

To: Council

On: 24 September 2020

Report by: Chief Executive

Heading: **Annual Report of the Community Protection Chief Officers Group (2019/20)**

1. Summary

- 1.1 This is the fifth annual report of the Community Protection Chief Officers Group which is intended to provide an overview of the main elements of work of those involved in public protection over the course of 2019/20, and in doing so highlights the key benefits of excellent partnership working.
- 1.2 The report focuses on activity over the 12 months to March 2020, and therefore covers the period immediately prior to the emergence of the COVID19 pandemic. As elected members will be aware, the impact of COVID19 on local people and communities in Renfrewshire has been significant, particularly for those people already experiencing inequalities or who need support to ensure they remain safe and protected. The longer term impacts of the pandemic are also not yet quantified, and it will be more important than ever that partners continue to work together and focus on the right priorities collectively going forward.
- 1.3 The Chief Officers Group has increased the frequency of meetings since the emergence of the pandemic, to ensure regular oversight and scrutiny of key issues. The annual report reflects the key priorities identified by the Chief Officers Group for 2020/21 in light of the information available, but also recognises the need for flexibility to ensure that partners work together to adapt to the changing needs of local people and communities as they continue to live with the presence of COVID19.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that members note:

- the key activities progressed during 2019/20 by the Community Protection Chief Officers Group and;
- the identified priorities to be taken forward in partnership during 2019/20, with a specific focus on responding to the impact of COVID19 in Renfrewshire.

3. Background

3.1 Renfrewshire Community Protection Chief Officers Group is responsible for leadership and strategic oversight of performance in relation to multi agency public protection practice in Renfrewshire. The Chief Officers Group has a critical role in ensuring links are made across community and public protection activity at operational, tactical and strategic levels.

3.2 The six strategic partnerships covering the areas of public protection work, report into the Chief Officers' Group which oversees performance and ensures the provision of quality services in relation to child protection, adult protection, wider protection, offender management, alcohol and drugs, and gender based violence. These are:

- Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee
- Renfrewshire Adult Protection Committee
- Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Oversight Group
- Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership
- Renfrewshire Gender Based Violence Strategy Group
- Community Protection Steering Group

3.3 The purpose of the Member Officer Group is to provide senior elected members with the opportunity to formally and regularly discharge their strategic independent scrutiny and assurance role in relation to key activity and significant developments which have implications for public protection matters in Renfrewshire. The Member Officer Group is chaired by Councillor Jacqueline Cameron.

4 Overview of Annual Report

- 4.1 This is the fifth annual report of the Chief Officers Group. It provides an overview of the main elements of work of those involved in public protection over the course of 2019/20, and in doing so highlights the key benefits of excellent partnership working.
- 4.2 Local people and communities have been significantly impacted by the COVID19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown. The way services are provided has had to alter significantly. As a consequence, the annual report for 2019/20 and strategic priorities for 2020/21 reflect this much altered landscape. Renfrewshire also continues to face challenges in addressing a range of local protection issues, however the Chief Officers Group and the local multi-agency partnerships continue to recognise, alongside scrutiny and reflection, the value of a proactive focus on awareness raising and preventative approaches to protect people in the community. This has been evident in the work of agencies and partnerships involved in public protection.
- 4.3 The annual report attached as Appendix 1, highlights the significant range of activities that have been undertaken during 2019/20 including:
- Prioritisation of work on alcohol and drugs use across Renfrewshire and supporting the Alcohol and Drugs Commission to develop its recommendations around reduce the impact on individuals, families and communities;
 - Improving practice through training, learning, interagency working and consideration of case reviews;
 - Supporting positive mental health and wellbeing with a focus on suicide prevention and people presenting to agencies in distress;
 - Protecting individuals and communities, combatting terrorism and serious organised crime;
 - Supporting the implementation of Renfrewshire's Community Justice Outcomes Improvement Plan 2018-2021; and
 - Exploring the potential for Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership to become trauma informed and responsive.
- 4.4 In terms of priorities for 2020/21, the Chief Officers Group have analysed and discussed some of the initial information that is available in terms of the impact of COVID19 on local people and communities and agreed the following high level priorities:
- Collectively monitor impact of COVID19 on most vulnerable citizens, in terms of impact on child and adult protection and wider community protection;

- Monitor and address the impact of gender based violence across Renfrewshire in light of COVID19;
- Focus on new and emerging adult protection concerns including financial harm through bogus callers, rogue traders and scams;
- Provide scrutiny, support and oversight of activity in relation to care homes in light of COVID-19, with a particular focus on the wellbeing of residents and staff;
- Implement the recommendations from the independent review of COG;
- Prioritise work on alcohol and drugs use across Renfrewshire and refresh the recommendations of the Alcohol and Drugs Commission in light of COVID19 to ensure that we reduce the impact on individuals, families and communities;
- Support positive mental health and wellbeing with a focus on suicide prevention and people presenting to agencies in distress;
- Monitor the potential impact of the UK leaving the European Union undertaking activities on a partnership basis where this is required;
- Implement the recommendations from the Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection;
- Oversee Renfrewshire's Community Justice response to the planned presumption against short sentences which will be extended to 12 months;
- Consider the findings of the National Care Review and implement as appropriate; and
- Monitor community tension and support community cohesion across Renfrewshire with regards to protests, demonstrations and activities in relation to current community issues e.g. COVID19, Black Lives Matter etc.

4.5 The Chief Officers Group will continue to seek to ensure that performance and practice are scrutinised at a strategic level, to identify what works well, to highlight any areas for improvement, and to consider where further opportunities for early intervention and prevention activity would achieve improved outcomes for local people.

4.6 In addition the ongoing impact of the COVID19 pandemic and lockdown on individuals, families and communities will continue to be monitored by the group – particularly in relation to those most vulnerable.

Implications of the Report

- 1. Financial – none**
- 2. HR & Organisational Development – none**

3. **Community Planning** – the Community Protection Chief Officers is embedded within the wider approach to community planning in Renfrewshire.
4. **Legal** - none
5. **Property/Assets** –none
6. **Information Technology** – none
7. **Equality & Human Rights** – none.
 - (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report because it is for noting only. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** – none.
9. **Procurement** – none.
10. **Risk** -*as per the content of report.*
11. **Privacy Impact** – none.
12. **COSLA** - none
- 13 **Climate Risk** - none

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Renfrewshire Community Protection Chief Officers Group

Annual Report 2019/20

Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Renfrewshire Profile
3. Analysis of Current Trends
4. Chief Officers Group
5. Member Officers Group
6. Strategic Partnerships Activities
7. Strategic Focus for 2020/21

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Renfrewshire Community Protection Chief Officers Group (COG) is responsible for leadership, strategic oversight and scrutiny in relation to multi-agency public protection activity and practice in Renfrewshire. The group oversees the work of six strategic partnerships which examine performance and ensure the provision of quality services in relation to child protection, adult protection, wider public protection, offender management, community justice, alcohol and drugs, and gender-based violence.
- 1.2 As elsewhere in the country, Renfrewshire continues to face challenges in addressing a range of local protection issues, however the Chief Officers Group and the local multi-agency partnerships, continue to recognise, alongside scrutiny and reflection, the value of a proactive focus on awareness raising and preventative approaches to protect people in the community. This has been evident in the work of those groups, agencies and partnerships involved in public protection.
- 1.3 This is the fifth annual report of the Chief Officers Group. It provides an overview of the main elements of work of those involved in public protection over the course of 2019/20, and in doing so highlights the key benefits of excellent partnership working.
- 1.4 The report is provided against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown which has had a significant impact on individuals, families and communities, and on the way services are delivered. Therefore, the annual report for 2019/20 and strategic priorities for 2020/21 reflect this much altered landscape.
- 1.5 During these unprecedented times public services are under exceptional pressure and it is widely acknowledged that many vulnerable individuals will be impacted significantly and for a considerable time by the pandemic and the unintended consequences of actions taken to control it. While the most vulnerable have been disproportionately affected, new vulnerabilities have been created amongst individuals and families as a result of a range of factors such as, loss of employment or income and shielding.
- 1.6 During COVID-19, the COG together with the wider public sector, has focused on ensuring that essential services and support are provided across Renfrewshire. There is an ongoing need to respond to the crisis and to deliver on new requirements at pace and scale, whilst looking to the future as we restart, recover and renew our approach at a local level.
- 1.7 As set out in both Renfrewshire's Community Plan and the Renfrewshire Council Plan, we want to work together to create a thriving and connected Renfrewshire, where there are opportunities for all. These outcomes remain the focus of partners, however the context in which the COG is working has changed significantly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 1.8 Local recovery planning arrangements are progressing across Renfrewshire, and are being taken forward jointly with residents, communities, partners and businesses. This will focus on:
 - incrementally restarting service provision in line with national guidance;
 - rebuilding levels of service capacity, confidence and resilience and supporting reconnection with communities and residents; and
 - reimagining/building better and resetting Renfrewshire's ambition and vision for the future.
- 1.9 These plans will be developed on an interim basis, recognising that the impact of the pandemic is likely to be deeply felt over the medium to long term, and there will be a requirement for services to continue to operate flexibly to meet the changing needs and behaviours of local communities, potentially providing new services or adapting others to reflect emerging Scottish Government guidance and considering the resources available at each stage. Partners will need to remain resilient and be able to respond to a potential cycle of lifting and easing of lockdown measures in order to support the suppression of the virus.

