

Latest news and learning



October 2025

Welcome

A Message from the Chair and Lead Officer

We are delighted to share our first Edinburgh Child Protection committee Newsletter. This is one step in our commitment to improving our communication and ensuring that the work undertaken by the Committee is shared as widely as possible across the multi-agency partnership. A regular newsletter will be part of our ECPC Communication Strategy and we would encourage you to share it within your individual organisation and networks.

We hope you find the Newsletter supportive, and we would welcome your feedback on the content. Additionally, if you have any articles or information you would wish to submit for future editions of the Newsletter these would be most welcomed.

You can find lots more information about our Committee members, structure, Annual Report and development plans on the [Edinburgh Child Protection Committee](#) pages.



Multi-Agency Learning Opportunities

Introduction

The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee is committed to ensuring we have a suitably skilled, confident, competent and supported workforce to meet the needs of children and young people in the city. We do this through our [Multi-Agency Child Protection Learning and Development Strategy](#) and the work of our Learning and Development Sub-Committee, as well as supporting single-agency learning and other continuous improvement strategies.

In April 2025 we launched [mylearninghub.events](#) where staff and volunteers from across the partnership can explore free open-access learning. City of Edinburgh Council staff will continue to find all the same courses and learning opportunities on [My Learning Hub](#).

The Newsletter is another exciting way of getting information and learning opportunities into your finger-tips.

Specific Contact Child Protection

There are new dates recently advertised for our Specific Contact Child Protection; Inter-Agency Risk Assessment and newly developed, Inter-Agency Risk Assessment Refresher courses. Find out more details at [mylearninghub.events](#).

Lucy Faithful Foundation Scotland and Child Sexual Abuse

Lucy Faithful Foundation Scotland are based in Edinburgh and have recently moved to a new building at the Shore, Leith. They have an upcoming open afternoon on Thursday, 9th October any time between 2:00pm – 5:00pm where you can learn about their prevention work, support to families and young people, risk assessment advice and the partnership work.

They are also hosting two free lunchtime webinars on prevention of child sexual abuse:

Working with children and families | 15 October 2025 (1:00 pm – 2:00 pm)

Working with adults | 20 October 2025 (1:00 pm – 2:00 pm)

These sessions will explore how and why to use child sexual abuse prevention resources; what specific challenges feature in the identification, assessment, and response to child sexual abuse. To book a place email scotland@lucyfaithfull.org.uk

Contextual Safeguarding – Risks Outside the Home (ROTH)

At October's Child Protection Committee, committee members will be discussing and hopefully agreeing the Contextual Safeguarding - Risks Outside the Home Guidance, which our Child Exploitation Oversight Sub-Committee has been working on for several months.

Further, the Committee is delighted to be partnering with City of Edinburgh Council in addressing child trafficking and exploitation by embedding Contextual Safeguarding approaches across the services. This will be aided by a range of Contextual Safeguarding training, delivered by Power the Fight, offered from **October 2025 – March 2026**. Please speak to your manager or contact yps@edinburgh.gov.uk for further information.

Child Protection and Alcohol and Drug Partnership Webinars

We are continuing a series of webinar's that will highlight the local risks of alcohol and drug use. This is a partnership between the Edinburgh public protection committees.

The next one takes place on **Thursday 2nd October 4.00-5.30pm** where we will be hearing from Crew 2000 and Change Grow Live on their shared experiences of working with people of different ages who take Cocaine or Crack Cocaine. There's no need to sign up, just join us on the day using this [link](#).

Family Group Decision Making

When a family is in crisis, we can often support them best by bringing together extended networks of informal support to build a plan. City of Edinburgh's Family Group Decision Making Team are offering a series of information sessions to explain more about the principles and values of the work. The first one is on **Tuesday 7th October 2.00-4.00pm** Craigmillar. Please contact the Lead Officer for Child Protection, laura.g.brown@edinburgh.gov.uk for more details.

IRD Workshop

We strive for Intensive Contact staff to be confident in addressing complex and cross-cutting environmental, family and individual factors and consider across the agencies how they may contribute to increased risk of harm. This often includes identification/assessment of risk and developing, recording, monitoring and reviewing safety plans within Child Protection investigations. As such, we offer opportunities for Inter-Agency Referral Discussion Practitioners to meet and explore key themes and issues in dedicated workshops.

