

**MINUTE MANAGING HIGH RISK CHAMPIONS GROUP**

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| **Meeting Title** | **Meeting Date** |
| Managing High Risk Champions Group | Thursday 5th September 2013 |
| **Participants:** Tom Philliben (SCRA) (Chair), Stuart Allardyce (NDT), David Orr (NDT) (Minutes),Lorraine Johnstone (F-CAMHS), Iain Macaulay (NYJAG), Chris Wright (SG), Mark McSherry (RMA), Angela MacLeod (Police Scotland), Sean McKendrick (ADSW) and Jennifer Morris (COPFS). |
| **In Attendance:** Neil McKinlay (Forth Valley), Nina Viswani (Glasgow City Council) |
| **Apologies:** Kevin Gallagher (SPS), Allan Moffat (Police Scotland), Bill Whyte (University of Edinburgh  |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **1** | **Previous Minutes/Matters Arising** | Matters arising were as follows:1(2). TP confirmed he has been unable to secure a representative from ADES for the group. 1(5). CW confirmed that he had met with representatives from Forth Valley to provide feedback on cases submitted in connection with legal decision-making delays. CW will also finalise similar arrangements with Dundee and Edinburgh. JM and CW agreed to discuss how liaison between SCRA/COPFS can continue as the previously established informal relationship has been affected by personnel changes within COPFS. A CYCJ Factsheet on this subject was disseminated on Thursday 29th August 2013 and a Briefing Paper on sub-judice work is being prepared and will be circulated to key stakeholders for comment in advance of its release. SA noted that delays in legal decision-making in England and Wales in cases involving young people under the age of 18 appear to be shorter.2. Action Plan – Substantive Item.3. CW confirmed that he is awaiting provision of data from Justice Analytical Services and hopes that this will be forthcoming imminently. On receipt of the data, CW will consider how best this can be shared with the group.4. Practitioner Development Group – Substantive Item.5. Care Inspectorate - CW confirmed that Annette Bruton (Chief Executive – Care Inspectorate) met with SG Policy Leads last week and that the role of the inspectorate as regards “high risk” adolescents and secure care is under review. Noted that the Care Inspectorate is required to prepare a 3-Year Plan (2014-17) which will address some of these issues. CW also highlighted that a joint inspection (Care Inspectorate/Mental Welfare Commission) of all secure units will be taking place between November 2013 and March 2014 and that he hopes to attend future meetings of the MWC’s sub-group on young people and mental health). CW also noted that a joint supported self-evaluation exercise involving the Care Inspectorate/ADSW/RMA relating to young people involved in offending behaviour is underway but that it excludes young people under the age of 18 as it relates to the use of the adult LS/CMI risk assessment tool. He confirmed that issues pertaining to inspection which are relevant to ADSW can be addressed via the ADSW Children and Families sub-group.With respect to use of PRISM as a self-evaluation tool as regards situational violence, DO confirmed that he is a member of the Anti-Violence Forum at HMYOI Polmont and will explore the possibility of PRISM’s application through this channel. SA also noted that discussions between CELCIS and LJ are planned in relation to the wider application of PRISM in care settings.6. CARM – Substantive Item.7. Mental health and high risk – CW provided an update in relation to work in the secure estate on the theme of trauma and partnership work with Dr. Ricky Greenwald and Dr. Ian Barron. Meanwhile TP reported on his recent meeting with the chair of the Vulnerable Girls and Young Women’s Champions Group and key health figures, the purpose of which was to begin discussions about the development of a more co-ordinated national response as regards meeting the mental health needs of vulnerable adolescents, male and female. TP reported that some further information is being sought by this group in relation to the scale of the problem and the nature of service provision gaps. CW stated that he is still endeavouring to gather relevant statistics about this group of young people and is in discussion with Penny Curtis (SG - Depute Head Mental Health Division)8. 2013 Practitioner Network events – DO reported on the practitioner uptake of places at the risk formulation network events in September/October 2013. He noted that prospective attendance rates are somewhat lower than has been the case in the past with the Glasgow event the only one at capacity (60). Learning points from the network events will be shared with the MHRCG at the December 2013 meeting.9. Information Sharing – Substantive Item.10. Practitioner issues paper – Addressed under 1(5) above.**Minutes approved.** |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Inform Strategy Group of ongoing ADES representative recruitment difficulties.
