



Falkirk Child Protection Committee

Annual Report
2023-2024

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Introduction

I am pleased to introduce the Falkirk Child Protection Committee (CPC) Annual Report which covers the period from 1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024. The report Highlights the CPC's key activities across the reporting period.

A significant focus this year has been the continued implementation of the new national child protection guidance introduced in 2021 and updated further in 2023. We have worked at implementing our practice-oriented guidance for staff, enabling change and focusing on improvement.

Wherever possible we work in partnership with Stirling and Clackmannanshire CPCs given that we are all served by one Health Board and one Police Division. This comes with the challenge of coordinating our improvement activity but also brings the rewards you would expect from having a consistent approach. I wish to highlight the implementation of the Forth Valley Missing Persons procedures and the adoption of the Scottish Child Interview Model across the Forth Valley area both of which represent significant improvements as to how we support children and young people and gain invaluable feedback from all involved.

We continue to carry out rigorous audit activities and use information from audit together with the data we have, to better understand what we do well and at times not so well. This allows us to have a clearer understanding of service quality and the areas where targeted improvements are needed. We are aware that further work is required to take the views of the children and young people we aim to protect and use them meaningfully in our continued policy development. This will be a continued area of focus as we move forward.

I highlight the formation of the Public Protection Lead Officer's Group as an important development. The group will wherever aim to work across all areas of public protection to share good practice and minimise duplication. There is a recognition that children and young people cannot be seen in isolation of their families. Often family members have needs for support and protection which in turn impact their children. I believe this approach will lay the foundations for a think family approach and will help maximise the resource we have by pulling together to protect the most vulnerable in our society.

As with all areas of the public sector across Scotland resourcing and capacity issues are a constant concern. The CPC has close oversight of resourcing across the child protection system and receives quarterly updates broken down to service areas providing assurance that issues are being identified and resolved to provide a prioritisation on child protection.

The analysis of these workforce reports and details on how the risks presented are mitigated is in turn reported to the Chief Officer's Public Protection Group (COG) enabling a better understanding and ownership by the most senior managers in the Falkirk area. The approach taken by Falkirk is in my opinion unique across Scotland.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the staff across the partnership who work tirelessly in an increasingly complex and challenging environment to keep Falkirk's Children and Young People safer. I am confident that with their continued support we can continue to make Falkirk the best place in Scotland to grow up and to keep all children safe from abuse and neglect.

Alan Small
Independent Chair Falkirk CPC





**“Children in Falkirk
will grow up loved,
safe and respected
so that they can
realise their full
potential.”**

Falkirk's Demographics and background

Falkirk is a historic town located in Scotland's Central Lowlands. It covers a mix of urban, semi-rural and rural communities. The town and its surrounding areas have a rich history and is known for its industrial heritage and cultural landmarks.

