

## **CONTEXTUAL SAFEGUARDING EVENT 26/11/20**

### **Contextual Safeguarding Learning Event: on the call**

1. Stuart Allardyce	2. Kareen Caldwell
3. Carlene Firmin	4. Kirsten Adamson
5. Daljeet Dagon	6. Michael Stewart
7. Sharon Maciver	8. Kate Gabb
9. Carole Murphy	10. Francois Roos
11. Janine McGowan .	12. Aileen Barker
13. Kate Mearns	14. Andrew Gillies
15. Andrew Murray	16. Jackie Mcrae
17. Sally Ross	18. Claire Carthy
19. Mark Mulvenna	20. Karen McCormack
21. Helen Jones	22. Diane French
23. Susan Mitchell	24. Sophie Antony
25. Colin Convery	26. McEwan, Belinda
27. William Manson	28. Lorrette Nicol
29. Lindsay Mullen	30. Neil McKenzie
31. Kath Priest	32. Alison Cowper
33. Margit Matthews	34. Sharon Robertson
35. Melissa Hunt	36. Yvonne Lynch
37. Lorna Aitken	38. Lynne McKerley
39. Gill Pritchard	40. Corinne Groeneveldt
41. Alistair Hogg	42. James Cox

On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 the Scottish Contextual Safeguarding Core Group ran a ½ day online webinar on contextual safeguarding in Scotland.

[This web page](#) provides the notes and presentations from the event in pdf.

These include

- (1) The circular describing the purpose of the event**
- (2) Introductory links and ideas : slides and notes: James Cox**
- (3) North Lanarkshire Pilot : Andrew Gillies**
- (4) Action for Children : Sharon McIver**
- (5) Barnardo's Scotland : Daljeet Dagon**
- (6) Update of Developments in England and Wales: Dr Carlene Firmin, University of Bedfordshire**
- (7) Summary note/ attendees/next steps Stuart Allardyce/ James Cox**

The event was supported by Social Work Scotland and attended by representatives of key agencies and organisations promoting child protection and welfare, as well as by Carlene Firmin at the University of Bedfordshire.

Speakers mapped current developments in Scotland where contextual safeguarding is being operationalised in local authorities and by agencies and through local partnerships.

Presentations also provided an opportunity to bring a contextual lens to work in Scotland focusing on extra familial harm such as child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation. The meeting closed with an exploration of next steps in testing an approach that encourages professionals to protect adolescents from all forms of harm in a Scottish context.

A summary of recommendations and actions from the event and a list of comments from those who attended.

**The Scottish Contextual Safeguarding Core Group is a coalition of organisations committed to promoting more effective approaches to child protection from extra-familial harm across Scotland. If you are interested in joining this informal group that organises events and promotes learning, contact [stuartallardyce@stopitnow.org.uk](mailto:stuartallardyce@stopitnow.org.uk) or [james.cox@socialworkscotland.org](mailto:james.cox@socialworkscotland.org).**

#### **NEXT STEPS**

The points below were mooted and drew interest and support. Participants may wish to further consider the development of the points in to actions as appropriate for their role and agency

1. STRATEGIC : National Child Protection Leadership Group: Request that the strategic and practice relevance of contextual safeguarding be drawn to the attention of the National Child Protection Leadership Group . Action : letter to NCPLG will be drafted in week of 7/12 to propose a future agenda item highlighting the relevance of timing to do with Guidance revision; GIRFEC refresh; CSE research; preventing online harm; relevance of the Promise.
2. PRACTICE IN CHILD PROTECTION: National Guidance for Child Protection: currently subject to public consultation: Outline flagged in core text. Practice notes will be linked to core text. Action: whole group encouraged to comment on consultation online.
3. NATIONAL PRACTICE MODEL / INTER-AGENCY APPROACH TO SUPPORT AND PROTECTION: James to liaise with GIRFEC team at Scottish Government
4. CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES SCOTLAND: How can a contextual approach be considered and supported as appropriate at this exploratory stage within the CPC role as regards leadership, training and local guidance ? Action: participants on the call with key roles within CPC Scotland to consider/ discuss as appropriate with chair of CPC Chairs Committee Scotland.
5. CHILDREN'S HEARINGS : Can consideration of a contextual approach within assessment and planning be encouraged now, within the Covid-19 recovery stages and as part of the recovery plan endorsed by CHIP ? How can can consideration of contextual approach form a strand within training/guidance for reporters, panel members and children and families social workers ? Action: participants on the call on the Covid-19 recovery group to consider as relevant to SCRA/CHS/SWS/CELCIS/SG
6. INSPECTORATE: Action: colleagues on the call from CI to consider discussion with strategic inspectorate colleagues about appropriate linkages to inspection exploration and method
7. SCHOOLS: Action: Education leads on the call to consider what may be appropriate at this stage to explore and link to through Education Scotland.

8. SOCIAL WORK SCOTLAND: Action: Colleagues on the call with membership of/ roles in support of the Child Protection Subgroup/ Family Support subgroup/Residential care/Reviewing officers/Children and Families Standing Committee to consider how contextual safeguarding may contribute to agenda and outcomes. Social Work Scotland webpage to be set up.
9. MULTI-AGENCY APPROACHES: Police Scotland multi agency group which meets quarterly in relation to prevention of online harm. Opportunity to ensure learning from the approach and from Scottish Pilots is shared and built upon in real time. ( ie rather than 2 years hence). Action: participants in that group and other multi-agency groups on the call to consider appropriate linkage.
10. CONNECTIONS TO STRENGTH BASED APPROACHES: colleagues on the call steeped in Signs of Safety and Family Group Decision Making may wish to consider how a contextual lens and stage2 contextual developments could connect with collaborative planning. Communication to go in week of 7/12 to Scottish Government policy lead in relation to prevention of 'repeat removal'.
11. RESEARCH BRIEFINGS: work is in progress on an IRISS briefing in the Insight Series (City of Edinburgh Youth Justice), hopefully for publication in the new year. Where appropriate colleagues on the call may consider it appropriate to share their research and practice briefings as below. (CYCJ are developing a briefing).
12. NETWORKING AND SHARING: Action: (a) learning/presentations from today to be shared in pdf with attendees and for wider circulation means of a link to a web page on Social Work Scotland website. (b) relevant colleagues on the call from CELCIS to consider/discuss with linkage to CELCIS webpage; and consider ongoing involvement with learning from exploration of the contextual approach.(c) Request that participants with developing practice interests consider sharing developing learning with the co-ordinators of this learning event for wider sharing, as appropriate, via a webpage to be developed.
13. CORE GROUP: Stuart Allardyce and colleagues involved in set up of this learning event to consider how best to sustain and co-ordinate learning through a core group of agencies prepared to work within a confederate approach
14. PRACTICE EDUCATION AND TRAINING: Consider contextual safeguarding e-learning module pre and post qualifying as appropriate to social work; with inter agency relevance to health, education, police, housing, third sector. Action: liaison in week of 7/12 with heads of social work in HEIs and practice learning co-ordinators including independent networks . (WESTLEARN). JC/SA
15. EVENT March/April 2021: **Core group** to consider a subsequent event to focus on practice components that are key to realisation of an approach eg information sharing; collaborative planning; working with community including housing/retail/sport/transport.