2. Renfrewshire Profile

- 2.1 Renfrewshire is a place of outstanding natural beauty, home to Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park and a vast range of parks, woodlands and green space. Covering an area of some 270 square kilometres, the Renfrewshire area hosts major towns such as Paisley, Renfrew and Johnstone, and a number of attractive villages and settlements.
- 2.2 In terms of population, Renfrewshire is the 10th biggest local authority area in Scotland with a population of around 179,000. Over the 15-year period to 2010 the population did decline but has in recent years increased and is projected to increase steadily over the next 10 years. This brings challenges with a projected decline in the population under 16 in the region of 6% over the next 20 years, coupled with a 25% increase in the number of people aged 65+ over the same period.
- 2.3 Renfrewshire has lots to offer and many strengths and assets to build on. One of the most critical challenges for partners is addressing the gap that has emerged between different communities in Renfrewshire, with the life chances of some being negatively impacted by poverty, poor health, and unemployment. More than 1 in 5 children in Renfrewshire are growing up in poverty. According to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, 12 areas (or datazones) are within the 5% most deprived in Scotland.
- 2.4 Alcohol and drug misuse are major elements of ill health in Renfrewshire, contributing to the fourth highest rate of drug related deaths in Scotland and the seventh highest rate in Scotland of hospital stays related to alcohol use. Parental neglect and addiction have a significant impact on Renfrewshire's children. Over 600 children in Renfrewshire are looked after by the authority - the fourth highest rate in Scotland.
- 2.5 Renfrewshire is a thriving area for business and economic activity, with Glasgow Airport within its boundaries and excellent transport links across the West of Scotland, nationally and internationally. Employment levels in Renfrewshire had returned to levels experienced before the crash of 2008, with key sectors of employment being in the health and care sectors, transportation and manufacturing. Renfrewshire, as with all areas across the country, now faces the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic and is putting in place strategies to address the effect on jobs and investment.
- 2.6 The area itself is an attractive place for people to move to, with property prices on average being lower than the national average. Levels of crime have also been falling, with a 9% reduction in recorded crimes over the past 5 years. Renfrewshire has a proud cultural heritage, with Paisley having the second highest concentration of listed buildings in Scotland. From historic museums, civic buildings, mills and observatories, the area has a rich history and thriving local cultural scene which is driving local regeneration plans and supporting the development of the area as a prospective tourism destination.

3. Analysis of current trends

3.1 Child Protection

There were 83 children on the Child Protection Register at 31 July 2019. This figure is subject to considerable fluctuation as it reflects risks and need. At the same point in time, Renfrewshire had 629 looked after children, which is 1.9% of the 0-17 population. This was the fourth highest rate in Scotland. Over the last decade, Renfrewshire has been proactive in developing services and support to reduce the looked after population and prioritise family placements wherever appropriate.

3.2 Adult Support and Protection

Between April 2019 and March 2020, 3,106 adult welfare concern and adult protection referrals were received by Renfrewshire. This is compared to 2,719, 2,829, and 2,578 for the same time periods in 2018/19, 2017/18, and 2016/17 respectively. Of these, 1,208 were adult protection concerns and 1,898 were adult welfare concerns. Following initial inquiries, 96 adult protection investigations were conducted, a slight fall from 102 the previous year. 41 of these investigations resulted in an Initial Adult Protection Case Conference.

The total referral number for 2019/2020 reflects a 14% increase in the referral rate as compared to the previous financial year and the figure is higher than in previous years.

Across the year Police Scotland made 61% of all referrals. This reflects the long-term trend of a decrease in the ratio of referrals received by Police. They were responsible for 66% of all referrals in 2018/19; 79% in 2015/16; 77% in 2016/17; and 70% in 2017/18.

3.3 Adults with Incapacity (AWI)

Demand for AWI reports, which require to be completed by a qualified mental health officer (MHO), had risen steadily over recent years (mirroring increases across Scotland), but this year saw a reduction in such requests locally. However, the complexity of cases has increased; the demand of such reports subsequently has an impact on the service. For example, cases referred following financial harm risks identified through adult support a protection processes. The local authority may become involved to pursue the removal of a financial proxy and to pursue alternative financial arrangements to safeguard an adult at risk of harm.

In 2019-2020 Renfrewshire received 131 requests for AWI mental health officer reports. In the previous year there were 196 such requests (and 208 in the 2017/2018 year). It is worth noting that 65% of all new orders granted are time-limited, which brings additional work pressure in respect of renewal reports required. Often such requests arrive with less than 4 weeks until the expiry of the existing order, putting pressure on the service.

At the end of the 2019/20 financial year, pandemic response measures included court closures and AWI work within courts paused for a period. This will likely have an impact on MHO service pressures as courts resume AWI work.

3.4 Welfare Guardianships

Orders where the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) is appointed as Welfare Guardian rose in recent years, from 79 in March 2015 to 114 in 2019; on 31 March 2020 there were 116 such orders existent in Renfrewshire. Each order requires a qualified social worker to act as the "nominated officer" on behalf of the CSWO for day to day management of the case. In addition, there are in excess of approximately 435 private welfare guardianship orders running throughout Renfrewshire. These require a minimum of one statutory visit by a guardianship supervisor after being granted.

3.5 Serious Organised Crime

A total of 141 persons linked to serious and organised crime were arrested during 2019/20.

£147,818 was seized under Proceeds of Crime Act legislation across Renfrewshire, this sum being accumulated as a result of:

- 11 Cash Seizures totalling £73,942;
- 2 Listed Assets totalling £3,950
- 2 Restraint Reports totalling £61,566,
- 2 Cash Only Restraint Reports totalling £3,440; and
- 1 Forfeiture Report to CRU totalling £4,920

3.6 Drug Crime

In 2019/20 there were 134 drug supply offences detected across Renfrewshire, which was an increase of 13.5% on the previous year. As in the previous year cannabis, cocaine and heroin featured most predominantly in drug supply offences, being involved in 43%, 27% and 19% of offences respectively.

3.7 Gender Based Violence

2,147 domestic abuse incidents were reported to Police Scotland between April 2018 and March 2019. 1,233 crimes and offences relating to gender-based violence were raised as a result of reported incidents, representing a decrease of 2% on the previous year.

3.8 Sexual Crime

Recorded sexual crime has decreased over the period, with 65 fewer crime reports in 2019/20 when compared to the previous year. During the current year 36.2% of sexual offences related to non-recent offences.

The detection rate for sexual crime in 2019/20 was 56.9% compared to the 65.0% recorded the year before. The 4.8% decrease in non-recent sexual reports is the main contributory factor in the overall reduction in sexual crimes such as rape, indecent assaults and lewd and libidinous practices. Renfrewshire's 2019/20 detection rate for rape and sexual offences was above that for the Force during the same period.

3.9 Cyber Crime

During the 2019/20 period a total of 317 crimes were designated as "cyber-crimes" via the application of the relevant cyber-crime marker. Reported offences included general communications (threats and sexual), fraud (specifically internet orders/credit and debit cards) and communicating indecently.

3.10 Employability

Employability has been identified as a key element in reducing re-offending. Up to 1 in 3 males and 1 in 10 females in Scotland are likely to have a criminal record which may act as a barrier to employment.

3.11 Homelessness

For the period 2018/19, Renfrewshire had 97 Prisoners presenting directly from prison as homeless from a caseload of 848, this equates to 11.4% of caseload, the National average being 5%. This number of homeless people leaving prison has increased from 85 in 2017/18. The figures are higher than the national average, due to the fact that Council officers go directly into the prisons prior to prisoner release dates, and when people leaving prison are housed, the records will show them as "leaving institution – prison". This approach has identified individuals earlier than normal due to the pro-active approach being adopted by Renfrewshire Council.

3.12 Anti-Social Behaviour

The number of incidents of anti-social behaviour reported to Renfrewshire Council Community Safety Service in 2019/20 was 1,667 which represents a reduction from last year (1,711). It is worth noting that the reduction in recorded anti-social behaviour has now decreased for the last two years.

3.13 Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

National Records of Scotland (NRS) has delayed publishing its statistics of the causes of the deaths that were registered in 2019, including the numbers of deaths due to (for example) drugs, alcohol and suicide. They were originally scheduled for publication in June and July (like the corresponding statistics for the previous few years). However, by the end of April 2020, NRS had not received some of the information that it relies on to categorise many

deaths as being due to drugs, alcohol and suicide. Consequently, NRS has had to delay their publication.

Therefore, the most recent available data is as follows:

- In 2017/18 there were 50 alcohol related deaths in Renfrewshire. Renfrewshire had the 7th highest rate of alcohol related deaths in Scotland in 2018. Renfrewshire has the 7th highest rate of alcohol specific deaths in Scotland.
- 50 drug-related deaths were registered in Renfrewshire in 2018. This was the largest number recorded in the past decade. However, the number of deaths has reduced at various points over the past decade. Between 2008 and 2010 there was a 30% decrease in the number of deaths (from 27 to 19). In 2013 the number of deaths was half that of the previous year. More recently, there has been a sharp increase in the number of drug-related deaths, with the number rising by 57% from 13 in 2013 to 30 in 2014. After reducing to 19 in 2015, the number rose by 55% to a high of 42 in 2016.