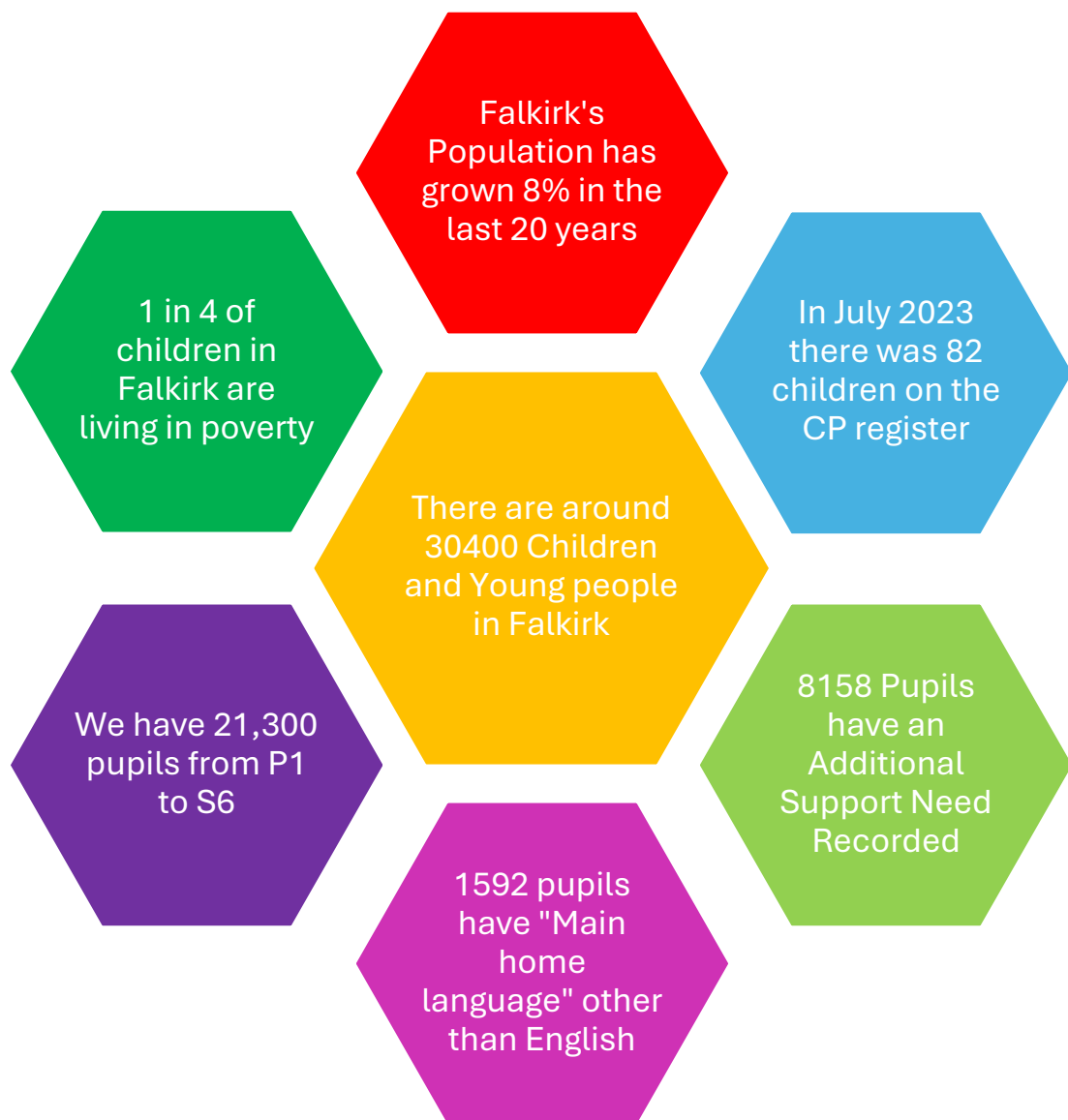
In June 2023, the population of Falkirk was 158,620. This is an increase of 0.1% from 158,450 in 2022. Over the same period, the population of Scotland increased by 0.8%. Falkirk had the 11th highest population in Scotland in 2023, the population of Falkirk is projected to increase into 2028.

Source - National Records of Scotland

Like the rest of Scotland our population is ageing with 19.6% of our residents over the age of 65.

Poverty continues to affect our population negatively and with the cost-of-living crisis and rising price of essentials, employment is not a guaranteed route out of poverty. There are around 30,400 Children and Young people in Falkirk and 1 in 4 of them live in poverty. Data available (Source: <https://endchildpoverty.org.uk/child-poverty-2024/>) shows us that Falkirk has the tenth highest child poverty rates in Scotland in 2022/23.

What we know about the children and families in Falkirk?



The Child Protection Committee - Functions & Governance

The Child Protection committee sits within the wider context of Public Protection.

Falkirk's Child Protection Committee (CPC) is a locally based, inter-agency strategic partnership. It is responsible for developing, implementing and improving our Child Protection strategy across and between agencies and the local community. The Committee aims to support staff and members of the public in the collective endeavour to make Falkirk the best place in Scotland to grow up and to keep all children safe from abuse and neglect. The Committee is made up of senior representatives from across all key areas and partners concerned with the care and protection of children. Members include:

- Education
- Social Work
- Housing
- NHS Forth Valley
- Police Scotland
- Third Sector
- Scottish Children's Reporters Administration

The CPC has an independent chairperson and meets four times per year. It reports to the Public Protection Chief Officers Group who have clear responsibilities set out in [Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer Responsibilities](#) published by the Scottish Government in February 2019.

The CPC recognises its responsibilities in the [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021](#) and fulfils these functions through its structure and Business and Improvement Plan.

The key roles of the Child Protection Committee are:

- Public information, engagement and participation
- Continuous improvement
- Strategic planning and connections

In fulfilling its functions and delivering on priorities, the CPC is supported by six operational subgroups. Three of these groups are Forth Valley (FV) wide. The table below gives an overview of the operational subgroups however there have been some recent changes such as Children's right and United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is no longer a standalone group, this has now been included in each of the subgroups as a thread running through all, an updated governance structure will be available in due course.





