

## Greater Glasgow NHS Board

### Board Meeting

Tuesday 19 April 2004

Nurse Director

Board Paper No. 05/35

## Child Protection

### Recommendation:

#### The Board:

- note progress to improve NHS Child Protection arrangements

## 1 Background and Purpose

- 1.1 In August 2004 (Board Paper 2004/8) the Board received a report highlighting the progress made towards establishing systems and processes across NHS Greater Glasgow in relation to child protection arrangements.
- 1.2 In order to address the challenge of child protection facing the NHS in a co-ordinated and systematic way the report described the Terms of Reference for the NHS Child Protection Forum.
- 1.3 The report also noted the Scottish Executive programme of work on reforming child protection and the request from the Executive to provide reassurances about the effectiveness of local child protection arrangements.
- 1.4 The report also proposed establishing a single child protection unit to improve and support child protection systems across the NHS.

## 2 Present Position

- 2.1 This section describes progress in terms of:

- The National Reform Programme
- Work with Local Authorities
- The NHS Child Protection Forum
- The NHS Child Protection Unit

- 2.2 National Reform Programme

In relation to Protecting Children and Young People: Framework of Standards, NHS Greater Glasgow has completed a benchmark exercise indicating our compliance with the standards this information has been shared with our local authority colleagues. Each Child Protection Committee has developed multi-agency plans for the implementation of these standards.

In connection with multi-disciplinary Inspection of Child Protection, East Dunbartonshire Council was chosen as one of two pilot sites (Highland Council being the other). The pilot took place during January and February 2005, with the involvement of a wide range of NHS Greater Glasgow staff. Initial feedback was encouraging and we await the formal report.

## **EMBARGOED UNTIL DATE OF MEETING.**

Guidance on the Review of Child Protection Committees was issued during February 2005; currently Child Protection Committees are looking at the implications of the guidance in relation to working practices.

### **2.3 Working with Local Authority Colleagues**

Work continues with each local authority to implement our multi-agency action plans which address all the recent child abuse enquiries and government guidance. Multi-agency training is a key part in developing working relationships across agencies and this is a clear priority in each multi-agency action plan.

The emergence of CHPs provides a real opportunity to further develop multi-agency working relationships and practice.

### **2.4 The NHS Child Protection Forum**

The NHS Child Protection Forum has been up and running for just over a year now since it was established in 2004.

The Forum continues to make steady progress with its work programme which takes account of the National Reform Agenda, all relevant child abuse inquiries and government guidance.

#### **2.4.1 NHS Child Protection Forum Progress to Date**

The Forum has delivered the following:

- Clear corporate leadership on child protection in all Divisions
- Detailed divisional action plans setting priorities for change
- Overarching NHS Greater Glasgow Action Plan, with a clear template for monitoring progress of activity
- All Divisions have child protection included in induction training
- Reviewed the process of communication between the cities A & E Departments and implemented an agreed communication protocol
- Renewed the process of communication between Maternity Services and Primary Care (particularly Health Visitors)
- Issued clear guidance to NHS staff with regards to sharing information
- Issued guidance to NHS Staff in relation to their roles and responsibility with regards to Child Protection Case Conferences
- Designed a process for Significant Case Reviews one review has been completed, and the implementation of recommendations will be monitored via the Child Protection Forum and shared with the relevant Child Protection Committee

#### **2.4.2 NHS Child Protection Unit**

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The previous report highlighted the need to establish an NHS Child Protection Unit with the aim of improving and supporting child protection systems across the NHS, and further improving our responses to other agencies.

An Interim Manager for this unit has been identified and clear objectives have been agreed for the short term.

We have appointed an additional Child Protection Adviser with specific responsibility for Acute Services, and we are currently recruiting two additional Child Protection Trainers. The Scottish Executive have awarded 1 years funding for a Nurse Consultant for Child Protection and we are currently at the recruitment stage for this post also.

**3. Conclusion**

This paper provides a brief update on major programme of work to improve child protection across the NHS in Greater Glasgow. A further progress report will be made in the last quarter of 2005.