The population mortality rate of Renfrewshire is above the national average but is below the board average and below that of Glasgow City and Inverclyde ADP. Comparison of the mortality rate per prevalence of drug uses indicates that Renfrewshire has a slightly lower rate than the national average and that of NHS GG&C too.

However, as at March 2020, the alcohol related hospital stays reduced to a rate of 8.4 per 1,000 population aged 16+ (target 8.9) - a reduction on the rate of 8.8 as at March 2019. In addition, alcohol and drug waiting times for referral to treatment within 3 weeks have also improved from 74.4% at March 2019 to 95.9% at March 2020 against a target of 91.5%.

4. Chief Officers Group

Renfrewshire Community Protection Chief Officers Group is responsible for leadership and strategic oversight of performance in relation to multi agency public protection practice in Renfrewshire. The Chief Officers Group has a critical role in ensuring links are made across community and public protection activity at operational, tactical and strategic levels.

The seven strategic partnerships covering the areas of public protection work, report into the Chief Officers' Group which oversee the performance and ensure the provision of quality services in relation to child protection, adult protection, wider protection, offender management, alcohol and drugs, and gender based violence. These are:

- Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee
- Renfrewshire Adult Protection Committee
- Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Oversight Group
- Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership
- Renfrewshire Gender Based Violence Strategy Group
- Community Protection Steering Group
- Renfrewshire Community Justice Steering Group

It is recognised that these areas of protection are very often inter-linked and can impact on each other. A key aim of the Chief Officers Group is to provide strategic leadership and oversight to ensure developments within specific areas of practice support cross cutting activity and have a positive impact on outcomes for local people.

Remit, roles and membership

The core membership of the Renfrewshire Chief Officers Group (COG) is chaired by the Chief Executive of Renfrewshire Council and comprises representation at Chief Executive level, or senior nominee, from the three statutory agencies - Renfrewshire Council, Police Scotland, and

Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board. They are supported by the attendance of the following or their senior nominee:

- Chief Social Work Officer, Renfrewshire Council or appropriate senior nominee;
- Chief Officer of the Integration Joint Board or appropriate senior nominee;
- Independent chair of Renfrewshire Child and Adult Protection Committees;
- Child Protection Committee lead officer
- Adult Protection Committee lead officer
- Senior officer representing Renfrewshire on the Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Oversight Group (NSCJA MAPPA SOG) or appropriate senior nominee
- Head of Communities and Public Protection or Director of Communities, Housing and Planning
- Scottish Fire Service senior officer representation
- Chair of the Gender Based Violence Strategy Group or appropriate senior nominee
- Chair of the Alcohol and Drugs Partnership or appropriate senior nominee

The remit of the group is:

- to provide strategic leadership and scrutiny of the work of the protection business areas on behalf of their respective agencies;
- to identify successes and areas for improvement and in doing so learn from experience, monitor trends and examine local and national comparisons; and
- take appropriate action where necessary in response to performance where improvement is needed. This includes the consideration of local and national critical incident reports to inform learning where this is appropriate.

The Chief Officers Group reviews performance management information to ensure that this is being collected in a robust and regular manner, that any areas for development are identified and addressed promptly and that consideration is given to identifying further opportunities for early intervention and prevention.

5. Member Officer Group

The purpose of the Member Officer Group is to provide senior elected members with the opportunity to formally and regularly discharge their strategic independent scrutiny and assurance role in relation to key activity and significant developments which have implications for public protection matters in Renfrewshire as they relate to:

- Adult and Child Protection;
- MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements); and
- Wider Community Safety and Public Protection matters including the Alcohol and Drug Partnership and Gender Based Violence Strategy Group.

The group is comprised of elected members on a cross party basis and key officers of the council as follows:

- Three senior members of the administration
- Two members of the main opposition group
- One other opposition member
- Director of Children's Services
- Chief Officer Social Work Officer
- Director of Communities, Housing and Planning
- Chief Officer, Integration Joint Board
- Health and Social Care Partnership (operational head of service)

- Head of Child Care and Criminal Justice
- Head of Communities and Public Protection
- Child Protection Lead Officer
- Adult Support and Protection Officer
- Head of Policy and Commissioning, Chief Executive's Service
- Service Planning and Policy Development Manager, Chief Executive's Service

Also in attendance will be:

- Independent Chair of the Child Protection and Adult Protection Committees
- Divisional Commander, Police Scotland or appropriate senior nominee

The group will also invite the participation of other key individuals or agencies involved in the areas of concern of the Member Officer Group as required.

6. Strategic Partnership Activities

6.1 Child Protection

Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee (RCPC) Self Evaluation: Member Survey

As part of ongoing self-evaluation activity, RCPC members were invited to take part in an online members' survey covering topics including, the RCPC vision and the effective participation of agencies at meetings - including the appropriate level of representation, the effectiveness of meetings, the structure of meetings and leadership. Respondents highlighted that meetings should be more participatory and inclusive, noting that some agencies do not contribute as much as others. Consequently, the format of RCPC meetings was reviewed with papers now being for discussion rather than for just noting. In addition, RCPC revised and agreed the new vision that 'Children in Renfrewshire are safe and protected from harm' which was approved by the Chief Officers Group in June 2019.

National Minimum Dataset

Chief Officers had been advised of the development of a National Minimum Dataset. It was agreed that the existing RCPC Scorecard will initially continue to be produced in tandem with the National Minimum Dataset, pending an evaluation taking place in autumn 2020.

Initial Case Review Process

The process used to progress Initial Case Reviews (ICRs) was refined during 2019/20. All meetings will now be based around the following considerations:

- Were there strategies and actions to minimise harm?
- Was there evidence of Information sharing?
- Was there recognition and assessment of risk?
- Was timely and effective action taken?
- Was there evidence of planning and review?
- How good was the record keeping?
- Were legal measures used appropriately?

The meeting will also consider the practice issues arising from the ICR. Areas of good practice identified will be highlighted whenever possible, together with any recommendations for further action. The meeting will conclude with a recommendation to RCPC/COG as follows:

- Undertake an SCR as there is either potential for significant corporate learning or it is in the best interests of the child/ young person and their family and in the public interest.
- No SCR is needed but follow-up action by one or more agencies is required.

- Where the CPC is satisfied there are no concerns and there is no scope for significant corporate/multi-agency learning or it is clear that appropriate action has already been taken they may decide to take no further action.

Eyes Open Campaign 2019

Following the success of the national and local media “Eyes Open” campaign run in 2018, an amended version was rolled out in conjunction with CPC Scotland in the week leading up to the end of the school term in summer 2019. It focused on the need for the public to ‘do their bit’ to protect potentially vulnerable children during the school holidays. The campaign stressed that if anyone is concerned about a child’s welfare, or has concerns that something is not quite right, then it is better to do something rather than nothing at all. The campaign was rolled out via a national press release and was picked up by local social media for 5 consecutive days in the run up to school closure.

Learning at Work Week 2019

The Inter-Agency Training Officer and Lead Officer RCPC facilitated a drop-in information session for staff on Friday 14 June 2019 in the Atrium, Renfrewshire House as part of Learning at Work Week. This gave the opportunity to promote the work of RCPC, including the RCPC Training Calendar, with partner agencies also providing publicity and/or training materials. It provided the opportunity to reinforce the message to the wider workforce that child protection is still “everyone’s job”.

HMP YOI Polmont

A report relating to the mental health services provision at Polmont was instigated in November 2018 following the deaths of two young people in custody in 2018. The completed report was published in May 2019. Chief Officers were advised of the report at the meeting held on 5 September 2019 and of the intention to scrutinise the report locally.

This report had particular significance given that two of Renfrewshire’s previously accommodated young people also died by suicide in Polmont in 2017. A review of their circumstances has already been undertaken by Children’s Services and a report and recommendations provided to the Independent Chair of RCPC. It is important however that we consider the learning points of the Expert Review to understand if any further changes to practice are required.

A short life working group was tasked with reviewing the report that considered the mental health services available to young people entering and in custody at HMP YOI Polmont. The findings from the working group were presented to RCPC on 18 December 2020.

RCPC Conference 2020

The biennial RCPC conference was held on 5 March 2020 in Johnstone Town Hall. The theme – ‘Recognising Neglect, Achieving Better Outcomes’ – was identified in recognition of the ongoing national agenda and the repeated necessary lessons to be learned from significant case reviews. The event included keynote speakers from the Care Inspectorate, Napier University and the Independent Care Review, as well as a series of workshops. In recognition of the theme of the event and the evident links to poverty, all delegates were asked to make a contribution to Renfrewshire Foodbank. Delegates evaluated the conference as being of relevance to their practice, suggesting that the issue of neglect is still a significant area of concern in practice and worthy of sustained focus.

Care Inspectorate Update

At the RCPC meeting held on 18 December 2019, the Care Inspectorate provided an overview of the new inspection methodology and shared some of the themes arising from the inspections undertaken to date. The revised inspection framework was introduced in autumn 2018 as part of the Scottish Government Child Protection Improvement Programme announced in 2017.

