



Dumfries and Galloway
IJB Clinical and Care Governance Committee

11th November 2021

This Report relates to
Item 7 on the Agenda

Public Protection - Update

Paper presented by Lillian Cringles, CSWO

For Noting

Author:	Lillian Cringles, Chief Social Work Officer
List of Background Papers:	Not Applicable
Appendices:	<p>Appendix 1 - Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Partnership - Structure</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Dumfries & Galloway Chief Officers' Group (Public Protection) - Constitution and Terms Of Reference</p> <p>Appendix 3 – PPP Strategic Plan May 2020-2023</p> <p>Appendix 4 - PPC Immediate Priorities May 2021</p>

1.	Introduction
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide the IJB Clinical and Care Governance Committee with an update on Public Protection Partnership (PPP) and Public Protection Committee (PPC) activity.
2.	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The IJB Clinical and Care Governance Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the content of the report and the structure of Public Protection governance and activity within Dumfries and Galloway
3.	Background and Main Report
3.1	The ambition of Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Partnership (PPP) is for <i>“individuals and communities across the region, particularly the most vulnerable, to be safe and protected.”</i>
3.2	The partnership is led by Chief Officers Group: Public Protection (COG-PP) providing governance across the partnership. The group consists of the four Chief Officers, from Police Scotland, the Council, the NHS and the Health and Social Care Partnership with professional advice from the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO) and Public Protection Manager.
3.3	In June 2020, COG-PP agreed the most recent three-year strategic plan 2020-2023, This is the first joint public protection strategy, building on the previous separate business plans for Child Protection, Adult Support and Protection and Violence Against Women and Girls.
3.4	The PPC has the responsibility to implement the strategic direction and prioritisation across all public protection activity and focuses on adults, children and vulnerable groups at risk and works to ensure effective practice and arrangements are in place, managing areas of overlap. Accountable to COG-PP, PPC shapes the delivery and review of protection work through oversight of multi-agency performance, assuming responsibility for the development and delivery of relevant services. The primary aim of the PPC Committee is to shape the effective discharge and review of public protection activity through strategic oversight and performance review of the arrangements. The Committee has a dedicated and specific remit on protection issues and overview of all protection work; assuming responsibility for the strategic development and delivery of services to the most vulnerable adults and children who are at risk of significant harm. In line with statutory responsibilities, the committee has particular focus on high-risk groups and will ensure effective arrangements are in place to manage areas of overlap across the public protection fora.
3.5	The Public Protection Committee (PPC) is committed to a process of continuous improvement which is reported to the COG-PP. This ensures regular review of ongoing operational issues across the partnership; awareness of any underlying issues which impact on effective working; identification of local single or multi-agency issues; and exploration of practical and workable improvements.

- 3.6 As an outcome of review activity, COG-PP agreed to review the membership of PPC to streamline and aid decision making, putting in place revisions to role and responsibilities of the formal sub-committees. Revised membership of PPC, implemented February 2020 was based on discussion with partners and comprises those with strategic responsibility within their agency and wider services continue to be invited to PPC when required (Appendix one).
- 3.7 In addition, the role and function of the three Vice Chairs, representing Social Work, Health and Police was changed during covid-19 and these roles were crucial during this period and in supporting an interim Independent Chair through 2020 and into 2021, with regular meetings and executive capacity to develop immediate resolutions. These changes to role are now a permanent element of public protection governance.
- 3.8 The structure of business planning was revised to be more responsive to the pandemic, resulting in revised strategic aims and immediate priorities. In November 2020 PPC confirmed their immediate priorities, reviewed in May 2021 when a fifth priority to support local partnerships on shared priorities was added. This additional public protection priority was to formalise joint work with other statutory partnerships on significant areas of concern and risk and to prioritise the continuation to support and work with other partnerships in areas wherever possible. This includes for example the Alcohol and Drug Partnership, Community Justice Partnership and Suicide prevention agenda.
- 3.9 The COG-PP recognised the need to prioritise public protection activity throughout the pandemic. They responded by making changes to governance to ensure continued and enhanced level of scrutiny, support, and challenge. This strengthened its role in the oversight and direction of risk management in respect of vulnerability and public protection. Given the value of these changes, however, and value they have added these have been agreed as permanent. These included:
- 3.10 Reviewed frequency of meetings of COG-PP to fully support the work of the Partnership. COG-PP initially met on a fortnightly basis and then monthly and received week by week data on emerging risks and demand for services and more regular high level indicative data providing visibility of real time demand and pressures. This allows leadership decisions to ensure resources are in the right place to provide capability and capacity to support people.
- 3.11 COG-PP formally revised its Constitution and Terms of Reference (TOR) (Appendix two) including formalising the move from previous quarterly to monthly meetings. Both the COG-PP TOR and the strategic aims are available to all staff and the public on the public protection website www.dgppp.org.uk
- 3.12 A multi-agency Public Protection Learning and Development Strategy was agreed by PPC in August 2020, setting the framework and approach to delivering multi-agency learning and development opportunities for staff. Development and delivery of multi-agency training is shared across partners, including the Third and Independent sector, depending on subject matter and expertise.
- 3.13 PPC have ensured that quality standards are clear and understood by practitioners

