscape, through scoping of a joint Learning and Development Subcommittee.

Begin the move back to face-to-face learning events, once safe to do so.

6. Public Information, Engagement and Participation

The Scottish Government guidance for child protection committees states that:

Keeping children and young people safe is everyone's job and the CPC must be able to demonstrate that its work is informed by the perspectives of children, young people and their families. CPCs will maintain an overview of levels of knowledge and confidence in child protection systems within their area and address issues as required within their Improvement / Business Plans. Each CPC will develop, implement and regularly review a communications strategy that includes:

- *raising awareness so that members of the public, including children and young people, know what child protection means and what to do if they have a concern for a child or young person*
- *explaining and promoting the role of services in protecting children and young people*
- *engaging with local communities to raise awareness of indicators of concern*
- *increasing understanding of the role that communities and all adults have in protecting children and young people*
- *involving children, young people and families in its design and delivery*
- *taking account of new and emerging risks*

(Protecting Children and Young People, Scottish Government, 2019)

A priority for the Committee in recent years has been to maximise visibility and connectivity with frontline staff and the community, which closely aligns with the functions described above.

What we have done:

Continued the promotion of key public protection messages, particularly throughout the period of COVID 19 restrictions. This has included the use of targeted online advertisements to reach our target audience.

Concluded and evaluated the "All Of Us" campaign in partnership with NSPCC Scotland. The early phase of the campaign involved community events attended by almost 300 parents and children. Moving online from March 2020, we achieved tens of thousands of hits on the campaign website through targeted marketing, reaching peaks in the summer holidays (13,000 hits) and over the Christmas period (17,000 hits). This shows the relevance of the All Of Us messaging particularly during the pandemic. The campaign model, developed by families and staff in Edinburgh, is now being used in other areas such as Glasgow.

What we will do next:

Present structured feedback from engagement with families to the Committee, to inform service development.

Following the “All Of Us” campaign, and work with colleagues across public protection to consider the need for further joint messaging.

7. Strategic Planning and Connections¹

The Committee links into several multi-agency structures and ensures relationships are robust and productive. The Committee:

- identifies the key links with other bodies and ensure such links are strong and productive
- in conjunction with other bodies, identifies issues where joint working would be beneficial or duplication could be avoided and ensure that action is taken to address these issues
- implements and reviews the effectiveness of joint protocols linked to child protection.

Within Edinburgh, the Chief Officers Group for Public Protection is the key forum for collaboration at a strategic level, with close links to the Edinburgh Children's Partnership. This ensures there is a culture of collaboration threaded throughout the work of the Committee.

What we have done:

Engaged in national forums such as CPC Scotland and the National Learning and Development Network.

Collaboration and dialogue with the Care Inspectorate and CELCIS, though membership and championing of the Learning Review Knowledge Hub. This has included presenting learning from a recent ICR at a national event.

Continued to promote interagency collaboration, including across local authority boundaries, for example through the continued investment in the eIRD system which has benefits across the public protection landscape on a Lothian-wide basis.

Committed funding, via the Public Protection budget, to support strategic objectives, such as the continued implementation of Safe and Together training to address domestic abuse.

¹ Scottish Government guidance states that:

CPCs must ensure strong and robust strategic planning links to wider integrated children's services planning arrangements in their local area in order to ensure that the need for support and protection of children and young people can be comprehensively met in well designed, effective and sustainable local services, programmes and initiatives.

CPCs must link effectively with other multi-agency partnerships and structures locally, regionally and nationally, including Chair and Lead officer participation in Child Protection Committees Scotland.

(Protecting Children and Young People, Scottish Government, 2019)

Strengthened the links between the Committee and the voluntary sector through an expanded group of representatives who sit within our Committee and Subcommittees, and the introduction of a bi-monthly liaison meeting to identify areas of common interest.

What we will do next:

Work collaboratively to deliver The Promise for Edinburgh's children.

Continue to contribute to key strategic forums and link with the Scottish Government on implementation of the National Guidance for Child Protection In Scotland 2021.

Develop strategic connections across the local public protection landscape, through close working between the Lead Officers and the use of combined forums for planning and development.

8. Conclusion and next steps – Chief Officers

The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Annual Report for 2020-21 is designed to demonstrate the key role of the Committee in ensuring the inter-agency response to the protection of Edinburgh’s children is cohesive, structured, and working towards continuous improvement. The report summarises some of our key achievements throughout the period under review.

We are clear, however, that we are on a journey of continuous learning and improvement and we still have work to do. We maintain close working relationships with agencies in the statutory, voluntary, and independent sectors and are determined to ensure we retain an outcome-focused approach to child protection matters.