There remains some similarity with the previous framework in that it will continue to follow the previous model of self-evaluation, case file reading, fieldwork and analysis, culminating in a written report. It will continue to evaluate good partnership working and be a joint inspection with scrutiny partners and be on a legislative basis.

However, the focus for the revised inspection model is narrower than had been the case previously and will specifically scrutinise child protection and corporate parenting with an enhanced focus on hearing from children and young people themselves. The Continuous Improvement Subgroup of RCPC have developing an action plan to address the actions identified during the recent self-evaluation activity.

6.2 Trauma informed and Responsive Renfrewshire

There has been a growing awareness of the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACES) and of trauma on individuals, families and communities. The Chief Officers Group recognises the negative impact of childhood adversity and trauma and is committed to working to prevent and reduce this impact. Growing up with adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) such as abuse, neglect, community violence, homelessness, or growing up in a household where adults are experiencing mental health issues or harmful alcohol or drug use, can have a long-lasting effect on people's lives.

Preventing and responding early to adversity and trauma is a key focus across the Chief Officers Group and the Community Planning Partnership. As part of the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach, there is an emphasis on prevention and early intervention to ensure that all children have the best start in life. This is the responsibility of a range of services and organisations – in particular, children's services and child protection. Examples of work undertaken include:

- Family Nurse Partnership
- Pre and post birth Social Work support
- Renfrewshire Child Poverty Action Plan
- Functional Family Therapy

The GIRFEC approach ensures that children and young people who have been affected by adverse experiences get the help they need when they need it. Examples of the support provided during 2019/20 include:

- The continuing emphasis on the 'Philosophy of Care' model within Renfrewshire's children's houses. This trauma-informed approach is reflected in policy and in the practice of our residential staff.
- The Renfrewshire Nurturing Relationships Approach (RNRA) being undertaken by Educational Psychology service in response both to the poverty related attainment gap and to the increasing levels of social and emotional needs being highlighted by schools.
- Initial exploration of a strengths-based approach in child protection

The importance of ensuring the workforce is trauma informed remains a priority across the partnership. On 9 May 2020, senior officers from across the partnership attended a development session with Dr Karen Treisman, a specialist clinical psychologist with expertise in trauma and in supporting organisations to become trauma informed. Dr Treisman has been working with Barnardo's to support their entire workforce to become trauma informed and the session was arranged as part of Barnardos strategic partnership with Renfrewshire Council which is focusing on addressing the issue of young people's mental health from pre-birth until 25 years. Following this session, a development group was established to develop a plan to make Renfrewshire 'trauma informed and trauma responsive'. This work is ongoing and due to the pandemic will continue to into 2020/21.

In addition to this, work is being undertaken by Children's Services – led by the Educational Psychology Service – to roll out Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Approach (RNRA). As part of this work, the documentary 'Resilience; the biology of stress and the science of hope' has been shown to 35 groups of teachers, education professionals and support staff. It is supporting improved understanding about how nurturing relationships can help to mitigate the impact of ACEs and trauma.

An Accreditation Awards Toolkit is also being developed which sets out standards and criteria for planning, measuring, reviewing and reporting on RNRA outcomes and impact. This will be launched in the near future and Establishments will be able to apply for RNRA Accreditation.

More than 100 senior leaders (headteachers, depute headteachers) and other key staff have received leadership training that equips them to lead RNRA in their own schools, nursery or learning base.

Renfrewshire Educational Psychology Service is working with 43 primary schools, 10 secondary schools, 1 specialist provision and those establishments that are flexing learning continuum focused. In addition, they are supporting 21 Early Learning and Childcare Centres and Classes (ELCC) as well as four partner nurseries that are developing RNRA in their establishment. ELC classes are developing their approach along with their schools.

The development of an area-based trauma informed approach will be developed further in the next twelve months and remains a strategic objective. This approach is considered as essential to the recovery of the population from their experiences during the COVID-19 crisis.

6.3 Adult Protection (ASP)

Large Scale Investigation

A Large-Scale Investigation (LSI) was undertaken during 2019 and was concluded in December 2019. The LSI involved an independent sector care home for older people that was also subject to an LSI between September 2017 and April 2018. A revised version of Renfrewshire's LSI guidance and procedures was utilised during the most recent investigation and was subsequently evaluated positively and is soon due for publication; this follows a further period of consultation.

Joint Engagement and Communications Strategy

A Joint Engagement and Communications Strategy was developed between the Renfrewshire Adult and Child Protection Committees, building on similar work done in other partnership areas. Areas of overlap for key messages and campaigns will be identified and progressed. Where one of the committees has communication needs distinct from those of the other, these will be progressed with input from all relevant group members. It has been noted that there is diversity in communications needs between the two committees, but the overarching strategy and some key representatives will be shared.

Financial Harm Strategy

The Financial Harm Subgroup is receiving support from Renfrewshire Council's Chief Executive's Service, Policy and Commissioning Team, to progress with an ambitious and meaningful financial harm strategy, with a SMART action plan stemming from the strategy. Following further engagement with the Community Safety Partnership and finalised review by RAPC, launch of the strategy and action plan is expected in early 2021.

Review of RAPC

A review of RAPC membership and that of its subcommittees was undertaken to: promote full participation of members and identify any gaps in current membership; to improve collaboration; to improve multiagency ability to achieve RAPC goals, including to improve

outcomes for adults at risk of harm in Renfrewshire; and to better understand the challenges faced by RAPC members.

The review also considered RAPC's fulfilment of statutory responsibilities. The review identified that the establishment of a new subcommittee was warranted to ensure fulfilment of RAPC's functions relating to quality assurance and self-evaluation activity; the Continuous Improvement Subcommittee was created. A quality assurance framework has been developed and the subcommittee will oversee single and inter-agency evaluation of adult protection activity in Renfrewshire. This subcommittee will also oversee a biennial programme of larger-scale, multi-agency self-evaluation activity. The subcommittee will seek to expand the use of service user and carer engagement in ASP continuous improvement activity.

Training Needs Analysis

A training needs analysis e-survey was issued across the adult protection partnership in September 2019. The purpose of the questionnaire was to establish the extent of knowledge, experience and training that has taken place in relation to adult protection and the requirement for further learning in Renfrewshire. The information will be taken forward in clear actions as part of the training strategy and to develop the 2020 inter- and single-agency ASP training calendars. This will supplement information received from a similar electronic survey conducted as part of the RAPC self-evaluation 2018. All respondents confirmed awareness of adult protection, with 80% stating that they had good or excellent understanding.

Adult Protection National Significant Case Review (SCR) Framework

The Scottish Government formally launched the Adult Protection National Significant Case Review (SCR) Framework on 5th November 2019. The purpose of the framework is to provide a consistent approach to conducting Adult Protection Significant Case Reviews and to improve the dissemination and application of learning both locally and nationally. Renfrewshire's own SCR Guidance and Procedures will be updated in 2020, building on the national framework. Local guidance includes recognition of governance arrangements for significant case reviews within Renfrewshire, including the role of Chief Officers.

Collaboration with Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

The development of a new Renfrewshire Local Fire and Rescue Plan presents the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) with new opportunities to deploy its Prevention & Protection (P&P) assets across Renfrewshire in support of the Chief Officer's Public Protection Priorities.

Strong collaboration links continue to be enhanced with all partners across Renfrewshire and SFRS' engagement teams will have a strong focus on evidence-based initiatives, working closer and in a more collegiate way with all stakeholders across Renfrewshire. This approach will allow our P&P resources to develop stronger relationships and ensure that the most vulnerable across our communities receive the right level of support and care to reduce risk and improve wellbeing, with a clear focus on positive, measurable outcomes.

The information sharing protocol (ISP) between Renfrewshire Council, the Renfrewshire, HSCP and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde has also been reviewed and enhanced.

Adults at risk of going missing

The Herbert Protocol is a simple risk reduction tool to be used if an adult with care and support needs goes missing. The protocol has been extensively and successfully rolled out across most Police forces and partnerships across England, with positive feedback about its use when evaluated. Use of the protocol in other areas has focused specifically on people with dementia.

Police Scotland K-Division, with the support of its partners, including RAPC, has extended use of the protocol to any adults at risk of going missing in the community. This will not be restricted to adults with dementia. The 'K' Division protocol now includes adults at risk of going missing for any reason, including learning disability, dementia, acquired brain injury, or mental health problem. It will not be restricted to use with care homes or people living in their own

homes but will extend to use for anyone at risk of going missing in any community care setting, including the home of relatives.

Renfrewshire submitted a successful application to participate in the National Missing Persons Framework Implementation Project, which will enable us to receive support from Missing People, tailored to current processes and specific local needs, to develop good practice relating to people at risk of going missing. The submission involved collaboration of several partners, including the Renfrewshire HSCP; Renfrewshire Communities, Housing and Planning (Public Protection); Renfrewshire Children's Services; the Community Safety Partnership; and K-Division of Police Scotland.