Public Protection Information and Engagement

The CPC promotes that children and their families have the right to meaningfully participate in the decisions that affect them. We are also committed to working in the wider context across the partnership to provide opportunities for children and young people and their families in influencing and shaping service design.

Our inter-agency, Forth Valley Public Protection, Information and Engagement (PPI&E) Group was established in April 2023 as part of the restructure of the joint working groups across the Forth Valley CPCs. This group routinely works to improve levels of public awareness, understanding, knowledge and confidence in child protection.

What have we done?

The CPC supported the Child Sexual Abuse campaign (What If You're Right?) in February 2024, led by Child Protection Committees Scotland (CPCS) and Barnardos. Furthermore, the CPC heard from Police Scotland regarding the significant rise in concerning cases of Sextortion. Sextortion is a type of online blackmail. Adult criminals, often from overseas organised crime groups, will threaten to share nude or semi-nude images and/or videos of a young person, unless they pay them or carry out some other demand. The CPC will work alongside police Scotland to raise awareness and disseminate information across the partnership.

A Short Life working group led by Police Scotland has been set up to coordinate and raise awareness of the crime of Sextortion across Forth Valley through partnership activity to ensure that multi agency arrangements are in place to improve our capability to tackle and prevent sextortion.

The CPC contributed to the updating of [Forth Valley Inter Agency Child Protection Guidance \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://glowscotland.org.uk) which launched in December 2023. The Guidance outlines how agencies should work together with children, parents, families and communities to prevent harm and to protect children from abuse and neglect. We listened to what children and families told us they want from professionals, what helps and how this makes them feel. We then included this in our Inter Agency Guidance. This guidance has been shared widely across the partnership. Self-evaluation took place regarding the implementation of National Guidance for Child Protection in November 2023 which was submitted to CPCs Scotland for review by the Care Inspectorate and CELCIS.

Receiving feedback from children and their families is a priority for the CPC. We heard from Falkirk Champs and Falkirk Youth Voice who delivered a presentation on the different strands of work being undertaken around Children's Rights. A Forth Valley Youth Voice Charter has been created and adopted and any organisation wishing to work with Falkirk Youth Voice are required to adopt the charter. The CPC continue to align our child protection work with the values and ambitions of other policy streams, including GIRFEC, the Promise and Children's Rights.

During the reporting period our Falkirk Champs have been involved with several activities to promote better outcomes for our Care Experienced children and young people. A particular highlight includes writing and developing a short film named "Dear Education" about the difficulties that care experienced children and young people face in schools. The video was premiered in the Hippodrome in Bo'ness. The aim of this was to help highlight what needs to change to ensure all Scotland's Children are shown the care and love they deserve so they can thrive in Education and beyond.

Continuous Improvement

The CPC plays a key role in ensuring there is continuous improvement in child protection practice. It has an overview of the quality of the work being carried out to protect children in our area using data, self-evaluation, multi-agency audit activity and scrutiny to ensure that there is early identification of any trends, patterns and practice that will impact on the safety of children. As part of the restructure of the Forth Valley CPC groups, a thematic 'Safeguarding' approach was established which incorporated a range of inter-agency working groups set up to progress workstreams relating to Missing Persons, Inter-Agency Referral Discussions (IRD), Bairns' Hoose and the Scottish Child Interview Model.

Forth Valley Policies, Procedures and Protocols Subgroup

Our Policies, Procedures and Protocols subgroup comprises of agencies from Falkirk, Clackmannanshire and Stirling CPC's. Its purpose is to systemically develop, publish, disseminate and review the effectiveness of inter-agency child protection policies, protocols and guidelines. The group was re-instated in the last quarter of 2023. The focus of this group has been on updating the group workplan to ensure alignment with the National CP guidance.

What have we done?

Falkirk has worked with partners across Forth Valley to update the Forth Valley Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidance (Inter-Agency CP Guidance) to reflect the national guidance (including definition of abuse and neglect) with added links throughout for additional information (to avoid duplication and keep local guidance concise). Structural factors contributing to abuse and neglect are detailed within the Inter-Agency CP Guidance.

