What does our data tell us? 2023-24



Introduction

Every 6 months the Performance Quality and Improvement Sub-Committee, on behalf of the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee undertakes a National Minimum Child Protection Dataset Report to analyse key aspects of the Child Protection process. This involves looking at 20 indicators from early-stage activity through to CP Registration and is reported to the Chief Officers within the local authority, Police Scotland and NHS Lothian.

What did we learn?

What have we done about it?

There has been a reduction in Child Welfare Concerns and IRDs taking place.

- This is being monitored carefully by the committee to understand why our local data differs to the national picture.
- We are exploring what interventions are helping to prevent children coming to the attention of formal Child Protection processes.

Numbers of children on the Child Protection Register have fallen.

- We are developing a Multi-Agency Quality Assurance Framework to better understand all stages of the Child Protection system from a qualitative and quantitative perspective.
- Core agencies have taken part in an IRD Workshop to explore initial risk assessment practice and shared understanding of thresholds.

There have been changes in the conversion rates for Prebirth IRDs leading to CP Planning Meetings and also to CP Registration.

 Our Lead Paediatrician for Child Protection and Reviewing Team Lead audited the cases that did not convert to understand the reasons behind this, which indicated due process had been followed.

A number of children have been re-placed on the CP Register within 9 months of their initial de-registration.

- The Lead Officer for Child Protection audited the case records to understand the reasons behind this.
- One situation is due to be the subject of a Multi-Agency Learning Review.

While the majority of the children on the CP Register are under 10 years old, we saw an increase in CP Registrations for 10-15 year olds.

- We are working hard to understand the reasons why the imapct of abuse on elder children is being identified more readily and what tools or assessments are aiding this process.
- We are also exploring what difference the Multi-agency Child Protection Procedures and the local authority's Child Protection Resource, both launched January 2024, have had in enabling this process.

The significant increase in Child Welfare Concern referrals to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) over 2022-23 has now reduced to within normal limits.

The majority of the referrals were found to be coming from Police Scotland E Division, so a series of workshops were offered by SCRA to Police Scotland colleagues, which has aided a better understanding of when to make a Child Welfare Concern referral.