The project will involve:

- Reviewing the response to missing through mapping and understanding current policies, guidance and practice relating to missing persons.
- Consulting on and developing policies and protocols around Return Discussions and information sharing.
- Delivering free, tailored training sessions to local professionals working in this field.
- Sharing best practice and learning related to the implementation of The National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland.
- Building awareness of support services available from Missing People which can allow our partners to focus resources on the operational response to missing persons.
- The launch of a Good Practice Toolkit for professionals to use day-to-day.

Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection

On 07 January 2020, the Care Inspectorate, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland (HMICS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) formally notified Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and Renfrewshire Council that they would be undertaking a joint inspection of adult support and protection arrangements in the Renfrewshire partnership area commencing on 16 March 2020.

The onsite phase began as scheduled but due to the Covid-19 emergency not all activities were completed. From the 50 file samples of adults at risk of harm only 23 social work, police and health records were read. None of the 40 recordings of initial inquiry episodes for which no further adult protection-related action was required were reviewed. However, the inspectors were able to undertake an analysis of the staff survey (562 responses); review the supporting evidence; and consider the position statement. The inspectors also considered the findings of the self-evaluation of ASP activity undertaken in Renfrewshire in 2018, which focused on initial inquiry episodes; these findings contributed to their conclusions from the current inspection activity.

As a result of COVID, no formal report will be produced however the Care Inspectorate has agreed to provide some reflections which will be presented to the Integration Joint Board.

6.4 Gender Based Violence

Renfrewshire's Gender Based Violence Strategy 'Equally Safe in Renfrewshire' has adopted and embraced the national priorities on gender based violence which were set out by the Scottish Government in Equally Safe. These priorities are seen as appropriate long-term goals and guide all work in Renfrewshire.

The impact of the strategy is monitored annually in line with the established evaluation framework. In line with the Scottish Government's reporting schedule an annual return will be submitted online identifying Renfrewshire's current position and progress made against the Equally Safe Performance Framework and Quality Standards. The annual progress report was approved by the Chief Officers' Group in September 2019.

Our vision is that “Renfrewshire is a place where Gender based Violence is not tolerated and where victims, perpetrators and communities are supported to address its causes and consequences”. The strategy focusses on four key priorities:

1. Ensure strong partnership working within Renfrewshire’s GBV Strategy Group.
2. Provide high quality local services which meet the needs of victims and address the behaviour of perpetrators.
3. Improve the knowledge, skills and behaviour of local workers around GBV through training.
4. Improve the knowledge, skills and behaviour of the wider community around GBV training and awareness raising activity.

The performance of the Renfrewshire GBV Strategy Group was assessed against the Equally Safe Quality Standards and Performance Framework and a report submitted to Scottish Government in July 2019. Of the 38 measures Renfrewshire fully met 23 and partly met 11 – areas for action were included in the group’s action plan.

Key achievements for 2019/20 include:

- MARAC Chair arrangements were reviewed following the introduction of the new domestic abuse legislation.
- Police Officers in ‘K’ Division have attended SafeLives training on identifying and responding to coercive control.
- 11 GBV training courses have been delivered to 68 staff across Renfrewshire since April 2019.
- The sensitive routine enquiry audit of Community Mental Health and Health Visiting services found that 97% and 90% of service users had been asked about their experience of abuse.
- A multi-agency approach to the Early Protective Messages (EPM) programme is underway. 398 staff have received training on the approach (137 HSCP Children’s Services and Specialist Children’s Services staff, 49 Social Work staff, 212 Early Years Education and Childcare Practitioners). The programme has been implemented in 25 Partnership and 12 Local Authority Early Years Establishments. All 74 Early Years Establishments will be trained to implement the programme by May 2020.

The focus for the 2019 16 days of Action Campaign was around raising awareness about the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 and increasing workforce skills. A range of activities were undertaken over 2019/20 in support of this:

- Annual Reclaim the Night March - The theme for the 2019 march was “Coercive and Controlling Behaviour – This is what it looks like”. Our local young people were encouraged to get involved and they provided a fabulous range of display materials and presentations.
- Practitioners Seminar - This attracted over 60 local workers from a range of services and departments. The seminar continued with the theme “This is what it Looks Like” and focused on coercive and controlling behaviour and its impact on victims
- The SafeLives research into survivor’s experience of support service in Renfrewshire and provided a range of one day training events looking at issues such as child sexual exploitation, rape and sexual assault.

On 13 November 2019, Renfrewshire Council established an employee policy for domestic abuse. The policy was implemented during the 16 days of action against domestic abuse and aims to:

- Demonstrate the Council’s commitment to supporting employees who have been impacted by domestic abuse;
- Encourage a supportive culture where employee’s feel confident to seek support and assistance in a confidential setting;
- Raise awareness of support provisions available through the Council and its partners.

- Provide managers and employees with advice and guidance to ensure the confidential handling of situations arising from domestic abuse;
- Meet all legislative requirements;
- Set out the Council's position in relation to addressing the behaviour of employees who are perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Employees who experience domestic abuse can request up to 10 days paid Safe Leave per leave year under the Council's Special Leave Policy to seek help and support for themselves and their families. The leave allows employees to:

- Attend medical appointments and counselling;
- Attend legal proceedings;
- Seek safe housing;
- Visit legal advisors or support agencies, for re-housing or re organising childcare, or for other relevant appointments;
- Liaise with the Police and other support organisations.

By preparing and implementing this policy, Renfrewshire Council is "taking a stand" by assisting and supporting employees who suffer from domestic abuse, tackling employees who are perpetrators of domestic abuse and assisting managers in identifying the signs of domestic abuse.

6.5 Community Safety and Public Protection

Serious Organised Crime / Counter Terrorism

Community Protection operates within the prevent space – best understood in relation to Counter Terrorism but also applicable to organised crime and relates to understanding and tackling issues of vulnerability and community dynamics which can lead to exploitation such as human trafficking, cyber-crime, drugs, missing persons, anti-social behaviour, violence. The aim of community protection is to work on a multi-agency basis to seek to avoid, delay or reduce the need to engage expensive long term and resource intensive support packages that would otherwise be implemented by social services and health.

Resilience and the effectiveness of individual services can be increased if related areas of activity are brought together and managed in joint teams / services. Community protection and prevention requires us to better understand and mitigate vulnerabilities that could lead to criminal or harmful activities, and support individuals and communities to better outcomes. Increasingly this requirement is being driven by a statutory agenda and expectations set out in national guidance – Counter Terrorism (Prevent), Domestic Abuse, Missing Persons and Human Trafficking all being examples where the statutory expectation and national guidance around mitigation and prevention have increased since 2015, and the impact of which are being considered as the review progresses.

Success requires co-ordinated multi-agency working and interventions and the development of appropriately targeted diversionary and intervention activities. Community Protection services in Renfrewshire have made good use of data, evidence and intelligence to target resources to best effect and to monitor and evaluate impact. Much of this has been collected from across partners through information sharing approaches and protocols. This is a key area of strength for the work currently undertaken within Renfrewshire. Confidence amongst partners in proportionate sharing and use of intelligence and data (in particular through the community safety partnership hub) has strengthened working relationships across partners and led to significant joint successes in targeted operations and interventions that require confident and resilient multi agency approaches. This has particularly benefited town centre management of anti-social behaviour and violence; human trafficking; counter terrorism (prevent); domestic abuse and missing persons. Opportunities exist to build on these foundations and extend the targeted use of intelligence and evidence to further harden and strengthen the community

against organised crime groups and to pre-emptively target particularly vulnerable individuals and communities and support them to improved outcomes. Some of these have been highlighted through the Collaborative Leadership training programme undertaken during 2019 in relation to frauds and scams and some have been identified in relation to national programmes around organised crime and counter terrorism. National approaches have a particular focus on improved use of data and intelligence in relation to Trading Standards and licensing activities in order to combat organised crime groups and will be facilitated by closer working and management relationships that include licensing alongside other community protection regulatory services.

National Prevent Agenda

Prevent Professional Concerns Duty Guidance Update

During 2019 / 2020 Renfrewshire Council continued to assist with the work being led by the Home Office to update the PREVENT Professional Concerns Duty Guidance and process following the latest legislative changes set out in the Counter Terrorism and Security Act and CONTEST Guidance 2018. This included ongoing work with the Scottish Government to assist them in developing the most recent Scottish specific Prevent guidance.

Over the summer of 2019, events were held across 11 locations in England, Scotland and Wales engaging with 144 participants, and along with sector-based engagement, capturing over 700 responses. The Council and Police Scotland were represented at events held in Glasgow. Several key themes emerged from this engagement which the Home Office are now proposing to incorporate into the new guidance which they are intending should better meet the needs of PPC Chairs and panel members. The Guidance was delayed due to the COVID-19 lockdown period and it is anticipated that it will now be issued during late summer 2020.

Submissions made during the consultation process so far reflect broad support for the direction of travel which indicates the continued delivery of the PPC process very much as it currently stands in Renfrewshire. While clear governance arrangements are required and should be evidenced by Council's the guidance should not be overly prescriptive and allow for flexibility around local CPP arrangements reflecting the needs and organisational structures in each community.