Following research by the charity Missing People a short life working group has progressed the recommendations made by them, including the development of a return discussion form and updated multi-agency protocol, recognising the negative impact of people going missing. A missing person is often exposed to unnecessary risk and is negatively impacted in terms of health and wellbeing. The protocol is designed for the use of all practitioners who are involved in the prevention, response, support and protection of persons who go missing or are at risk of going missing. The protocol will bring an introduction of two multi agency groups, operational and review. The operation group will enable the frequent discussion of emerging trends and risk in relation to missing persons in the Forth Valley area while the review group's key objective is to ensure that the approaches taken by all partners maximises the opportunities to prevent people from going missing, and to limit the harms associated with going missing.

The Forth Valley Child Interview Team went live in practice delivering the Scottish Child Interview Model on the 12th of February 2024. Four Social Workers and four Police Officers completed the National Joint Investigative Interviewing Training Programme and are deployed as a Forth Valley Child Interview Team. The aim of the team was to offer one hundred percent Scottish Child Interview Model interviews to all children requiring a joint investigative interview, but it was recognised that this might not be achieved from the initial point of implementation as time was required to embed the model. However, the team has been largely successful with this aim in the first reporting period. Progressing just over 80% of interviews using this model. Data collection and evaluation is an ongoing priority for the team

and strategic groups. To further strengthen the service the team are taking forward developments in the following areas:

- Developing guidance
- Developing feedback loops to promote service development and improvement
- Leaflets for the children/young people who are experiencing the pathway to Joint Investigative Interviews.
- Leaflets for families/guardians.
- Leaflets have been developed for key professionals working within child protection to enhance strong multi-disciplinary working across this area of business.
- Practice and support video for the core agencies involved in child protection

An inter-agency Forth Valley Bairns' Hoose Group was formed to scope the likely requirements for Bairns' Hoose pan Forth Valley. Forth Valley did not apply to be "Pathfinders" however applications for funding were successful in both the development and thematic fund. This allows Forth Valley to progress a feasibility study with the aim of delivering a Bairns' Hoose which is fully aligned to the Scottish Government's policy commitment to deliver a Bairns' Hoose for "All children in Scotland who have been victims or witnesses to abuse or violence, as well as children under the age of criminal responsibility whose behaviour has caused significant harm/abuse will have access to trauma informed recovery, support and justice'.

The Project Group will learn both about the systems, practices and culture changes required to achieve our Bairns' Hoose vision, and the methods, practices and resources required to facilitate this change. The Group will also look to learn from national Pathfinders about how they have established Bairn's Hoose in their respective areas.

In partnership with Stirling and Clackmannanshire Council, Falkirk Council has updated Forth Valley Multi Agency Guidance for Escalation. Child Protection will always be an area of work where there may be differences of opinion about the best course of action. These differences may be healthy as they can encourage further exploration and discussion about what is best for each child and can therefore contribute to better outcomes for children. Child Protection practice requires each professional to use their professional judgement. Professional judgement is the ability to make informed ethical and evidenced based decision in complex and dynamic situations. It

involves bringing together practitioners' knowledge, skills, values and critical thinking. Inevitably, this means that professional judgement may differ from professional to professional. However, effective communication and partnership working is integral for effective multi agency practice. This begins with listening and seeking shared understanding. The updated version of the guidance includes a child friendly introduction, inclusion of dissent process for Child Protection Planning Meetings and an updated pathway.

A short life working group was developed to create a multi-agency pathway for practitioners working with Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. The National Transfer Scheme was mandated by the Home Office in October 2022. For every 450 children that arrive in the UK, Scotland has an allocation of 90 children and young people. The allocation to each Local Authority is dependent upon the percentage of the Looked After child population and on that basis, Falkirk will anticipate supporting around an additional 12 children per year. This includes the provision of continuing care. The pathway has been created to guide practitioners with supporting these children and young people, ensuring that their rights are upheld. The pathway is in the final stages of completion and will be available to the workforce in early 2025.



Falkirk Improvement and Quality Assurance Subgroup

Falkirk Improvement and Quality Assurance Subgroup regularly undertakes self-evaluation activity on behalf of the committee which is integral to understanding where we can improve. The scrutiny of data allows us to identify emerging themes and proactively implement improvement plans that inform learning and development, policy and guidance.

The CPC contributed to the analysis of local implementation of the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021, undertaken and published by CELCIS. The report brings together findings from 31 of Scotland's CPC's. This exercise was valuable to collate the improvement activity that has taken place to date and identify further areas for development. It highlighted Falkirk's significant progress despite the context of financial and staffing pressures across the partnership. The Improvement and Quality Assurance group will continue to analyse the evaluation tool to review our progress.