2. Delays in legal decision-making feedback sessions to be arranged with Edinburgh and Dundee.
3. Provision of data on high risk population to inform dialogue with health colleagues.
4. Arrangements for informal COPFS/SCRA channel on delays in legal decision-making cases to be discussed.
5. Briefing Paper on sub-judice work to be disseminated to key stakeholders before next MHRCG.
6. Learning points from MHR Network Events to be shared.
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| **By Whom**1. TP
2. CW
3. CW
4. CW/JM
5. SA
6. DO/SA
 | **Status**1. Report back at next MHRCG.2. Report back at next MHRCG.3. Report back at next MHRCG4. Report back at next MHRCG.5. Distribute Briefing Paper in advance of next MHRCG.6. Report back at next MHRCG. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **2** | **Strategy Group Update** | TP confirmed Daniel Kleinberg is moving to a newposition and the Care and Justice and Children’s Hearings Unit are to merge. In the interim period prior to the appointment of a new manager for both units, Erica Clarkson has interim responsibility for the strategic group. The next meeting of the YJSG will take place on Thursday 26th September 2013. |
| **Actions/Discussions**N/A |
| **By Whom**N/A | **Status** |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **3** | **Action Plan Update**  | a.) *Identify the appropriate mode of delivery of evidence based interventions targeted at young people involved with serious offending behaviours…* - SA confirmed that he and DO would be meeting with Graham Connelly (CYCJ Research Lead) that afternoon to discuss the parameters of this particular research objective in terms of both the literature review element (anticipated to be in collaboration with the RMA) and the mapping exercise. DO confirmed that the CYCJ has now appointed two FT researchers due to commence in post in September/October 2013. Status remains AMBER.b.) *Recommendations made to strategy group re gaps in research in relation to managing high risk agenda* – Paper to be recirculated in advance of December MHRCG. c.) *Review of training needs in youth justice sector specifically re managing high risk* – DO confirmed that a CYCJ Training Strategy for youth justice practitioners had been tabled at the NYJAG meeting on 28th August 2013 and elements of this address the needs of those working with the “high risk” populace including specific risk assessment training. DO confirmed that an ASSET “training of trainers” exercise is due to take place imminently. DO also agreed to clarify with Fiona Dyer what the next steps are as regards the implementation of the strategy and whether the intention now is that it be submitted to the YJSG for consideration. Status remains AMBER.d.) *Explore use of inspection regimes both in Scotland and in England and Wales to promote standards of practice with young people who present a risk of serious harm to others* – Discussed above. Status: AMBER.e.) *Make recommendations to improve the interface between adult and children’s legal systems in relation to serious offending* – Status remains AMBER.f.) *Annual review / report of Safer Lives programme:* – Report submitted to MHRCG. RED to GREEN.g.) *Ensure implementation of recommendations from evaluation of Forth Valley Harmful Sexual Behaviour Pilot* – Substantive item on current MHRCG agenda. Re-word objective and modify timelines and “traffic lights” to reflect discussions. h.) *Ensuring effective practice in risk management* – Substantive item on current MHRCG agenda. Revise objectives and modify timelines and “traffic lights” to reflect discussion.i.) *Increase access to specialist advice for Local Authorities around risk assessment and risk management through initiatives such as a Risk Formulation clinic.* – DO confirmed that the first meeting of the clinic is scheduled to take place on Monday 9th September 2013 and that interviews for the full-time psychologist to support the work of the clinic are due to take place on Wednesday 11th September 2013.j.) *Ensuring that learning from relevant serious case reviews and inquiries takes place at relevant strategic and operational levels across organisations* – DO confirmed that he had prepared a brief summary paper in relation to these issues which was shared with Catriona Laird (WithScotland) at a meeting on Monday 2nd September 2013. He confirmed that a SG working group (at which WithScotland is represented) is currently examining how best to ensure consistency of practice as regards information sharing/learning from inquiries. Remains GREEN.l.) *Recommendations to Strategy Group concerning use of Orders of Lifelong Restriction (OLRs) with under 18 year olds*. – MMc provided an update in relation to the current review process underway in relation to the use of OLRs and the related work of the Standards and Guidelines Working Group. He noted that an Internal Review within the RMA is complete and that this review will contribute to wider SG discussions/considerations in relation to possible changes to the use of OLRs. In particular the question of OLR use with under-18s and the indeterminate nature of OLRs are likely to be the subject of scrutiny. CW noted that such discussions will be of interest to Care and Justice. CW indicated that an interim report on developments in this area can be drafted by March 2014. Remains AMBER. |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Action plan to be updated.
2. Update on research progress (literature review and mapping exercise) to be provided at next MHRCG.
3. Report on gaps re: managing high risk agenda to go to next MHRCG before going to YJSG.
4. Update in relation to National Training Strategy to be provided at next MHRCG.
5. Legal systems interface (discussed as substantive item – see Actions under **Agenda Item 5** below).
6. SHB Forth Valley Matrix (discussed as substantive item – see Actions under **Agenda Item 4** below).
7. Update in relation to OLR review to be provided at next MHRCG.
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| **By Whom**1. DO
2. DO/SA
3. DO/SA
4. DO
5. DO/SA/TP
6. SA/TP
7. CW/MMc
 | **Status**1 - 7. All report back at next MHRCG. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **4** | **Forth Valley HSB update.** | NMcK, NV and SA spoke to the paper which had been tabled.The group agreed that it would be valuable to share the learning from the pilot within Forth Valley and that the report (once finalised) could be circulated to relevant professionals.MMc agreed to liaise with those involved in development of the matrix to ensure consistency with FRAME and to review the guidance for professionals which accompanies the matrix. He also enquired as to the matrix’s fit with CARM guidance.AMc noted that the development of the matrix may be of interest to the Child Exploitation Unit within Police Scotland.SMc enquired as to how victims’ voices and experiences are incorporated as part of the process of “screening” cases with the matrix. JM noted the importance of victim issues and the forthcoming Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Bill.SA noted concerns about the age of young people coming to the attention of the Police and other authorities in connection with alleged SHB during the pilot and the related children’s rights issues this raises. CW emphasised the stated commitment of the SG to review the age of criminal responsibility during the life of the current Parliament.The MHRCG noted the value of the pilot (but also the limitations with respect to sample size) and the potential for follow on work in this area. |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Revised paper to be circulated to MHRCG for final sign-off.