through our programme of training and awareness raising. For example the development and application of our ASP audit tool for example has also helped communicate and embed practice standards within Social Work Services with frontline staff involved in its development, testing and application. This is based on the Multi-Agency ASP Audit undertaken in 2019, which also informed the development of the AIRD Audit Tool.

3.14 Through the Performance Quality & Improvement sub-committee, we ensure that sound quality assurance and audit processes are in place and that we carry out periodic self-evaluations of adult support and protection practice.

3.15 In November 2021, the partnership will receive formal outcomes from the Joint inspection of adult support and protection in the Dumfries & Galloway partnership, undertaken by the Care Inspectorate in collaboration with Healthcare Improvement Scotland and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland.

4. Conclusions

4.1 This report is tabled for information, and that the partnership is led by the Chief Officers Group: Public Protection (COG-PP) providing governance across the partnership. The group consists of the four Chief Officers, from Police Scotland, the Council, the NHS and the Health and Social Care Partnership with professional advice from the Chief Social Work Officer (CSWO).

5. Resource Implications

5.1 The Public Protection team is a multi-agency funded team, and most recently highlighted when PPC identified challenges and barriers faced in both Performance and Assurance and training and communication, particularly in ASP, and Chief Officers agreed to invest resource with joint funding from NHS DG and DGC to create, and have appointed to, dedicated posts for these areas across the whole public protection agenda.

5.2 The creation of these posts were part of several dedicated roles as agreed by the COG:PP to address increased chronic risk across Public Protection in line with ensuring COG-PP revisited their business model and governance arrangements to ensure that partners are in a strong position to meet the multi-agency response to the growth in public protection activity which has a significant impact on all aspects of the partnership, addressing resource and increased chronic risk across Public Protection to ensure that partners are in a strong position to meet the multi-agency response to the growth in public protection activity which has a significant impact on all aspects of the partnership.

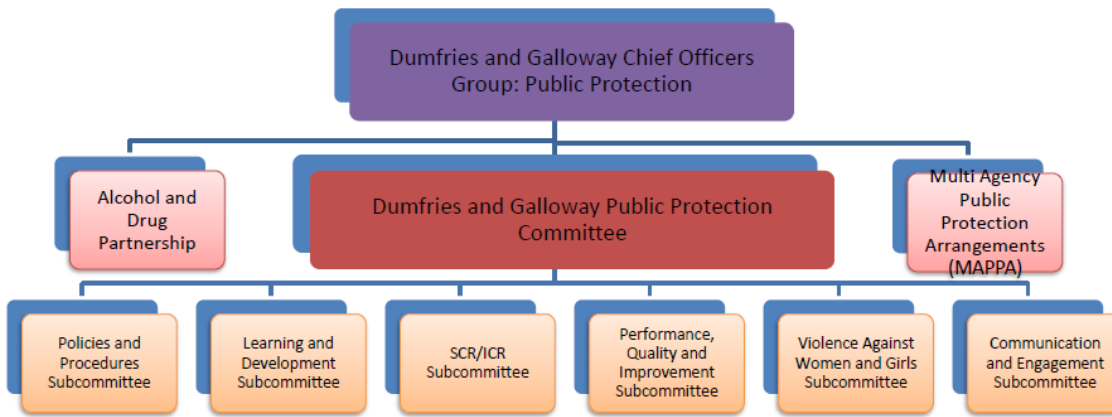
6. Impact on Integration Joint Board Outcomes, Priorities and Policy