The CPC considers key child protection data on a quarterly basis using version 2 of the National Minimum Dataset for Child Protection Committees in Scotland. This data is further scrutinised by the Public Protection Chief Officers Group.

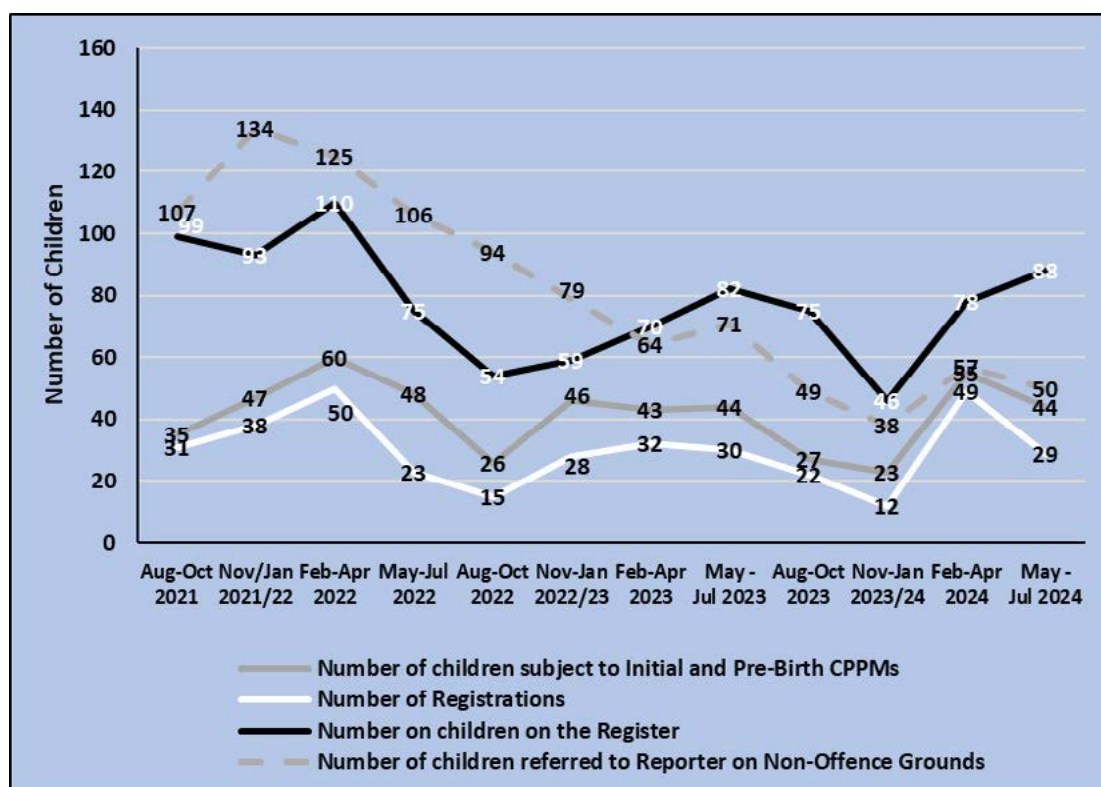
We use information from the Scottish Government's Child Protection statistics to compare our own local data. The following data is drawn from published information for the reporting year August 2022 – July 2023.

	Local	Scotland
Early Stage Child Protection Activity		
Rate of children subject to Police Scotland-recorded child protection concern reports per 1,000 children aged 0-17	14.7	14.5
Child Protection Planning Meetings		
Rate of children subject to Initial/Pre-Birth CPPMs per 1,000 children aged 0-17	5.2	4.1
Child Protection Register		
Rate of Registrations per 1,000 children aged 0-17	3.5	3.2

Historically Falkirk figures have been above the national average for children registered on the child protection register. We will continue to review our own data against national benchmarks when the national data is published for August 2023 – July 2024.

Below is the published data for Falkirk for the reporting period of August 2023 - July 2024.

