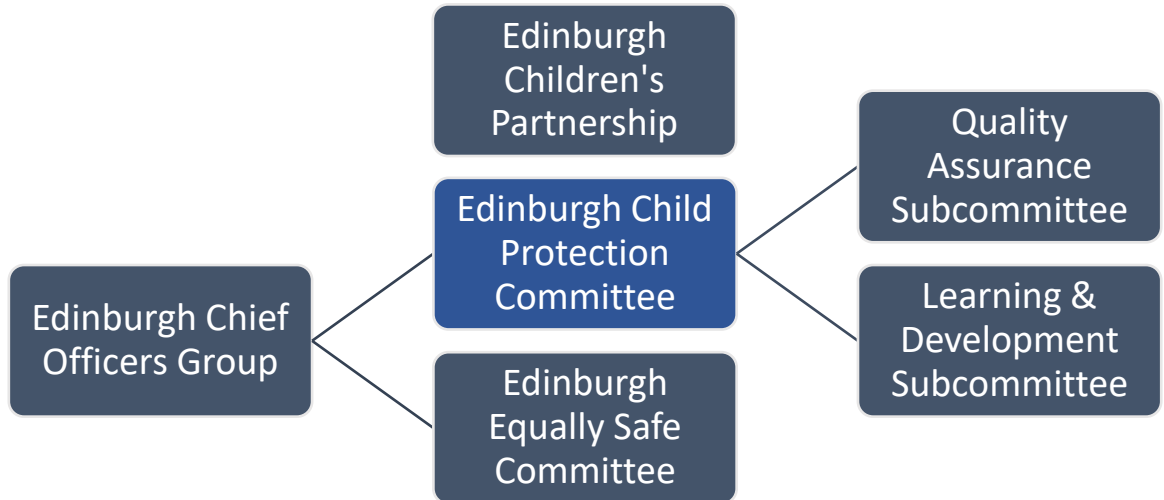


City of Edinburgh Child Protection Committee – Improvement Plan 2024-25



The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee is the inter-agency strategic partnership, responsible for the design, development, publication, distribution, dissemination, implementation and evaluation of child protection policy and practice across the public, private and wider third sectors in the City of Edinburgh area. Through our local structures and membership, we provide individual and collective leadership and direction for the management of child protection services.

The Committee is made up of senior representatives from across all key areas and partners concerned with the care and protection of children. Guidance issued by the Scottish Government requires every local authority area to have a Child Protection Committee.

*ECPC Work Plan Version 1 28.02.24
Agreed ECPC 01.05.2024*

Strong links exist between the Committee and the Edinburgh Children’s Partnership (the Partnership) through the Edinburgh Children’s Services Plan (2020 - 23). Work continues to ensure that this is a developing partnership.

In 2019, the Scottish Government published the document “Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer Responsibilities”. This sets out the functions of the child protection committee, which are:

- Continuous improvement
- Public information, engagement, and participation
- Strategic planning and connections
- Annual reporting on the work of the CPC.

Based on these core functions, the 2024-25 Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Improvement plan focusses on four key themes which have been agreed as being priority areas in the coming year:

1. Leadership and Structure
2. Learning Culture and Relationships
3. Self-evaluation and Assurance
4. Strategic Connection

These themes have emerged through Committee development activities during the first 6 months in post of our first independent Chair and new Lead Officer. They reflect national and local drivers, with relevance across the multi-agency partnership.

The intention is for a one-year plan to enable us to build the right structures and supports to address more ambitious themes in a 3-year strategic plan that would run 2025-28.

Monitoring of this plan will be taken forward by the Child Protection Committee throughout the year.

Blue/Red/Amber/Green legend:

Blue	Complete				
Red	There are significant issues and / or risks that are impacting on the action / task right now = we are not delivering the action / task on time / scope / budget.				
Amber	There are some issues and / or risks that are impacting on the action / task if not fixed = we are at risk of not delivering the action / task on time / scope / budget.				
Green	There are no issues and / or risks impacting on the action / task which is progressing according to plan = we are delivering the action / task on time / scope / budget.				
Date	Total actions	Total actions completed	Total actions added (new)	Total actions amended	Total actions ongoing

1. Leadership and Structure						
Objective	Actions	Strategic Lead	Timescale	Evidence	Progress	RAG
The role and function of the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee is clearly reflected in the membership, commitment and in the Sub-committee structures that support the ECPC	Review and revise the Constitution and Terms of Reference for the ECPC.	Independent chair / Vice chairs Child Protection committee Quality Regulation, & Improvement & Chief Social Work Office	June 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign off at Child Protection committee. 2. TOR's Agreement for each committee, sub committee 3. Develop a flexible induction for new ECPC members to include self-guide induction handbook and opportunities to meet with the Independent Chair and Lead Officer 		
	Ensure the membership of ECPC is relevant and up to date.	Independent Chair Child Protection committee	June 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign off at Child Protection committee. & Chief Officers group. 2. Produce and implement a strategic improvement plan. 		
	Take a blended approach to ECPC Meetings, with at least 2/8 taking place in person.	Lead officer Child Protection committee Business support	May2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To be reviewed annually at the Child Protection committee. 		