Similarly the need has been expressed not to be prescriptive in the arrangements for how frequently PPC's meet and conduct business - the important thing being to ensure that arrangements are in place to get all the relevant parties round the table in response to cases quickly - for local arrangements to address how best to achieve this and to meet the needs of case being discussed. In Renfrewshire so far, representation has varied from case to case to reflect the particular circumstances of each case and a standing meeting would not have been the best way to achieve this kind of focus or speed of response

In terms of determining the responsibility for hosting PPC's the Renfrewshire response indicated that it is important that the principles of residence are retained as this facilitates the development of effective relationships between professionals within an area and key establishments that may take in residents from other areas. - ie residential and secure care establishments. The current process where the PPC is held by the authority where the person is currently resident works well and makes sense – any other approach is likely to lead to inconsistency in how various establishments are expected to support and respond to Prevent referrals when their current residents might be under the Social Work care system in a number of different authorities.

Prevent Professional Concerns Case Conferences (PPCs) in Renfrewshire continue to be chaired by the Council SPOC as part of the wider Public Protection arrangements and governance. The process has worked well with 8 PPCs being held to date and has led to the right level of representation from other services and agencies at meetings as required and this continued during the lockdown period in 2020 with PPC's being held using digital platforms.

Renfrewshire is viewed as having established a good working model for PPCs in Scotland by both the Home Office and Scottish Government including Police Scotland.

Information Sharing Protocol

An updated Information Sharing Protocol for community protection has now been agreed and signed by the relevant parties – Renfrewshire Council, Inverclyde Council and Police Scotland. Community Partners have also signed up. This is a significant step as it covers the whole of Police K Division with a wide-reaching information sharing protocol that supports the proportionate and relevant sharing of information between a range of public and third sector partners for a range of public protection purposes. It gives clarity and confidence in the appropriate sharing of information that will protect individuals and communities from coming to harm and supports a range of interventions including daily tasking, MARAC, Counter Terrorism and Serious Organised Crime. So far it is believed to be the first of its kind in Scotland.

Training and awareness

The latest iteration of counter terrorism awareness training - ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) has been rolled out throughout the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in Renfrewshire and the Community Protection (Prevent) Steering Group has agreed that Police Scotland will support delivery of a similar programme of training for key Council and Partner services. This training effectively replaces and updates the previous WRAP training which has been rolled out since 2015. At the same meeting it was also agreed that a programme of bespoke training would be developed for residents at Kibble and The Good Shepherd and if successful this could be tailored and rolled out for mainstream school pupils.

Prevent Training Event

The Community Protection (Prevent) Steering Group agreed to develop a bespoke training event. This will be supported by the Scottish National Prevent Delivery Unit as well as the Divisional Counter Terrorism officers and will include a Prevent PPC Table Top Exercise which has already been successfully rolled out in some other areas. The event will be aimed at partners and services that might need to participate in a PPC process at some time and will focus on the types of issue and concern that may lead to a referral - the importance of the Notice – Check - Share approach and the types of outcome or processes that are involved in responding to a Prevent referral including some of the interventions that might be used. A Home Office expert has been secured to lead some of the key sessions. The event was originally scheduled to be held during April 2020 but has been tentatively rescheduled to be held during October 2020.

COSLA Guidance for Local Authorities on Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation

During 2019/2020 CoSLA released guidance intended to support Local Authorities to develop good practice to identify, refer and support victims of human trafficking and exploitation, and disrupt and deter criminal activities. Human Trafficking is a significant and growing concern – highlighted by media coverage during 2019 of the tragic deaths of Vietnamese nationals in Essex. There have been a number of instances of Vietnamese people having been identified as potential victims of trafficking in Renfrewshire. There are also ongoing and successful joint operations with Border Force and Police Scotland to target the trafficking of individuals through Glasgow Airport from Eastern Europe for use in the sex trade.

The COSLA guidance has 8 parts and the Community Protection (PREVENT) Steering Group will lead on this agenda for Renfrewshire embedding relevant actions within its action plan:

- **Part 1** - Provides the definition of the crime of human trafficking and exploitation in Scotland, and the legislative and strategic context which underpins our work in this field.
- **Parts 2, 3 and 4** – Provide an overview of the ways in which local authority staff may come across victims of human trafficking and exploitation, the instances in which local authority staff may identify victims, and the means by which local authorities are required to refer and support victims and deter and disrupt criminal activities. They

outline approaches in partnership working and include a checklist of some of the common potential signs of trafficking and an overview of the purpose and the benefits of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), and the referral process.

- **Part 5** - Considers local authorities' duties to safeguarding and supporting adult and child victims. There is a flowchart of the referral and support process, and a fact sheet outlining key considerations which provide support
- **Part 6** - Outlines local authorities' specific powers to disrupt and deter criminal activity via regulatory and licensing duties, community safety partnerships, and responsible procurement practices to seek to remove human trafficking and exploitation from supply chains
- **Parts 7 and 8** - provide a directory of useful websites and resources, including a list of training providers and a suite of tools that can be used for awareness raising and training.

Collaborative Leadership Programme

A group of 17 staff from key partners working in Renfrewshire completed the inaugural partnership Collaborative Leadership Programme by undertaking an analysis and review of the work undertaken by the Community Safety Hub and presenting their findings to the Community Protection Chief Officer Group in June 2019. Each group highlighted potential areas for improvement that would build on the success of the current model. Participants came from partners including Renfrewshire Council, Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Scottish Ambulance Service, the Star Project, Bridgewater Housing Association and the NHS.

Following the formal classroom training, Officers from the cohorts presented to the Management Team within Communities and Public Protection on some issues noted including:

- Frauds and Scams / Financial Harm
- Visibility of the hub and its work
- Participation and involvement of key partners
- Terms of reference
- Evidence of success / performance
- Infrastructure improvements

From the meetings, actions were taken to implement some of the findings and these have been incorporated into the Communities, Housing and Planning Services Service Improvement Plan 2020 – 2021.

Public Space CCTV – strategic review of camera locations

Renfrewshire Council currently has 57 public space CCTV cameras covering Paisley, Johnstone and Renfrew Town Centres. These cameras and the 24 hr coverage of the images has been critical in investigating and preventing some of the most significant and violent incidents that have taken place in recent years, that might otherwise have been unsolved or have escalated and resulted in the death or severe injury of innocent people.

Using up to date data from both Police Scotland (Storm) database and Renfrewshire Council (Civica) database, a strategic review of CCTV cameras was undertaken in January 2020. Data was also used on the number of times cameras have been used for incidents by CCTV Operators and anecdotal information/experience from the CCTV Operators about which cameras need to be used and why.

From this strategic review, Communities and Public Protection have confidence that cameras remain in the correct location and have identified gaps that exist within Town Centres whilst developing a potential wish-list for the expansion of public space CCTV wider across Renfrewshire. This information will be essential to support any capital funding bids as well as options to secure the on-going revenue costs associated with the work – especially if this were from 3rd party sources.

In addition to public space CCTV, investment has also been put into mobile CCTV including upgrades to the mobile CCTV vehicles and infrastructure as well as portable cameras used for anti-social behaviour investigations and fly tipping. To protect key assets in Renfrewshire, discussions were undertaken to ensure that the Paisley Town Hall and Museum were protected whilst being renovated.

An additional 8 CCTV cameras have been installed and fed back to the CCTV Control Room within the Renfrewshire Community Safety Hub. This will allow the cameras to be monitored on a 24-hour basis and enable them to be used wider to deter and detect crime in Paisley Town Centre.

As a “proof of concept” for Renfrewshire, the Council worked with Boston Networks to trial the use of “point to point” cameras using Wi-Fi technology. This is in line with recommendations made by one of the Collaborative Learning Groups and has been implemented in other local authorities, however, it is essential that the cameras work continuously (don’t drop the signal) and there is no lag in transmission to the CCTV Control Room. This technology is being piloted and used for both sites.

Within Renfrewshire Community Safety Hub, work was completed to link a monitor from the CCTV Control Room into the Conference Room within the Hub. This will allow partners to see first-hand what the CCTV Operator is seeing on their computer screen within the Conference Room when it is being used as a Joint Agency Control Centre (JACC) for major events e.g. Halloween Parade. This will free up the CCTV Control Room to allow the Operator to focus on their work without interruption and will enhance the information available to the JACC.

Responding to COVID-19 - Shielding and Vulnerability, Local Assistance Team Support

During the lockdown period over 1,800 Group 1 Shielding and Group 2 vulnerable residents within Renfrewshire have required emergency food provisions, through the Local Assistance Team, and, a further 829 vulnerable people have been supported with food provision from internal referrals. A total of 756 customers have been supported through a prescription delivery service. The Scottish Government has been to pause the requirement for shielding on 31 July and at that time support for those requiring it moved to mainstream services or community neighbourhood hubs if the suppression of the virus continues at the current rate then it is likely that this will remain the position.

From the continuous weekly welfare calls, most customers indicated that they no longer required the emergency food provision support well in advance of the date for pausing shielding. During the welfare calls the needs of customers were explored to ensure that, where appropriate, customers are linked into relevant support from mainstream services, partners and the volunteers and third sector agencies working with the neighbourhood hubs. This includes support with getting access to food and medicine, where appropriate.

The Local Assistance Team has also sought to make contact with people on the local shielding list. There are 6253 customers are on the shielding list and over 99% of these customers have been contacted. Where contact has not been made directly by the team, it has been checked through the HSCP with GP’s and by the Renfrewshire Wardens who conducted domiciliary visits to check on the customer’s welfare.