Chart 1 - SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY



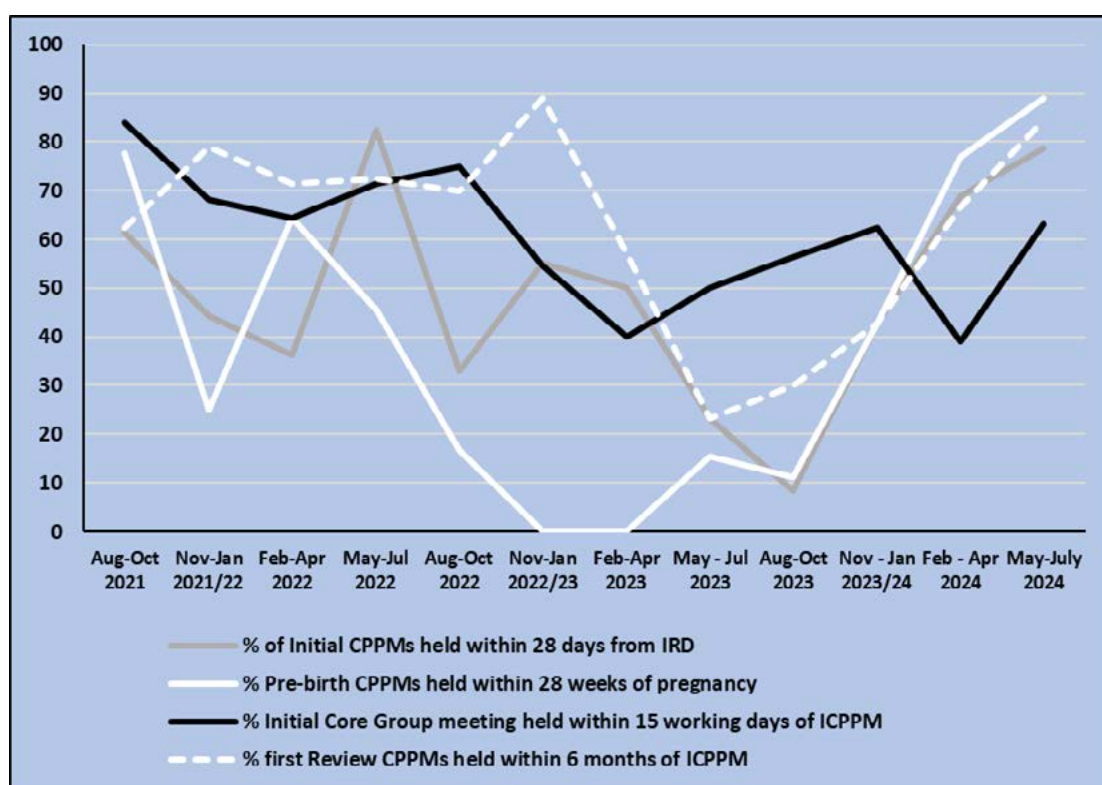
We have over 30,000 children living in Falkirk. Of the 30,000, 88 had a child protection plan in place at the end of the May-July 2024 reporting period. In the reporting quarter May- July 2024, Falkirk's child protection rate increased to 28.9 per 10,000 children. The national average is estimated to be 20.4.

Between May and November 2023, the number of Children who were subject to Child Protection plans significantly decreased and then increased again in the following two quarters. This change was noted, and further scrutiny work was undertaken to understand this change.

- The reduction in the number of children subject to Child Protection Registration has taken place during a period of increased improvement work which started in September 2023 to reduce the cancellation of meetings overall. Within this period, the focus has been on supporting teams to prioritise Child Protection Meetings to take place as planned, and within recommended timescales.

- We identified that several sibling groups were de-registered during this period, accounting for more than half of the children removed from the Child Protection Register.
- In January 2024 we adopted the timescales withing the National Child Protection Guidance which meant that initial reviews of children on the register changed from after 3 months to 6.

Chart 2 - CHILD PROTECTION PROCESSES TIMESCALES



The dips in the table above took place around a time of significant staffing and capacity pressures, which in turn affected the ability to meet expected timescales. However, since April 2023 it is evidenced that this is an improving picture and reflects the positive changes that have been undertaken as part of this improvement work.

The concerns identified at Initial Child Protection Planning meetings continues to follow national trends with Domestic abuse most often recorded as the reason for children being placed at significant risk of harm and in need of a child protection plan in Falkirk.

Audit Activity

The Improvement and Quality assurance subgroup are responsible for setting a planned programme of audit activity, this is informed by scrutiny of our data and self-evaluation for our Child Protection Committee Business and improvement plan.

During the reporting period we have undertaken a planned programme of multi-agency audits based on the Care Inspectorate Quality Improvement Framework, with representation from Police, Social Work, Health, Education and the Third sector.

In 2021, the CPC identified the need to strengthen the inter-agency pre-birth pathways, planning and assessment of vulnerable pregnancies to ensure vulnerable babies receive early support and are protected from harm. We undertook an audit of our pre-birth cases following this learning review and then a comparative audit in August and September 2023. The comparative audit highlighted strengths including consistent use of the Pre-Birth Audit tool, good multi-agency working highlighted within the Pre-birth assessments and improvements with utilising Inter Agency Referral discussions.

