Edinburgh Child Protection Committee
making sure children and young people are safe from harm

Latest news and learning

September 2026

Welcome to September's Newsletter

Message from the Lead Officer

September always flies by, so we are jumping straight into this month's issue.
Here is what we are covering in this edition:

- Key updates from the Edinburgh Child Protection Committee (ECPC)
- Focus on Domestic Abuse information and resources
- Multi-agency training opportunities and upcoming sessions from Healthy Respect
- A spotlight on the ECPC Knowledge Hub, with a quick reminder of the wealth of information available to you there.

As always, if you have any updates or resources, you would like us to circulate in future editions, please get in touch.

Edinburgh Child Protection Committee Updates

Check out the Annual Report 2025/26

The latest Edinburgh Child Protection Committee (ECPC) Annual Report is now available to view on our Child Protection for Professionals webpage.

The report outlines our overall progress against the Improvement Plan 2025–2028, alongside our key strategic goals for the next two years. Key highlights and areas of focus in the report include:

- Learning Review Processes: Updates on the ongoing development and embedding of our joint review frameworks.
- Policy & Procedure: Progress on updating and strengthening our multi-agency protection policies.
- Communications: Insights into the growth and development of our multi-agency newsletter.
- Learning & Development: A comprehensive review of the training opportunities delivered throughout the year.
- Data Systems: Collaborative work to improve and align the national minimum dataset.

Click **here** to read the full report.

Third Sector Child Protection Survey

The Third Sector Child Protection Group, a subgroup of the ECPC, is gathering evidence on the contribution the Third Sector makes to keeping children in Edinburgh safe from harm. The survey will gather the experience and insight needed to demonstrate a more accurate picture of how the third sector helps protect children and support families across Edinburgh.

Find the survey here: **Third Sector Child Protection Survey**

Cross-Cutting Public Protection – focus on Domestic Abuse and Gender-Based Violence

Record Number of Calls to NSPCC Helpline about Domestic Abuse

The NSPCC has published an overview of calls to its helpline last year, handling 8,448 child welfare contacts where the main concern was domestic abuse. This is an increase of 8% on the previous year and more than 80% compared to 2021/22 when they began recording this data. Read more **here.**

The report encourages people to reach out to the helpline if they have concerns.

Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee Resources

Reminder: there are several helpful resources and information on Domestic Abuse available **here** whenever you need them. Look out for more information on this year's 16 Days Campaign on Gender-Based Violence coming soon.

Barriers to Safety 2026 – 12th November 2026, 9am-5pm, Greyfriars Charteris Centre

This is the inaugural national summit examining the underreporting of gender-based violence among migrant and minoritised communities in Scotland. Barriers to Safety aims to create a national platform where research, lived experience and cross-sector collaboration inform inclusive approaches to preventing gender-based violence and strengthening pathways to safety, justice and support for black, migrant and minoritised women. The summit will address two key themes:

1. Understanding Institutions: Policy, Systems and Evidence
   How do systems enable or hinder minoritised women's access to support, and how can they better respond to minoritised women's experiences of GBV?

2. Understanding Communities: Dialogue and Action
   What community beliefs, practices and attitudes can support or impede black, migrant and minoritised women's access to universal services, and how can we build bridges for minoritised women to achieve gender justice?

Hosted by Fantanka Diaspora – find out more and sign up **here.**

Knowledge Hub

Remember the Knowledge Hub

Struggling with a specific issue or want to know more about a child protection topic? Remember, the ECPC Knowledge Hub has a range of resources you can access. To support access, we will be tidying it up over the next couple of months, making it easier to find the information you need.

Sign up and access **here**

Multi-Agency Learning Opportunities Delivered on behalf of the ECPC

Harmful Sexual Behaviour – 3rd November North East Locality Office

This course covers: what Harmful Sexual Behaviour is, including consideration of developmentally normal, inappropriate, concerning and harmful behaviours; why Harmful Sexual Behaviour might occur; the impact of pornography; the role of technology; and how to work with children, young people and their families around Harmful Sexual Behaviour.

City of Edinburgh Council Staff: Booking Link

All other Partners: Booking Link

Healthy Respect Training

Healthy Respect

Healthy Respect, part of Public Health NHS Lothian, offers free training, information and up-to-date sexual health resources for anyone working with children and young people across Edinburgh and the Lothians.

☑ Training opportunities for August 2026 to May 2027

For teachers, youth workers, school nurses, and others working with children and young people.
See what training is on offer!

☑ Explore the Healthy Respect website

For Professionals – Healthy Respect

- Find upcoming training and events
- Access current sexual health and wellbeing resources
- Stay informed with the latest news, guidance and best practice

☑ Stay connected

Join the Healthy Respect Network to receive regular newsletters, updates and training opportunities.

Need advice or support? Any professional in Lothian can contact the Healthy Respect team with questions, concerns or requests for guidance relating to Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP) and young people's sexual wellbeing: loth.healthyrespect@nhs.scot.

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.