Contingency planning has been undertaken to ensure that there are robust plans in place in the event of a future wave of the virus, a local lockdown or a spike in Test and Protect cases.

Test and Protect Model

The Test and Protect Model went live across Scotland on Thursday 28 May 2020. A national team took over “routine” cases from 13 July 2020, whilst “complex” cases will still be passed to local health boards to undertake tracing of close contacts with support from local authorities.

The Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 came into force on 8 June 2020 requiring all passengers entering the UK to complete a Public Health Passenger Locator Form. Discussions remain on-going with Public Health Scotland and the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board around arrangements for quarantine for travellers who do not have a suitable address to reside at but have entered Scotland via Glasgow Airport. Due to low numbers of travellers to date, this has not been an issue, however, as numbers increase so does the potential requirement for quarantining.

Environmental Health and Trading Standards

Under the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, extensive work was undertaken to support businesses both during the lockdown period and as more normal service delivery options were beginning to fully open across Renfrewshire. This has involved practically every member of staff being involved in one way or another.

A targeted, partnership approach was undertaken between Renfrewshire Council (EH&TS and Licensing) and Police Scotland to target licensed premises at the point they began to reopen and while some problems were noted, these were rectified promptly without the need for formal enforcement action.

Complaints and enquiries continue to be received on a daily basis from both the public and businesses due to the ever changing legislation and guidance, which is proving extremely challenging to resource – however in the main both businesses and the public have responded well to the challenges imposed by the lockdown period and to the changes in the way that services need to be provided when living with COVID-19.

Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements and Community Justice

The strategic arrangements in relation to Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) continue to be overseen by the MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group, which exists across the six local authorities, previously under North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority. Information in relation to the workings of MAPPA, statistics, annual aims and objectives and work undertaken are included in the MAPPA Annual report. The most recent report covers 2018/19 and can be found on the Renfrewshire criminal justice website.

6.6 Community Justice

Improving community understanding and participation in community justice

Community Justice Renfrewshire held a partnership event – Time for Change – at Johnstone Town Hall in March 2020. This event brought together a wide range of stakeholders with local and national speakers, to reinforce the importance of understanding community justice issues and promote partnership working. This event was a positive step in the reinvigoration of the partnership. The event was well attended, and feedback from the workshop sessions showed that delegates had gained a better understanding of community justice issues and the aspirations of Community Justice Renfrewshire.

Feedback highlighted that the event had provided the opportunity for people to better understand how their role aligned with the aims and goals of the partnership. Delegates indicated that they were keen to be involved in future work and would welcome the opportunity to be involved in the partnership at different levels – for example, being involved in working groups, strategic groups and focus groups etc. It was intended that this event be followed up with further actions – including the development of subgroups and workshops - however due to the Covid-19 pandemic this work has been postponed at this time and will be followed up as soon as reasonably practicable.

Improving the employability pipeline for people with convictions and those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness

The 'Just Learning – Skills for Employment Project' was rooted in the concept of a cross cutting partnership approach that recognises multiple benefits can and must be delivered to help those engaged move their lives onto a more productive and sustainable path. The project was funded through a successful joint bid to the Scottish Government's Employability Innovation and Integration Fund. It was delivered and managed by a multi-agency steering group.

The successes of this project were noted at its conclusion through external evaluation. It was noted at the conclusion of the project that it had only just scratched the surface, and that more needed to be done. Invest in Renfrewshire subsequently agreed to mainstream the project until 2022. The steering group has now evolved into the Employability, Homelessness and Justice Group which now feeds into The Local Employability Partnership and Renfrewshire's No One Left Behind Strategy. Work is underway to identify new initiatives which will benefit this client group through this multi-agency partnership approach.

Tackling homelessness for prison leavers

Renfrewshire Council, in partnership with Turning Point Scotland, have been delivering a Housing First pilot. The pilot is targeted at people with a history of issues such as, repeat homelessness, non-engagement with support services, substance misuse, offending etc.

The key objectives of Housing First are to:

- provide a person-centred service and be creative and flexible when supporting service users;
- respect and listen to service users and involve and encourage them to make decisions about the service they want;
- help to address housing support and addiction issues to enable a service user to make positive changes in their life;
- encourage service users to lead full and active lives, achieve their aspirations and become involved in meaningful activities; and
- provide an equal and non-judgmental service.

The pilot was initially funded to support 10 service users. Due to Turning Point Scotland securing funding from Big Lottery, the service was able to be delivered to up to 20 service users. The Big Lottery funding came to an end in March 2020.

The following Community Justice practitioners work together within Low Moss Prison on a weekly basis:

- Homeless Services New Start officer
- Housing Addictions Liaison Officer
- EIIF Just Learning project Coordinator (employability services)

This has allowed for improved sharing of information between the partners and ease of access to a range of services for prisoners prior to their release.

Raising awareness of services and pathways available in Renfrewshire which support people to improve mental health and wellbeing.

Community Justice Renfrewshire continues to support Active Communities in developing and promoting their new Renfrewshire Women's Centre. 'KAIROS' is based in Johnstone and is funded through the Robertson Trust. It seeks to be a safe, welcoming and respectful service offering a variety of opportunities and activities for women generally, including those with convictions, providing good connections to other local services.

Strong links have been made with criminal justice social work. Women undertaking community payback orders, including supervision and unpaid work, are provided with placements which have been a positive step in their rehabilitation.

Joint working between Community Justice Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership have enabled a successful funding proposal through the Scottish Government's Change Fund. The 'Just Recover' project aims to improve the clinical pathways into addiction services for People with convictions in Renfrewshire. A Community Justice Development Worker – Addictions has been recruited and will be based and line managed within Renfrewshire Addictions Service. Work is currently underway to report on the progress of year two of the plan (2019/20) to Community Justice Scotland which will be published in September 2020.

6.7 Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP)

COVID-19

The impact of Covid-19 at the end of the reporting period has resulted in the need for services to continually adapt to meet the needs of individuals affected by alcohol and drugs. This has also had an impact on work in the partnership's strategic priority areas. This has meant that, in some cases, they have been delayed or postponed but these will remain a priority as we move forward.

Alcohol and Drug Related Deaths

The ADP Drug Deaths Action Plan continues to be a working document with key areas for action identified, including the continued distribution of naloxone to ensure maximum coverage in conjunction with key partners including the Alcohol and Drug Recovery Service, Housing and Homeless, pharmacies and families.

Renfrewshire ADP has updated the local Drug Deaths Action Plan which outlines key priorities for preventing deaths. This includes investigating all drug related deaths and trends, the continued distribution of naloxone and reviewing areas for intervention. In 2018, there were 50 drug related deaths in Renfrewshire compared to 38 the previous year representing an increase of 31.6%, but is a 28.6% increase on the 5 year average of 36. It is envisaged that this rising trend has continued into 2019 but official data has been delayed by National Records for Scotland.

The provision of the Festive Overdose Awareness Campaign has also continued. This includes targeted distribution of naloxone along with advice and support around overdose. Collaborative working continues with the creation of the Drug Action Partnership Group led by Police Scotland with the key aim of preventing and reducing the number of drug related deaths in Renfrewshire.

The rate of alcohol related deaths has increased from 32.4 in 2017 (per 100,000) 16+ to 37.8 (per 100,000) 16+ in 2018. There are plans to develop a process similar to drug deaths to ensure information is captured in relation to each alcohol related deaths to identify any potential areas for intervention. This is currently being led by the Scottish Government.

Recovery Orientated Systems of Care

The outcome of the Independent Review of Alcohol and Drug Services has reached the implementation phase. This will inform a change programme to shape a new, fully integrated alcohol and drug service, including the provision of a Specialist GP Shared Care Team. In addition to this, premises have been secured for the development of a Recovery Hub for Renfrewshire – individuals with lived experience will have a key role in developing this resource. The Recovery Hub will be supported by a range of disciplines including Peer Workers. Navigator posts (who are based at the Royal Alexandra Hospital) have been recruited with the key aim of offering support to individuals to connect with local community services.

Youth Connections, a third sector partner, has secured funding for the development and delivery of a Young Person's Recovery Service in Renfrewshire. The service will be delivered applying a three-tiered approach focusing on prevention and education as well as providing one to one recovery sessions.

Prevention

The Alcohol and Drug Partnership has provided funding to recruit a Health Improvement Lead for Licensing to enhance how alcohol licensing applications are responded to. The aim of the post has been to provide clarity for the Licensing Board on the potential adverse impact of alcohol from what is proposed by the applicant at a local level. This has included working with partner agencies to provide local data on other aspects such as antisocial behaviour as well as health data. In addition, and where appropriate, responses have included requests for certain conditions which the premises have to comply with to limit any adverse impacts. The HSCP has received 25 licensing applications for comment.

The delivery of alcohol and brief interventions (ABIs) continue to be a priority for the ADP. Current performance shows that there were 224 ABIs delivered as at March 2020 compared to 306 in the previous year. Funding has been provided for a dedicated resource to work with key partners to improve performance in this area.