Similarly, an audit of children who were on the Child Protection Register for the second time within 24 months and Children on the Child Protection Register for a period of 12+ months showed improved responses to initial concerns and information sharing.

Audit of Child Protection Register for the second time within 24 months found that 74% of cases were rated as good or above in relation to the quality of the initial multi-agency response to CP concerns. This includes the initial sharing of concerns, IRD process and immediate safety planning.

The Audit of children on the CP register for over 12 months found that in 90% the concerns were shared with Police or Social Work without delay. In 100% of the cases clear decisions were made about the required next steps. The evaluated quality in the initial multi-agency response to the concerns was rated good or above.

Areas identified for Improvement

Audits have shown inconsistencies with the application of child development and attachment theory in assessments and intervention. The need to understand more about the males in children's lives and how this informs assessments of risk and the quality of chronologies. In our audit of cases subject to re registration within 24 months; 78% of cases were rated as adequate or below. The audit focused on a period of significant reduction in staff in Social Work services, and this affected the quality of the intervention in place to reduce the risks to children and young people. However that staffing levels had improved, and the children involved in the audit were receiving an improved level of consistent service following follow up scrutiny. Staffing levels also affected the quality of the work to reduce risks in the audit of children on the CP register for over 12 months. 75% of cases were rated as adequate or below. What is clear from the audit findings is that having a consistent lead professional coordinating and progressing the plan had a significant impact on the effectiveness of the work carried out to reduce the risks.

How we gather and record children's views in decision making forums has noted as an area for further improvement. In both audits. Half of the cases audits were rated adequate or below as to how well the child has been listened to, heard, and included by staff.

Improvement work has continued through the reporting year around Child Centred Recording and advocacy support. We have noted an increase in the number of children who are now accessing support from Quarriers and Who Cares? As well as building on our information that we share with children and their families around Child Protection Processes.

These improvement actions have been incorporated into our CPC business and Improvement plan. The Improvement and Quality Assurance subgroup have responsibility of reviewing our businesses plan to ensure that that actions for change are having an impact, this will take place through further self-evaluation activity such as future audits and reviewing the available data to note improvements.

Feedback obtained from audit feedback sessions highlight the value that auditors gain from having a different perspective from multi agency partners and using the Care Inspectorate tool provides consistency and is easy to use. Auditors stressed the importance of celebrating success and positive progress.

Falkirk Learning Review Subgroup

The committee on behalf of the Chief officer's group has the responsibility of undertaking learning reviews, where criteria is met, as set out in the National Guidance for Child Protection Committees Undertaking Learning Reviews. In Falkirk the Learning Review subgroup oversees this process. The main purpose for a learning review is to bring together agencies, individuals and families in a collective endeavour to learn from what has happened to improve and develop systems and practice in the future and thus better protect children and young people.

Falkirk Learning and Development Subgroup

A priority for the CPC is ensuring we have a skilled and competent workforce. In Falkirk we recognise the importance of joint learning for fostering good relationships which support collaborative joint working. Our Learning and Development group, which is a subgroup of the Child Protection Committee, continue to lead on Single and Inter Agency Training programmes which are designed to positively impact practice.

What have we done?

The multi-agency training timetable is continually updated and published on the Practitioners pages. [FALKIRK Children and Adult Services Multiagency Training – Forth Valley Practitioner Pages](#) . This has been developed through learning from audit activity, learning reviews and consultation with staff via a training needs analysis. Some areas of focus include CP key processes, chronologies, solution focused planning meetings, understanding child development and attachment, Safe and Together (domestic abuse training) and using the Impact of parental substance misuse tool (IPSU).

In person learning sessions have been implemented on a locality basis to open the opportunity for shared learning and reflective practice. 6 x multi-agency learning sessions on Child Protection Key Processes, took place between January to June 2024, of which 93 members of staff from Falkirk Council, Third Sector, Police, NHS attended. Attendees reported improved Understanding of CP processes, roles & responsibilities and confidence in multi-agency assessment.

12 Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) Refresh Learning Sessions took place between 25 October 2023 and 27 May 2024, of which 179 members of staff from Falkirk Council and partner agencies attended. Evaluation from these sessions highlighted increased knowledge and understanding in United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), involving children, young people and families in their assessments and plans, building on interagency connection and communication and using the GIRFEC National Practice Model.