6.1 The PPC works closely on two of the nine national health and wellbeing outcomes. These are outcomes three and seven.

- People who use health and social care services have positive experiences of those services, and have their dignity respected.
- People using health and social care services are safe from harm.

7.	Legal and Risk Implications												
7.1	Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Committee is constituted in terms of the provisions of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007, National Guidance for Child Protection Committees (2005), Equally Safe – Scotland’s strategy for preventing and eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls (Scottish Government 2016).												
8.	Consultation												
8.1	This report is to provide the CCG committee with an update an assurance of the delivery of the PPC within the partnership												
9.	Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment												
9.1	This report is an update on a structure that is in place and therefore a revised EQIA is not required at this time.												
10.	Glossary												
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>CCG</td> <td>Clinical and Care Governance Committee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>COG</td> <td>Chief Officers Group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>COG - PP</td> <td>Chief Officers Group Public Protection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PPC</td> <td>Public Protection Committee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PPP</td> <td>Public Protection Partnership</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOR</td> <td>Terms of Reference</td> </tr> </table>	CCG	Clinical and Care Governance Committee	COG	Chief Officers Group	COG - PP	Chief Officers Group Public Protection	PPC	Public Protection Committee	PPP	Public Protection Partnership	TOR	Terms of Reference
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Appendix 1: Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Partnership - Structure



Appendix 2:



DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY CHIEF OFFICERS' GROUP (PUBLIC PROTECTION)

Constitution and Terms of Reference

For approval – 28 August 2020
Next review date – 28 August 2021

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Dumfries & Galloway Chief Officers' Group (Public Protection) – hereafter referred to as 'the group' - has been established to provide leadership, direction, governance, and oversight of Public Protection arrangements within the Dumfries & Galloway local authority area. To do this, the Group is the strategic lead and responsible for the Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Partnership - hereafter referred to as "the partnership"
- 1.2 This document is intended to provide a framework for Chief Officer leadership and accountability.
- 1.3 This document reflects recent changes to national Child Protection guidance – 'Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committee and Chief Officer Responsibilities', updated in February 2019. It directs local services to work in partnership to achieve effective Public Protection services. The arrangements set out in this document are comparable with Chief Officer Groups within comparator local authorities.

2. CONTEXT

- 2.1 Responsibilities of the group will incorporate oversight for all Public Protection functionality within the Dumfries & Galloway area and with particular focus on high risk groups will specifically include: -
 - Child Protection.
 - Adult Support & Protection.
 - Offender Management (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) for sexual and violent offenders);
 - Violence Against Women/ Gender Based Violence.
 - Problematic Alcohol and Drugs use; and
 - Suicide Prevention
 - Prevent
- 2.2 There is often common interface between areas of Public Protection. The group will demonstrate consistency in terms of reviewing the effectiveness of working arrangements across any interface and aligning and promoting cohesive approaches to enhance the protection of people.
- 2.3 The group will have oversight of Public Protection strategies and initiatives designed to protect people at risk to ensure they most effectively meet their needs and furthermore seek to improve outcomes for such vulnerable people.
- 2.4 The function of the group is to provide a single leadership forum providing senior officer scrutiny in relation to the functionality of the Public Protection Partnership.