6.8 Renfrewshire Alcohol and Drugs Commission

When developing Renfrewshire's Community Plan 2017-2022, Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership made a commitment to better understand how individuals, families and communities across Renfrewshire are impacted by alcohol and drug misuse. As a result, an independent Alcohol and Drugs Commission has been established.

Since the beginning of 2019, significant work has been undertaken to establish and develop the work programme of the Commission. At the outset, Commission members agreed to consider support those with the highest need who are suffering the most severe disadvantage. In the meetings which have followed, the Commission - which comprises key national experts from across health and social care, housing, justice, third sector and higher education - has discussed how we currently support people affected by alcohol and drug use; our services across prevention and early intervention; recovery; the impact of trauma; and how we engage with children and young people.

One of the most important parts of the work of the Commission continues to be listening to the voices of those with lived experience: talking to service users, people in recovery and their families and carers. To hear these voices, Commission members have visited Renfrewshire services including the Sunshine Recovery Café, the Renfrewshire Men's and Women's Groups, Renfrewshire Family Support Group, and Renfrewshire Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Resource (RADAR). In addition, the members of the Commission have also engaged with frontline staff and Pastoral Care teachers in a series of focus groups. In January 2020. A Recovery Conversation event was held in partnership with the Sunshine Recovery Café. This event provided the opportunity for over 100 individuals from the recovery community (including family members) to meet with Commission members and give their views to the Commission. The Commission has also heard evidence from a range of services and organisations and experts to inform its recommendations

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, work is still ongoing to refine the key messages or recommendations that are beginning to flow from the work of the Commission. However, this work is a priority for the Chief Officers Group and will resume during late 2020.

6.9 Suicide Prevention

Representatives from the Chief Officers Group received a presentation from the National Suicide Prevention Leadership Group (NSPLG) during Summer 2019 at a SOLACE Chief Executives meeting. The NSPLG was established to help drive implementation of the Scottish Government's Suicide Prevention Action Plan (2018), which sets out a target to further reduce the rate of suicide by 20% by 2022 (from a 2017 baseline). A key action from the 2018 plan, was to develop appropriate reviews into all deaths by suicide.

Examples of best practice from other areas in Scotland were highlighted during the presentation and discussion, with particular discussion in relation to multi agency case reviews which were being piloted in some local authority/health board areas in Scotland following confirmation of death by suicide. A follow up discussion was held with NSPLG several weeks after the SOLACE meeting, with an offer made to link Renfrewshire officers to appropriate officers across NHS Highland and Ayrshire where the multi agency case review approach was being piloted. These case reviews are being used to identify and consider any learning that can be gained from each of these very tragic deaths with, family members involved also in the process. Following the reviews there is a commitment to taking forward learning and improvements on a multi-agency basis. Work to develop a Renfrewshire response is currently ongoing.

Choose Life Renfrewshire

Renfrewshire's Choose Life Service Co-ordinator has a key role in implementing the Renfrewshire's suicide prevention action plan. The action plan focuses on developing a wide range of services and practical support, raising awareness, undertaking research to improve knowledge about suicide.

During 2019, approximately 180 members of staff have participated in the training sessions including:

- Suicide TALK
- safeTALK (Suicide Alertness for Everyone)
- ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)
- SMHFA (Scotland's Mental Health First Aid – adult version)
- What's The Harm ? (Self Harm Awareness)

In addition, a series of twilight sessions took place with Children's Services in relation to understanding suicide and self-harm. The service also supports community initiatives such as "No Substitute for Life and the annual Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide service held each year in January at Renfrewshire House.

Building on the links developed with Children's Services (Education) in 2019, a programme of training was agreed which would have run in its entirety until 30th June 2020. A total of 25 teachers, parents and pupils participated in workshops which were well received. Existing links with Erskine Day Hospital were built upon and a bespoke workshop was delivered on Suicide Prevention & Self Harm to 12 staff and veterans who attend the day hospital.

A comprehensive training programme was scheduled for 2020, however due to COVID-19 and restrictions on face to face training the programme was cancelled from 17th March. This programme consisted of:

- ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) – 5 courses
- SAFETALK (suicide Alertness for Everyone) – 5 courses
- SMHFA (Scotland's Mental Health First Aid – adult version) – 3 courses
- What's The Harm ? (Self Harm Awareness) – 2 courses
- Introduction to Mental Health (bespoke course) – 2 courses

It is hoped that an alternative approach to delivering sessions will be developed to allow delivery of some training safely. It is anticipated that when Scottish Government guidance permits, face to face training will recommence within that guidance. Challenges around this are anticipated to include: access to suitable venues and delivery of training to smaller groups than in previous years. This will present a challenge in achieving similar numbers of people trained as in previous years.

6.10 Review of Chief Officers Group

At its meeting on the 21st November 2019, the Chief Officers Group agreed to commission a review of the oversight arrangements for public protection. It was agreed that Duncan Macaulay, independent consultant and previously the Chief Social Work Officer for Edinburgh City and Orkney Islands Councils, be commissioned to undertake the review. Duncan also undertook the previous, comprehensive review in 2015. In addition to his very detailed understanding of the local governance structure, recommissioning Duncan Macaulay would also allow for an informed yet independent position to be reached as to whether current governance arrangements are operating as effectively as anticipated following the 2015 review, with options for further improvements identified for consideration by COG.

The review was undertaken from January 2020 onwards. It was originally intended to be concluded by March 2020, however, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown meant that a number of interviews with members scheduled for late March 2020 had to be postponed. The final interviews will be completed in summer 2020 and it is anticipated that the final draft report will be presented to COG in Autumn 2020 for consideration.

The review has involved:

- Consideration of the Terms of Reference for the COG;
- Consideration of the Terms of Reference for the associated sub groups;
- Review of a sample of COG reports;
- Interviews with COG members;
- Interviews with chairs of each of the sub groups;
- Consideration of good practice in other areas.

In terms of the Chief Officers Group specifically, the review considered:

- Role and remit in terms of supporting leadership, strategy and vision;
- Membership;
- Agenda-setting;
- Scrutiny of performance;
- Reporting arrangements;
- Clarity of lines of accountability; and
- Compliance with national guidance.

The review has also developed options for consideration in terms of the strategic structure of the governance arrangements/groups, as well as undertaking a similar process in relation to the Member Officer Group and its operation.

Through the course of the review, some emerging recommendations have allowed for updating of the Terms of Reference for Renfrewshire Adult Protection Committee. The independent consultant worked collaboratively with the independent chair of the committee and with the lead officer on this. The final report and recommendations will inform the future direction and functioning of the Chief Officers Group and, when agreed, will be implemented throughout 2020/21.

7. Strategic Focus

As detailed in Section 3, Renfrewshire Community Protection Chief Officers Group is responsible for leadership, strategic oversight and scrutiny in relation to multi-agency public protection activity and practice in Renfrewshire. The group also regularly scrutinises performance information across all areas of community protection activity, focusing in on areas where there are changes in referrals, incidents or concerns reported, or where

national research or legislation suggests improvements or change to practice or multi agency working.

The Chief Officers Group will continue to seek to ensure that performance and practice are scrutinised at a strategic level, to identify what works well, to highlight any areas for improvement, and to consider where further opportunities for early intervention and prevention activity would achieve improved outcomes for local people.

When identifying the strategic priorities for 2020/21, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, consideration has also been given to:

- The commitment of staff and partners during lockdown to ensuring vulnerable people are safe and protected;
- the impact on people already vulnerable to isolation, including issues such as mental health wellbeing, adult protection and drug and alcohol use;
- the potential longer-term impact on children and families – for example, the socio-economic impact on those with existing vulnerabilities and on others who now require support as a result of COVID-19;
- the likelihood that the virus will have an impact for an extended period and that services may have to be delivered differently going forward; and
- the capacity and resources available to all partners to allow them to manage existing activity whilst trying to move forward and meet changing needs and demands.

The strategic focus for the Chief Officers Group and the Member Officers Group during 2019/20 will be as follows:

- Collectively monitor impact of COVID 19 on most vulnerable citizens, in terms of impact on child and adult protection and wider community protection;
- Monitor and address the impact of Gender Based Violence across Renfrewshire in light of COVID19;
- Focus on new and emerging adult protection concerns including financial harm through bogus callers, rogue traders and scams;
- Provide scrutiny, support and oversight of activity in relation to care homes in light of COVID-19, with a particular focus on the wellbeing of residents and staff;
- Implement the recommendations from the independent review of COG by Duncan Macaulay;
- Prioritise work on alcohol and drugs use across Renfrewshire and refresh the recommendations of the Alcohol and Drugs Commission in light of covid-19 to ensure that we reduce the impact on individuals, families and communities;
- Support positive mental health and wellbeing with a focus on suicide prevention and people presenting to agencies in distress;
- Monitor the potential impact of the UK leaving the European Union undertaking activities on a partnership basis where this is required;
- Implement the recommendations from the Joint Inspection of Adult Support and Protection;
- Renfrewshire's Community Justice planned presumption against short sentences which will be extended to 12 months;
- Consider the findings of the National Child Protection Improvement Programme as these are developed and implement as appropriate; and
- Monitor community tension and support community cohesion across Renfrewshire with regards to protests, demonstrations and activities in relation to current community issues e.g. Covid-19, Black Lives Matter etc.