Trauma responsive practice learning sessions aim to enhance awareness of the prevalence and impact of psychological trauma within our communities and how it impacts on the work we do. Multi agency training has been available throughout the reporting year for levels' 1, 2, and 3. Trauma informed support and supervision training has been offered to all social work line managers, and we will explore capacity to extend Trauma informed support and supervision training to Multi agency partners.

The new staff structure within Children & Families Social Work teams now includes Advanced Practitioners. This structure will allow for group supervision akin to Action Learning Set model which will provide an environment for peer support and reflection.

We have a full and wide variety of multi-agency learning opportunities available in Falkirk with the capacity to engage with a much larger number of attendees. It is acknowledged that during periods of reduced staffing capacity and increased workloads that training opportunities are often not prioritised. However, the Learning and Development Group are working to understand barriers and increase attendance and participation across all agencies and organisations.



Strategic planning and connections

Child Protection is a priority area of the integrated children's services planning system. The Children and Young People's Strategic Leadership Group is responsible for developing and delivering on the Falkirk Integrated Children's Services Plan 2023-26, including the delivery of the GIRFEC agenda. The group also has strategic responsibility and oversight for the inter-agency delivery of childcare and early years; corporate parenting; child health and children's rights and participation. The shared continuous improvement and learning and development working groups ensure there is a focus on children and young people's needs across the continuum of wellbeing and protection. The lead Officer for Child Protection is a member of this group to ensure clear links and close working relationship for our shared priorities.

Falkirk have had the ambition to develop a Falkirk Public Protection Lead Officer's Group (PPLOG) for some time and this group was brought together in the summer of 2024. The group have been developing a Terms of reference and will meet 4 times per year prior to the timetable of the Chief Officers Group (COG), which will allow for direct reporting. The group will create the conditions to share resource and offer peer support across roles and remits and combine shared responsibilities wherever appropriate. This model fits well with the drive for a whole system approach; recognising children, young people and adults live in families and communities and require us to focus on protection across the lifespan. The group's membership includes:

- Falkirk Adult Support and Protection Committee
- Falkirk Alcohol and Drugs Partnership
- Falkirk Community Justice Partnership
- Falkirk Child Protection Committee
- Falkirk Gender Based Violence Partnership
- Forth Valley MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group
- Falkirk HSCP Equalities and Human Rights Group
- Falkirk Council Equalities and Human Rights group

The group is in the early stages of development and will progress a workplan of shared priorities, which has been set out in the terms of reference. The identified shared priorities are:

Advocacy & Respecting Rights

Communication & Awareness raising

Guidance, Learning and Development

Participation & Engagement

Gathering Data and Performance Reporting

Developing and Embedding Policy and Practice Frameworks (internal and external)

Strengthening the interface between Falkirk Adult Support and Protection Committee and the Child Protection Committee is a key priority for both. In October 2023, a joint development day was held and the main topics for discussion were held around transitions and the learning and development need for the workforce taking a public protection approach. The improvement work regarding this is on going.

The CPC also works closely with strategic partners in national forums such as Child Protection Committee Scotland, Central and North Scotland CPC Consortium and the National CPC Lead Officers Group.

Conclusion

The annual report provides an opportunity to reflect on the developments during the period 1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024.

The work of the CPC will continue the progress noted in this report and take forward the actions set out in our CPC Business improvement plan to achieve our six main priorities and will include the following key activity areas:

- Build on and improve engagement with opportunities across the partnership to learn, develop and reflect on our practice to improve the outcomes for children, young people and their families.
- Continuous improvement work will consider our recent audit of our Safe and Together approach and ensure alignment with priorities with the Gender Based Violence against Woman and Girls Partnership.
- Ensuring our Child Protection guidance and policies are aligned with National guidance and developed around emerging issues.
- Continue to progress Improvement work to enhance the participation and engagement of children, young people and their families in decision making which affects their lives including service design.
- Continue to explore Forth Valleys capacity to implement a Bairns House Model of holistic child centred support. So that children who are involved in child protection investigations experience a safe environment where they are empowered to share their account whilst reducing the risk of re-traumatisation and are supported with recovery.

For further information regarding the Child Protection Committee, you can contact the Lead Officer for Child Protection.

Contact: 01324 506070

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in Falkirk, call

Initial Response Team (office hours)

01324 506070

Police

101

Out of Hours Social Work Emergency Duty Team

01786 470 500

FALKIRK COUNCIL