	Review and revise the structure and membership of the ECPC Sub-committees to ensure they effectively support the overall aims.	Independent Chair Sub-Committee Chairs	August 24	1. An annual development day is held for Committee and sub-group members for sign off.		
The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee has a visibility amongst partners and publicly.	Maintain the ECPC Knowledge Hub Pages as an Edinburgh Child Protection community Hub.	Quality Regulation, & Improvement & Chief Social Work Office Lead Officer	October 24	1. Ensure sharing of information with all members 2. Undertake evaluation of usage and report to CPC.		
	Multi-Agency Policy, Procedures, alongside information and Documentation on Edinburgh Child Protection landing pages is cleansed and updated.	Quality Regulation, & Improvement & Chief Social Work Office Lead Officer	October 24	1. Use of all the appropriate partnership social media platforms to provide regular social media post promoting key CP messages 2. Tracked number of hits to social media posts 3. Tracked number of hits to webpages		

2. Learning Culture and Relationships						
Objective	Actions	Strategic Lead	Timescale	Evidence	Progress	RAG
There is a range of opportunities to grow working relationships and offer collective learning to improve practice.	Develop a CP Learning & Development Strategy, in line with progress on national guidance around CP L&D.	L&D Sub-Committee	Sept 24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify both qualitative and quantitative measures. 2. Agree how the data will be reported and monitored. 		
	Offer a range of Multi-Agency Practice Learning Opportunities, including re-establishing IRD Workshops.	L&D Sub-Committee	November 24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and measure uptake of training by all partnership members 2. Produce and ensure wide circulation of an annual report 		
	Publish 7 Minute Briefings to be shared by partners.	Lead Officer Child Protection committee	As required	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Topics as agreed at CPC 2. Linked within Appendix of ECPC Annual Report 		

<p>Continue to develop practice in relation to the Joint Protocol for Learning Reviews and other informal learning processes.</p>	<p>Develop the Learning Review process and a menu of learning options following a Learning Review notification.</p>	<p>Independent chair of Learning Review Panel</p> <p>Learning Review Sub-Committee.</p> <p>Business Support to Learning Reviews</p>	<p>November 2024</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set a schedule of meetings for LRP 2. Agree the specific areas in relation to LRP's that will be measured 3. Identify both qualitative and quantitative measures 4. ECPC receives regular updates from the Learning Review Sub-Committee and ensures that findings are acted upon and learning disseminated to partners and staff directly working with children and their families. 		
--	---	---	----------------------	--	--	--

3. Self-Evaluation and Assurance						
Objective	Actions	Strategic Lead	Timescale	Evidence	Progress	RAG
As we implement the Multi-Agency Child Protection Procedures and receive analysis of the National CP Guidance Self-Evaluation (October 2023) we will assess and develop the strategic changes as required.	Oversee and quality assure our continued implementation of the National CP Guidance.	PQI Sub-Committee	Oct 24	Evidence to be agreed alongside the development of the end-to-end framework process?		
	Establish a mechanism for Policy and Procedure Review and Development.	Quality Regulation, & Improvement & Chief Social Work Office	November 24	Confirm level of availability of CEC Policy officers with Service Director of Children & Justice Services.		
	Ensure the best use of the Public Protection Budget.	Independent Chair Quality Regulation, & Improvement & Chief Social Work Office	April 24	Establish ECPC Budget as a standing item on the ECPC Agenda, with regular reporting.		

	Improve our understanding of children's rights and participation of both children and families across Child Protection processes.	Independent Chair		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitate a scoping meeting with current parties involved in Children's Participation and bring back a proposal to ECPC. 2. Link with partners re current family engagement 		
		Lead Officer				
		PQI Sub-Committee		Audit of casework will identify how well children and families are engaged in the process, as part of the development of the end-to-end framework process.		

4. Strategic Connections						
Objective	Actions	Strategic Lead	Timescale	Evidence	Progress	RAG
Ensure that the ECPC is suitably connected to key strategic forums in order to respond to emerging local and national issues.	Maintain regular links with EVOC Children and Young People's Network.	Service Director - Children's and Justice Services Lead Officer	October 24	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint working on agreed outcomes identified and implemented. 2. Explore potential of a ToR. 		
	Mutually supportive links between ECPC and Children's Partnership, where GIRFEC, UNCRC, Corporate Parenting and Promise plans are already embedded.	Vice Chairs ECPC		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree reporting and governance arrangements. 2. Agree reporting format and structure. 3. Identify frameworks that already exists. 4. Examine current understanding and application. 5. Access research in this area. 6. Scope frameworks that are already in existence across Scotland. 7. Develop a framework for CEC based on 		

				<p>best practice and research.</p> <p>8. Develop a Framework which takes account of the priority of statutory work.</p> <p>9. Take account of prioritisation framework under development.</p> <p>10. Identify resource implications and highlight how these can be addressed and overcome.</p> <p>11. Produce a report with accompanying caseload management framework.</p> <p>12. Posters and Leaflets are circulated to all multi-agency partners.</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

	Attend and contribute to national bodies.	Independent Chair Lead Officer Quality Regulation, & Improvement & Chief Social Work Office		Updates from National Forums provided in Lead Officer Reports to CPC.		
	Lead Officers for Public Protection attend and support the PP Committees	Lead Officers		Standing item on ECPC Agenda and updates in reports.		