



Child Protection Committee Newsletter

Welcome to the fifth issue of our newsletter. You should already have received a weblink to the new 2015 Child Protection Procedures but we have added the link in as below.

Workshops for New Child Protection Procedures

Short workshop events to familiarise people with the new procedures have been arranged. They will be held on Wednesday 25 November 2015.

Session 1 is from 9.30 am to 11.00 am and Session 2 from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm.
Sessions will be held in Room 12 at Islesburgh Community Centre.

Please e mail dawn.smith@shetland.gov.uk to book a place stating which session you can attend.

The following highlights some changes in the new procedures:

- The procedures have been updated to reflect GIRFEC.
- The old Section 7 that gave individual guidance to different agencies has been replaced with Section 6 Stepwise Guide.
- All the relevant forms – including referral forms are now in Section 13.
- Keeping the child at the centre and focussing on the views of children and young people has been strengthened throughout the document.
- Section 2, Appendix 1 has been substantially updated and contains a wide range of information about child protection topics.

Additionally there are a number of new protocols that we want to draw your attention to:

- Protocol 4 Protection Children Affected by Parental Substance Misuse has been updated
- Protocol 8 Unseen Child and Non-Engaging Families has been written to support staff in situations where non-engagement is affecting the ability of staff to support families to make positive changes. This Protocol is not just for children who are on the Child Protection Register, but for any child where there may be a child's plan in place to support them.
- Protocol 9 Safe Use of the Internet. This gives good practice guidance about how to support children, families and parents to stay safe on the internet and contains a number of useful resources
- Protocol 10 Supporting Children and Young People who Self-Harm. This provides a framework for staff to respond to concerns about self-harm - to know when that may be a child protection issue or a young person may be at risk of suicide and also what approaches and resources staff can use to support children and young people
- Protocol 11 Vulnerable Young Person's Protocol (for 16-18 year olds) This protocol looks at how to protect young people who may be at significant risk and gives a framework for assessment and support. The Children and Families Social Work Team will be the first point of referral for any young person at risk of significant harm.

If anyone has any queries or spots any problems with the new procedures please contact Kate Gabb, Lead Officer, Adult and Child Protection on kate.gabb@shetland.gov.uk

Please return any old 2012 (or blue 2007!) copies to Adult and Child Protection Office, Old Library Centre, Lower Hillhead, Lerwick.

If there are any specific topics or issues you would like us to cover, please let the Lead Officer know, kate.gabb@shetland.gov.uk

Please find the link below to the new August 2015 Shetland Interagency Child Protection Procedures.

<http://www.safershetland.com/child-protection>

