

Briefing No.63

02 March 2017

Multi-Agency Learning & Development – funding for further neglect training.

We are pleased to inform staff that we have been able to access funding to provide a further 4 sessions of the **Neglect and Introduction to the Neglect Toolkit** training by independent consultant, Moira McKinnon in 2017. These dates have been added to the Multi-Agency Learning and Development Calendar for 2017 and the Flyer/Application Form is available on the Information for Practitioners – Training page www.dumgal.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies

The aims of this course are:

- to explore the Neglect Toolkit as a tool for intervention and assessment and onward referral, where this is indicated.
- to provide participants with the opportunity to measure, assess and target areas of neglect to support the families they are working with.

This training is aimed initially at those undertaking the role of Named Person, Lead Professional or child protection co-ordinator/officer. However it would also be relevant for:

- Midwives
- Health Visitors
- Child Protection Advisors
- Child Protection Co-ordinators
- Senior Social Workers
- Social Workers within Children & Families
- Police Public Protection Unit Staff
- Uniform Supervisors.

Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group

Who are the Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group

- Elizabeth Bell, Senior Manager Children and Families Social Work – **Chair**
- Ann Fitzpatrick, Nurse Consultant Public Protection
- Kathleen McFarlane, Lead Nurse/ Assistant General Manager Women, Children's & Sexual Health Services.
- Midwifery Services – *To be confirmed*
- Kay Forrest, Locality Manager Children & Families Social Work (Nithsdale)
- Jo Cochrane, Children's Services Development and Assurance Team Manager

What has the Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group been working on?

In 2015 the Child Protection Committee gave the Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group the task of developing and implementing the multi-agency Pre-Birth Protocol for Vulnerable Women and Babies. This protocol was published in October 2016. The Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group has continued to monitor performance with regard to these protocols and the group reports quarterly to the Child Protection Committee on this.

What is the group doing now?

The Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group is now undertaking a quality assurance role by sampling 4 pre-birth cases on a monthly basis using a standardised audit template in line with the approach used by the Care Inspectorate. From the second quarter of 2016-17, quality reporting will also be included in the report to the CPC.

What does this mean for multi-agency staff?

The Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group wants to ensure that staff from all agencies are aware of the work being undertaken with respect to pre-birth cases. The group also recognises the need to ensure that themes, issues and learning from the quality assurance activity are fed back to the staff involved.

How will this happen?

Pre-Birth Workshops will be held for those staff involved in the pre-birth pathway work. The Workshops will ensure that issues, themes and learning from the quality assurance are fed back to the staff while also asking these frontline staff about the issues they are encountering and possible solutions to inform the future review of processes and procedures. Managers within Health and Social Work will also ensure that the themes, issues and learning are discussed at Team Meetings and feedback from these meetings will also be included in the future review of processes and procedures.

The first of these Workshops will take place in March 2017 and relevant staff will be invited in the next couple of weeks. To ensure that staff across all agencies are aware of how information from the group will be disseminated we have drafted a Strategic Pre-Birth Planning Group Communication Flowchart and you can access this on the 'Child Protection Resources' page of the Information for Practitioner page on www.dumgal.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies

Children's Services Plan – Consultation Events

Over the last two months we have undertaken several consultation events with frontline staff, managers and Strategic Groups on the proposed content of the new Children's Services Plan. We want to take this opportunity to thank all those that took part in these consultation events and let you know that the feedback received will inform the development of the plan, which is now in the advanced stages. As outlined in the consultation events the new Children's Services Plan must be completed by 1 April and will be published soon afterwards.

Children's Services Executive Group:

Colin Grant, Director Children, Young People and Lifelong Learning (Chair)

Lindsay Abrines, Locality Reporter Manager

Lillian Cringles, CSWO/Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice Services

Eddie Docherty, Nurse Director

Irvine Watson, Superintendent Operations, Police Scotland

Linda Williamson, General Manager, Women and Children's Health Services

For more information about anything in this briefing please email GIRFEC@Dumgal.gov.uk