The Group leads the Dumfries and Galloway Public Protection Partnership, directing work of the Public Protection Committee that formally reports to the Group. In addition, the following committees/partnerships are already in place within Dumfries & Galloway, delivering developmental, operational, and strategic functions in relation to their specific role in delivering protection to vulnerable people: -

- Dumfries & Galloway Public Protection Committee (PPC)
- South West Scotland MAPPA Strategic Oversight Group
- Dumfries & Galloway Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

Additionally, there are various standing committees, sub committees & working groups which serve and report to the respective parent committees and partnerships.

3 REMIT, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY CHIEF OFFICERS' GROUP

3.1 Remit

The remit of the group is to provide collective strategic leadership, direction, governance and oversight of the delivery and improvement of services relative to the effectiveness of the Public Protection arrangements within Dumfries & Galloway across the partnership.

3.2 Roles & Responsibilities

3.3 The group will ensure there is multi-agency commitment to collaborative working in Public Protection in Dumfries & Galloway through active senior officer commitment and engagement from all relevant agencies.

3.4 The group will ensure that the above-mentioned committees and partnerships are properly constituted and resourced, so their arrangements are clearly focussed and relevant to the respective area of protection activity.

3.5 The group will oversee the roles, visions, values and aims of the aforementioned Public Protection committees and partnerships, including their affiliated groups, to ensure they fulfil their statutory functions, adhere to national policy and guidance and remain aligned to their respective terms of reference.

3.6 The group will ensure effective planning is in place to respond to the assessment and management of risk, providing appropriate resourcing, and reassurance to the public.

3.7 The group will call for and review performance / management information reports from the Public Protection committees & partnerships to assure themselves that work is continuing to deliver effective services and to address any areas for improvement identified through inspections, audit, or significant case review reports.

3.8 The group will scrutinise the annual Child Protection Report and the biennial Adult Protection Report prior to them being presented to Dumfries & Galloway Council – Social Work Committee.

3.9 The group will promote reflective learning from Significant Case Reviews and direct the implementation of associated recommendations where appropriate to local Public Protection arrangements.

3.10 The group will scrutinise the stability of Public Protection arrangements in times of significant organisational change. It will consistently promote collective responsibility and

collaborative working across the committees/partnerships on cross-cutting protection themes, to enable improved outcomes for all vulnerable people.

- 3.11 The group will agree the appointment of the Independent Chair, Vice-Chair(s) and members of the abovementioned committees & partnerships ensuring they have the necessary skills and knowledge to enable them to fulfil their individual and collective responsibilities. The Group will also ensure that the Chair has the time, resources and dedicated professional and administrative support to fulfil their role.
- 3.12 The group will be responsible for confirming the nature of the contractual agreement, terms of reference, role, remit, and performance of the Independent Chair of PPC. The Chair and Vice-Chairs of the PPC will be agreed by the group for a minimum of two years, at which point there will be a review of the arrangements.
- 3.13 The group will ensure that members of the committees/partnerships have the delegated responsibility level and capacity to make decisions on behalf of the service or agency they represent.
- 3.14 The group will, in appropriate cases, direct the conducting of significant case reviews in cases where there are clear Public Protection issues.
- 3.15 The group will have no budgetary responsibilities which will be devolved within the respective committees & partnerships in accordance with their respective terms of reference.
- 3.16 The group will review the COG's Constitution and Terms of Reference on a regular basis and in any case, every three years or following amended guidance received from the Scottish Government.

4. MEMBERSHIP AND CHAIRING ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Membership

The core membership of the Dumfries & Galloway Chief Officers' Group: Public Protection will consist of the following: -

- The Chief Executive of Dumfries & Galloway Council or their nominee
- The Chief Executive of NHS Dumfries & Galloway or their nominee
- The Chief Superintendent of Police Scotland, Dumfries & Galloway Division, or their nominee
- The Chief Operating Officer, Dumfries & Galloway Health and Social Care Partnership or their nominee

In attendance

- The Chief Social Work Officer, Dumfries & Galloway Council
- Director of Corporate Services, Dumfries & Galloway Council
- The Independent Chair of Dumfries & Galloway Public Protection Committee
- Locality Reporter Manager, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
- The Independent Chair of the Dumfries & Galloway Alcohol and Drugs Partnership.
(attendance is required at every second meeting or as otherwise requested by the chair of COG-PP)

- Public Protection Manager
- Other Public Protection Partnership members as appropriate

- 4.2 Core members as set out above may nominate replacements, but they must be of sufficient seniority to make decisions, as may be required.
- 4.3 Other attendees may include representatives from the Crown Office and Procurators Fiscal Service, and senior officers from those agencies represented on the core membership, with the agreement of the core membership.
- 4.4 The Chair of the group will be selected from the core membership and will serve in this position for two years, or as long as the core members collectively decide.

