



Welcome Back

Message from Chair and Lead Officer

We hope you had a fantastic summer break. The Edinburgh Child Protection Committee (ECPC) newsletter has also been taking a break as we have been welcoming the new members of the team.

The new Child Protection Committee Lead Officer, Suzanne Campbell, is joining us from the Third Sector and you may know her from as one of the Third Sector Representatives at Committee. Suzanne says, *"I am excited to be taking on the role of Lead Officer for the ECPC. The aim remains focused on continuous learning centred on multi agency collaboration to ensure we are keeping babies, children and young people safe. I am looking forward to working with you all."*

We also have a new post in the team Lead Officer for Contextual Safeguarding and Prevent – Leigh-Ann Parker. Leigh-Ann joins the team having previously worked as a social worker at the Young People's Service. Her role focuses on contextual safeguarding, child exploitation and Prevent, working alongside colleagues and partners across Edinburgh to support ongoing work across these areas. Leigh-Ann says:

"There is already so much good work happening across Edinburgh, so I am looking forward to building on that and with colleagues and partners to respond to some of the challenges facing people who are vulnerable to exploitation and other forms of harm."

Child Exploitation (CE), Contextual Safeguarding (CS) a Risks Outside the Home (ROTH) Survey

Please complete our short [survey](#) on CE, CS and ROTH guidance. Your responses will help us understand what's already working well and where further training, guidance or support might be helpful. Use the link or scan the QR code. **Please complete by Friday 11th September 2026.** Additionally, Power the Fight will be delivering an exciting programme of Contextual Safeguarding training for all secondary school staff starting in September. This will include twilight sessions, case examples, practical application of tools, Champions training and ongoing reflective practice support. Further information and dates will be shared soon.

Child Exploitation, Contextual
Safeguarding a Risks Outside the
Home (ROTH) survey



Economic Abuse Helpline

Economic abuse is a form of control where a partner or ex-partner restricts access to money, resources, or the things money can buy—like food, housing, or transport. Its impact can be long-lasting—trapping survivors in dangerous situations or preventing them from rebuilding their lives after leaving. Often hidden and misunderstood, economic abuse is a powerful way for perpetrators to limit choices and independence. It can continue long after a relationship ends and can happen on its own or alongside physical, emotional, or other types of abuse.

Check out [Financially Included](#) Website for more information.

The Purple Phone – Call 0343 841 0132

Financially included provide a National Helpline for people needing confidential support and advice on economic abuse. Find out more here: [The Purple Phone](#)

Multi Agency Training Opportunities delivered on behalf of the ECPC

Inter-Agency Risk Assessment - 2nd and 3rd September

Using an interactive approach, you will have the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of child protection processes, decision-making and effective joint working to protect and promote best outcomes for children and young people at risk.

City of Edinburgh Council Staff: [Booking Link](#)

All other Partners: [Booking Link](#)

Vulnerability of Babies – 10th September

This workshop aims to raise awareness of the child protection risks posed to young babies and children, as well as discussing the procedures for vulnerable babies at risk of significant harm. It will cover the evidence as to why babies are at a far greater risk and how a practitioner's approach should take this into account.

City of Edinburgh Council Staff: [Booking Link](#) (full for council staff but you can join waitlist)

All other Partners: [Booking Link](#)

Working Together to Address Domestic Abuse – 10th September

This Level 2 course will build confidence in engaging and supporting survivors of domestic abuse and consider safety planning and working in partnership with survivors. It will also introduce Domestic Abuse Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) Risk Indicator Checklist (RIC) and signpost to further services and supports for survivors.

City of Edinburgh Council Staff: [Booking Link](#)

All other Partners: [Booking Link](#)

Identifying and Supporting Children at Risk of Neglect 15th September and 10th November

This event supports practitioners to reflect on current practice and consider new ideas. Exploring how to assess and evidence neglect for children of different ages and stages, cover the drivers and types of neglect before focusing on the impact neglect has on children's longer-term wellbeing. There will be time to introduce and practice applying the Risk of Neglect toolkit, which all practitioners are encouraged to make use of in their work supporting families at risk of neglect.

City of Edinburgh Council Staff: [Booking Link](#)

All other Partners: [Booking Link](#)

Fabricated and Induced Illness 21st September

This webinar is aimed at those working closely with children and families in community settings and health staff in acute paediatric areas, or working in children and families social work areas, particularly those who provide supervision or work in an advisory capacity such as reviewing officers.

City of Edinburgh Council Staff: [Booking Link](#)

All other Partners: [Booking Link](#)

Giving Evidence in Court – 24th September

Workers likely to be cited to attend Court in their professional role, including Social Workers and Social Work Assistants, Health Visitors, Substance Use Workers, Early Years Practitioners, Teachers, Midwives and Third Sector services such as Family Workers.

City of Edinburgh Council Staff: [Booking Link](#)

All other Partners: [Booking Link](#)

Protecting Disabled Children and Young People – 26th November 2026

To improve awareness and increase knowledge and confidence in identifying, supporting and protecting disabled children and young people across Edinburgh. The training highlights particular risks of harm, linking to existing policy, practice and procedures and where those practices can be improved. This interactive full-day training is co-delivered by a range of professionals, including leads in child protection learning and development, speech and language therapy, disability social work, and paediatrics. The day offers an opportunity to hear and learn from this multi-disciplinary group and from fellow delegates. Few spaces remaining but keep an eye for future dates.

Booking Link: [Booking Link](#)

Important Information about our Courses, Workshops and Events

All our events are free of charge at the point of delivery, however they are not free to run. 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.

