

Midlothian Integration Joint Board



Thursday 9 February 2017 at 2pm

East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee Biennial Report 2014/16

Item number: 5.6

[Executive summary](#)

Board members are asked to:

- Note the report and the progress made by the East and Midlothian Public Protection Committee during 2014/16.

East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee Biennial Report 2014/16

1. Purpose

Purpose of Report; The convener of East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection committee are required to submit a Biennial Report to Scottish Government on the exercise of the Committee's functions under Section 42 of the Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007. This report reflects the work undertaken of East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee 2014/16 thereby informing council of its progress in that time.

2. Recommendations

The IJB is asked to:-

Note the report and the progress made by the East and Midlothian Public Protection Committee during 2014/16.

3. Background and main report

- 3.1 The East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee (EMPPC) is the key strategic group dealing with public protection matters across East Lothian and Midlothian adult support and protection falls within the remit of EMPPC. This includes representatives from key partners (e.g. Social Work, Police Scotland, NHS Lothian, Education, Housing, 3rd Sector etc). The committee reports to senior officers through the East Lothian and Midlothian Critical Services Oversight Group. It remains committed to an outcome focused approach to supporting and protecting adults and children who may be at risk of harm, based on an understanding of need gained from evaluation activity.
- 3.2 There are two sub-groups which support EMPPC with this approach, one of which focuses on Performance and Quality Improvement across all areas.
- 3.3 The Learning and Practice Development sub-group, oversees the development and delivery of the EMPPC Learning and Development Strategy. During 2015/16 we carried out a service review of the training and development function within the team and have introduced a new role of Public Protection Learning and Development Co-ordinator to lead the implementation of the Learning and Development strategy. Page 20-21 of the report details the training activity over the year 2015/16.

- 3.4 The East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Team support the work of the EMPPC and is based in the East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Office (EMPPO) in the Brunton Hall, Musselburgh. It includes officers from adult support and protection, child protection and the domestic abuse service and is co-located with the local Police Scotland Public Protection Unit and Midlothian and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership. The primary aim of the team is to work in a more integrated way to strengthen practice across the whole public protection arena.

4. Policy Implications

- 4.1 This is the second annual report of the East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee (EMPPC) and it provides an opportunity to reflect and take stock of our activities and our achievements within this complex area of service.
- 4.2 People do not neatly fit into one category and issues like domestic abuse and substance misuse are common themes with many of the service users with whom we work. Bringing together the individual partnerships into one Public Protection Committee across two local authorities has streamlined processes considerably and now demonstrates a significant level of trust and integrity for example, senior officers chairing case reviews for the other local authority.

5. Equalities Implications

- 5.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment is not currently required as no policy or people changes have been identified. This will be undertaken in line with streamlining operational practice.

6. Resource Implications

- 6.1 The key driver for the service continues to be ensuring sustainable services and streamlining future provision by sharing staff capacity and knowledge wherever possible. All posts in the team are joint posts across both council areas.

7 Risks

- 7.1 The Public Protection service contributes to addressing corporate risk that the councils and their partners would be unable to maintain or improve the quality and standard of public protection work due to increased complexities and depleting resources thus leaving service users in Midlothian at risk of harm.

8 Involving People

- 8.1 East and Midlothian Public Protection Committee remains committed to involving communities and other stakeholders wherever possible, although this can prove a challenge in this area of work.

9 Background Papers

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