As Chief Officers, we fully appreciate the challenge of ensuring Edinburgh’s children are safe as well as providing a platform from which all children in Edinburgh can reach their full potential. We have continued to make progress towards achieving our aims since the publication of last year’s annual report. This annual report reflects on the successes and identifies our areas of further improvement. We extend our appreciation for the continuing efforts of all agencies in Edinburgh working together to protect children and young people. This work is challenging and complex, however, it is an area in which we are committed to achieving excellence.

We endorse the contents of the Child Protection Committee annual report for 2020-21.



Appendix A – Remits and Membership list of Committee Sub Group structure

Appendix B – Child Protection Register Statistics

Appendix A – Remit and Membership of Committee Sub Group structure

Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Quality Assurance Sub-Committee

Purpose

1. To operate a quality assurance framework that allows the Child Protection Committee to monitor the effectiveness of local child protection services.
2. To operate a performance reporting framework and a system for self-evaluation in support of the above.
3. To implement a system of regular multi-agency case file reviews.
4. To oversee significant case reviews, commissioned by the Child Protection Committee; and to consider appropriate recommendations to the Child Protection Committee.
5. To monitor the implementation of any recommendations arising from reviews agreed by the Child Protection Committee.
6. To develop multi-agency improvement plans in response to external inspection reports or internal assessment processes.
7. To monitor the progress of member agencies' implementation of agreed improvement plans

Membership

Membership will include representation from the following agencies/ services:

- NHS Lothian
- Police Scotland
- City of Edinburgh Council (Communities and Families)
- City of Edinburgh Council (Health and Social Care)
- City of Edinburgh Council (Safer and Stronger Communities)
- Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
- Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council

Input from the voluntary sector representative on the Child Protection Committee will be sought as appropriate. Officers from other services/agencies may be co-opted onto the sub-group as required, subject to the approval of the relevant agency.

Meetings

The sub-group will meet at a frequency determined by the requirements of the agreed tasks, but not normally less frequently than the Child Protection Committee.

Meetings will be minuted and will be reported to the Child Protection Committee.

Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Learning and Development Sub-Committee

Purpose

1. To develop a learning and development strategy that allows the Child Protection Committee to monitor the effectiveness of child protection training across the agencies.
2. To coordinate the training strategy within member agencies.
3. To develop a system for delivering multi-agency training and evaluating its effectiveness.
4. To oversee the training needs of the voluntary sector.
5. To develop multi-agency improvement plans in response to external inspection reports or internal assessment processes.
6. To monitor the progress of member agencies' implementation of agreed improvement plans.
7. To liaise with the other subgroups of the Child Protection Committee to avoid duplication of work.

Membership

Membership will include representation from the following agencies/services:

- NHS Lothian
- Police Scotland
- City of Edinburgh Council (Communities and Families)
- City of Edinburgh Council (Health and Social Care)
- City of Edinburgh Council (Safer and Stronger Communities)
- Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council

Meetings

The sub-group will meet at a frequency determined by the requirements of the agreed tasks, but not normally less frequently than the Child Protection Committee. Meetings will be minuted and will be reported to the Child Protection Committee.

Edinburgh Public Protection Committees Communications Sub-Group

Purpose

A planned and co-coordinated communications strategy is needed to:

1. raise public awareness of child protection issues and services
2. establish a system to share information and communicate effectively with and between agencies and staff at all levels to raise awareness of child protection
3. share best practice examples

Membership

Membership will include representation from the following agencies/ services:

- NHS Lothian
- Police Scotland
- City of Edinburgh Council (Communities and Families)
- City of Edinburgh Council (Health and Social Care)
- City of Edinburgh Council (Safer and Stronger Communities)
- Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council

Officers from other services/agencies may be co-opted onto the sub-group as required, subject to the approval of the relevant agency.

Meetings

The sub-group will meet at a frequency determined by the requirements of the agreed tasks. This will normally consist of monthly meetings.

Meetings will be minuted and will be reported to the Child Protection Committee.

Appendix B – Child Protection Register Statistics

	2020		2019		2010	
	Number	Rate Per 1,000 population	Number	Rate Per 1,000 population	Number	Rate Per 1,000 population
Edinburgh	95	1.2	122	1.5	256	3.6
East Lothian	52	2.6	48	2.4	70	3.8
Midlothian	49	2.7	49	2.7	96	6.2
West Lothian	92	2.6	104	2.9	119	3.4
Scottish Borders	34	1.8	46	2.4	32	1.6
Aberdeen	142	4.0	119	3.4	119	3.7
Dundee	102	4.2	90	3.7	70	2.9
Scotland	2564	2.9	2,580	2.8	2,518	2.7

Source:

Scottish Government

<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Children/sourcesandsuitability/LAlevelCP>

Statistics at 31 July each year.