The next one takes place on **Friday 31st October 9.00am-1.00pm** at the Business Centre, City Chambers. This will focus on learning from audits and data, new guidance and tools we are embedding to help the process and an overview of the Scottish Child Interviewing Model and where it intersects with the IRD process. Please follow the [Booking Link](#) to join. Please note IRD Practitioners will be prioritised for spaces.

Young People Under Pressure

NSPCC have recently launched a new briefing on young people's mental health. This is based on the experiences of thousands of children and young people who make use of their helplines. You can find more information at [NSPCC Learning](#).

Zero Tolerance, a domestic abuse charity, are also recognising the pressures on our young people, particularly around sex, relationships and gender. Youth workers, teachers, and other practitioners are in a key position to inform, support, and empower young people, yet can find these conversations awkward and uncomfortable. Their free Under Pressure training activates skills in talking to young people about these serious

and sensitive subjects and you can find out more and sign up for learning via Zoom on **Tuesday 7th October 10.00-12.30pm** using this [link](#).

Important Information about our Courses, Workshops and Events

All our events are free of charge at the point of delivery, and we don't fine you if can't attend at the last minute. They are not free to run, however. The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee funds learning through a multi-agency budget to make it accessible to everyone who needs it. Also, facilitators and training leaders give their time and energy to deliver the learning. Many commit to this over and above their operational or practice roles.

Over the last year, we have seen a massive drop off between the individuals who booked on learning and those who attended and benefitted from the learning events. This is extremely wasteful as, other practitioners miss out on spaces, facilitators are sometimes delivering to half-empty rooms, and delegates don't get the chance to meet and share ideas with practitioners from other disciplines.

We are reviewing all the learning opportunities, attempting to offer new content and course options but if you book on a learning event and cannot attend, please hop on to [mylearninghub.events](#) and cancel your space.

Don't have time for a Course, Workshop or Webinar?

Learning events aren't for everyone or sometimes it's hard to fit them in on top of everything else on your to-do list.... If you're looking for bite-sized learning, we have a series of local briefings and guidance on our [Child Protection for Professionals](#) page. Recently we've added information on Home Educated Children, Fabricated or Induced Illness, Unseen Men and Signs & Indicators of Child Sexual Abuse.

We are also working hard to find a way to make self-led e-learning opportunities available across the workforce.

If there's bits of advice and support you would like made available, please contact us and let us know.

Learning Reviews

Learning Review Protocol and Paperwork

Sometimes things go horribly wrong for the children and young people we work with. When this happens, the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee have systems for considering whether a Learning Review should take place. These used to be known as Significant Case Reviews (SCRs) but the model and approach has changed over the last few years.

In Edinburgh, we have conducted four Learning Reviews since 2023 and considered several other notifications for a Learning Review. Our Chief Officers often chose not to publish the full Learning Review reports, out of respect for children, young people and their families, who can sometimes be recognisable because of the level of detail in the Reports. We do usually publish an Executive Learning Summary, and these can be found on the [Edinburgh Child Protection Committee](#) pages.

You can find out all you need to know about the Learning Review process and how you or your service could notify of a possible Learning Review at the [Learning Reviews](#) pages. This system does not take away from other series incident recording and reviewing you may be involved in within your own agency and concerns should always be discussed in the first instance with your line manager.

The Learning Reviews process is never easy as it means a child has been significantly harmed or has died. If you need support and advice in managing your own experiences, please seek out support, supervision, employee assistance or contact the Lead Officer for Child Protection, laura.g.brown@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Child Protection Committee Awayday

CPC in Sighthill

The Child Protection Committee meets 6 times a year both online and in-person. In August 2025 we had a brilliant development session hosted by Gate 55 in Sighthill.

We are so thankful to colleagues from Dundee City, Dumfries and Galloway and the Promise who helped facilitate our day. If you have a venue that would be suitable for meetings or learning events and would like to host us, please do get in touch.



Get in touch

Email laura.g.brown@edinburgh.gov.uk

You can read previous issues of Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Latest news and learning.