5 FREQUENCY & WORKING ARRANGEMENTS OF MEETINGS

- 5.1 The group will meet monthly or otherwise, as may be dictated by extraordinary circumstances, and at the discretion of the Chair.
- 5.2 All statutory agencies must be represented for the meeting to be quorate. (Note: the meeting will be quorate when two Chief Officers are present and the third is represented by a deputy) If otherwise prescribed then the meeting may proceed but any decisions will have to be deferred until the next quorate meeting.
- 5.3 Decisions will generally be by consensus. Where such consensus has not been established, decisions will be on a vote basis with the Chair having the casting vote in the event of a split decision.
- 5.4 Administrative support will be provided by the appropriate available business support teams serving the Chief Officers.
- 5.5 All meetings will be minuted and protectively marked in accordance with the Government Security Classifications (GSC) guidance. The minute will be endorsed by the Chair and thereafter circulated to attendees within seven working days following the meeting of the group.

6 CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMATION SHARING

- 6.1 All agendas, reports and other documents and proceedings of the group shall be treated as official unless and until they become public in the ordinary course of the group's business or are authorised to be communicated to, and are available for, publication by the press or other news media and in accordance with a formal decision of the group and approval by the Chair.

7 CONSIDERATION OF INITIAL AND SIGNIFICANT CASE REVIEWS

- 7.1 The Group should be advised by the Chair of the PPC of any cases that should be considered in respect of meeting the criteria for warranting either an Initial Case Review (ICR) or Significant Case Review (SCR). Once agreed by the Group, the Committee should consider and agree the method of review to be undertaken, who should lead the review and

ensure appropriate communication takes place with regard to contacting the Care Inspectorate, who oversee all ICRs and SCRs.

7.2 Once reviews are concluded, all findings and/or recommendations should be considered by the Group, with focus of attention on:

- Key themes within the findings and how to share these findings with staff, agencies and bodies involved to support and embed learning and improvement locally.
- The possibility of any systemic failure within or between key agencies or bodies involved.
- Any remedial or urgent action that is required.
- The proposed action plan to address the findings and how improvement priorities will be implemented, monitored, and reviewed.
- How any learning and development will be taken forward and embedded in practice.
- Any resource issues that are relevant for either the management of the case itself or production and progress of the action plan.
- Publishing the report (with appropriate safeguards) to promote and support national learning and improvement activity, unless the Group can demonstrate there are exceptional circumstances that justify not publishing; and
- Whether it is appropriate to develop a press statement.

8.1 RESOLUTION PROCESS

8.1 The group's decisions will be reached by consensus, although individual members can have their dissent recorded. Where there is differing views on an option or approach, the chair will decide.

8.2 In the event of the group failing to reach a resolution, the chair of the group will consider alternative ways of seeking to resolve the discord.

9 PROCESS FOR AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

9.1 This Constitution and Terms of Reference document will be reviewed every 3 years, or earlier if a significant change is made.

9.2 Where a member of the group requests an amendment to be made to the Constitution and Terms of Reference document, it shall be by two thirds majority of group members present.

9.3 Amendments may also take place where new legislation or national guidance/direction is available or where there are developments in public protection which suggests new approaches are necessary to ensure continuous improvements in the care and protection of vulnerable people in Dumfries & Galloway.

Appendix 3 – PPP Strategic Plan May 2020-2023



8a PPP Strategic
Plan May 2020-2023.

Appendix 4 - PPC Immediate Priorities May 2021



8b PPC Immediate
Priorities May 2021.