2. Updates on development, modifications and further application of the matrix to be provided to MHRCG.
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| **By Whom**1. SA
2. SA
 | **Status**1. Revised paper to be circulated as soon as possible.2. Updates to be provided to MHRCG as appropriate. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **5.** | **Improving links between children’s and adult’s legal systems** | DO spoke to the colloquium proposal paper in addition to circulating a list of names of potential participants. Group members were of the view that the proposal had strengths and weaknesses but were uncertain as to whether it was appropriate at the current juncture to pursue the course of action outlined not least owing to political sensitivities stemming from next year’s referendum.TP confirmed that the proposal will be reviewed and any revised or alternative course of action intended to address this objective in the MHRCG Action Plan will be shared with group members in due course. |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Consider revised/alternative courses of action to take forward the objective in the MHRCG’s Action Plan concerning the interface between legal systems.
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| **By Whom**1. DO/SA/TP
 | **Status**1. Updated at next MHRCG. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **6** | **Safe Lives Annual Report** | SA spoke to the Annual Report tabled. He noted the next important step in relation to the Safer Lives programme is to undertake robust evaluation as regards the impact of the programme on young people. DO confirmed that the view at NYJAG had also been that evaluation of Safer Lives should be a research priority once new members of CYCJ research staff are in place. |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Evaluation research to be undertaken in relation to Safer Lives programme.
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| **By Whom**1. CYCJ researchers.
 | **Status**1. Awaiting CYCJ researcher(s) coming into post. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **7** | **Care and Risk Management (CARM)** | CW provided an update in connection with the CARM guidance. He confirmed that he had met with DO and SA on 2nd September 2013 to amend the latest draft of the document in order to reflect further comments/feedback received from SG policy leads. CW emphasised that it remains the intention to take the document to the YJSG for final “sign-off” and for it to become an Appendix to the Frame for under 18 year olds document but it is important for all key stakeholders to have contributed before doing so to ensure collective agreement not least ADSW/Child Protection colleagues/Police Scotland. It was confirmed that the latest draft would be re-circulated to all members of the MHRCG along with members of the short-life working group for further comment. |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Re-circulation of CARM latest draft to members of MHRCG and short-life working group.
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| **By Whom**1. DO
 | **Status**1. To be circulated as soon as possible. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **8.** | **High Risk Practice Development Group update.** | DO spoke to the paper tabled related to the High Risk Practice Development Group and the proposed courses of action to strengthen the important links with practitioners. Following discussion it was agreed that the establishment of two short-life working groups to look at offence severity scales and restorative practice after serious crime was appropriate.CW enquired as to the proposed IRISS FM broadcast and the process by which participants were identified. DO explained that the decision to work with IRISS FM for the first time and the identification of relevant participants for the broadcast on the topic of risk was an agreed alternative course of action within the CYCJ. Instead of preparing a written briefing on the subject DO and SA felt that it would be valuable to explore the use of different platforms for communicating key messages and IRISS assisted with arrangements and advice in relation to participants.  |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Update the next MHRCG in relation to the work of the short-life working groups.
2. Update to alert members to the availability of IRISS FM audio broadcasts and transcripts when available.
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| **By Whom**1. DO
2. DO/SA
 | **Status**1. Report to next MHRCG**.**2. Update to next MHRCG. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **9.** | **Information sharing** | TP reported that it had not been possible to take forward this matter since the previous meeting owing to competing demands but that it remains on his agenda. He hopes to arrange a meeting with Malcolm Schaffer (SCRA) to discuss in due course. |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Update the next MHRCG in relation to discussions concerning information-sharing.
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| **By Whom**1. TP

 | **Status**1. Update to next MHRCG. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **10.** | **Research proposal into effective modes of delivery of managing high risk services.** | SA updated group members in relation to plans to work with the RMA in connection with aspects of the research proposal and MMc had confirmed this would be viable. LJ emphasised the importance of reviewing the international literature base as part of this exercise. See also **Action Plan** (above). |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Update to next MHRCG as regards outcome of meeting with CYCJ research lead and further communications with the RMA.
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| **By Whom**1. SA
 | **Status**1. Update to the next MHRCG. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **11. & 12.** | **Gaps in service provision & Future Planning** | Items carried over until next MHRCG meeting. |
| **Actions/Discussions**1. Discussion at next MHRCG
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| **By Whom**1. DO/SA
 | **Status**1. Recirculate gaps paper for discussion. |
|  | **Agenda Item** | **Notes of Discussion** |
| **13.** | **AOB** | Dates for next MHRCG meeting to be confirmed. |