Last quarter, the ECPC offered eleven Child Protection Learning and Development sessions on different topics. Two of these were cancelled or postponed due to limited bookings. Of the nine learning events that did take place, we had 65% attendance on booked places. 25% of places were cancelled before the event and 15% of bookings did not attend on the day.

It is imperative that, if you book on a learning event and cannot attend, please hop on to [mylearninghub.events](#) or the City of Edinburgh Council My Learning Hub 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 new information on different types of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, including the Risks Outside the Home Guidance and Screening Tool.

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

Children's Reporter and Children's Hearing Scotland Training

The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) have launched a Learning Hub. This provides an open access, online resource developed to support professionals working within the Children's Hearings System. The materials were developed by the Learning Leads – a group of professionals from across the Children's Hearings System.

Learning currently available:

- [An introduction to the Children's Hearings System](#)
- [Referral to the Children's Reporter](#)
- [Child Friendly Scheduling](#)



Policing Together – Children and Young People Partnership Learning Opportunities

The Policing Together Children and Young People Team are providing Partnership Learning Opportunities in 2026, whereby police and other public protection partners can learn together. Partners such as education, social work, support staff, NHS, third sector and charities all come together to learn and discuss important topics relating to the safeguarding and wellbeing.

Vaping – 31 August 10.30-11.30

The illegal vapes market in the UK is a significant concern, with criminal gangs flooding the country with dangerous products targeting our children and young people. These vapes are untested, unregulated and contain dangerous levels of nicotine and other harmful substances. Nearly 2000 vape liquids from 114 secondary schools in England were taken by police and tested by the University of Bath. Some 13% contained spice. Our session aims to highlight the emerging trend and harms associated with vapes.

Book by e-mailing PolicingTogetherChildrenandYoungPeople@scotland.police.uk

Family Mediation – 16 September 10.30-11.30

Cyrenians will be running a session informed by their young people's mediation work.

Book by emailing PolicingTogetherChildrenandYoungPeople@scotland.police.uk

County Lines – 27 October 9.30-10.30

Operation Marron is the overarching national response to County Lines in Scotland. County Lines encompasses several high threat crime areas including, Criminal Exploitation, Drugs, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, Firearms, Mental Health and Serious and Organised Crime. Whilst many of the crimes and behaviours are pre-existing, it is this exploitation of children and vulnerable young people that poses the greatest risk.

This session will focus on:

- What is a County Line
- Threat, Risk and Harm in Scotland
- Cuckooing – Spot the Signs
- Adult & Child Criminal Exploitation – Spot the Signs
- Police Response
- Multi Agency Responsibility/Response

Book by emailing PolicingTogetherChildrenandYoungPeople@scotland.police.uk

Fearless – 7 November 9.30-10.30

[Fearless](#) enables young people to pass on information about crime 100% anonymously.

This session will explore, what is Fearless, where to find the resources and how to deliver them to young people?

Book by emailing PolicingTogetherChildrenandYoungPeople@scotland.police.uk (need to check this)

Save the Date - National Learning Event 15th September 2026

Progress, impact and future priorities for embedding trauma-informed and responsive change across Scotland

The Improvement Service will be sharing learning from the National Learning Report 2025/26 on the progress and impact of work to embed a trauma-informed and responsive approach across local areas in Scotland. Join on **Tuesday 15 September 2026, 10.00am-12.30pm** via Teams, to hear about current progress and emerging impact of work to embed a trauma-informed and responsive approach across Scotland.

This event is open to all, including colleagues working across the public, third and private sectors to embed a trauma-informed approach, as well as funders, commissioners, policymakers and elected officials.

Agenda and further information about speakers will be shared with attendees closer to the event.

Sign up [here](#).

Edinburgh Knife Angel Events



Practitioner Event – 16th September Portobello High School 9.30-1pm

This event is open to invited guests such as head teachers, school staff, social work, youth workers and partner organisations. The aim is to provide information and discussion on triggers, signposting, how to support and hit home the realities and impact knife crime or violence can have.

Programme

- **9.00am Tea / coffee Registration**
 - **9:30 – Welcome: Greg McDowall**, Head Teacher Portobello High School
 - **9:35 – Knife Angel overview: Chief Inspector Kieran Dougal**, Police Scotland, Partnerships, Edinburgh Division
 - **9:45 – Balisong: Strange Town Theatre** *Balisong* is a play written for schools promoting active citizenship among young people when they become aware of a pupil carrying a knife. A previous production
 - **10:35 – Lisa Petrie**: Whose 22-year-old son John McNabb was fatally stabbed, will discuss the profound impact of the tragedy on her family and address how the availability of bleed control kits might have altered the outcome.
- 10.50 – 11.15 – Break**
- **11:20 – Donald Tumilowicz , VOW mentor**: The VOW Team is a Police Scotland initiative in partnership with Aid & Abet. The team consists of three police officers working alongside three Peer Mentors with lived experience of prison, trauma and addiction
 - **11:50 – Medics Against Violence**: MAV are a Scottish Charity working to prevent violence. MAV believe prevention is better than cure, they tackle violence and the issues associated with it
 - **12:20 – Closing remarks: Jackie Reid**, Service Director of Education and Skills and Chief Education Officer, Children, Education and Communities, The City of Edinburgh Council.

To register attendance: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/dBG7ym2ajc>

Get in touch

Email suzanne.campbell@edinburgh.gov.uk

You can read previous issues of Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Latest news and learning on the [ECPC Webpage](#).
