



# Addressing Neglect and Enhancing Wellbeing

4 November 2016

University of Strathclyde  
*“the place of useful learning”*



# What we are embarking on

A partnership project between:

- Scottish Government
- CELCIS, building on work being done by University of Stirling
- Inverclyde / Perth and Kinross / Dundee local areas
- Community Planning Partnerships
- The broader prevention and early intervention, research and practice fields
- Stage 1 - Project Exploration Phase: September 2016 – February 2017



# Update since last EAG

- Process of mutual selection, designed to address interest and readiness
  - Screened data on 32, approached 7, 5 possible
- Three of those five able to respond within such tight timescales to set up initial meetings with strategic leadership and key stakeholders drawn from across statutory and voluntary services across the community area
  - Mutual decision-making on motivation and capacity to proceed



# Reasons not to pursue this opportunity

- Your HSCP/CPD is already engaged in **one or more significant change initiatives**; one more initiative would be too much
- Due to **challenging relationships** across key agencies, it would take significant effort just to develop a functional cross-agency leadership coalition
- Your HSCP has **already developed** buy-in and **commitment to an effective approach** to building or enhancing the children and family service system to meet the needs of children who are vulnerable and on the radar, but not looked after
- For key leaders in your HSCP, addressing the needs of children, vulnerable and “on the radar,” **is not one of the top priorities** at this time

# Selection Criteria to Support Success



- The goal of this work – addressing neglect and enhancing well-being - aligns with one of your area’s **top priorities** for change.
- You have confidence in your **history of collaboration** across key children and family service system partners.
- There is a **strong commitment** to this work from the **leadership** within each of the key children and family service system partners.
- There is a **commitment to use best evidence** to inform, design, and implement the necessary system changes.
- There is **willingness** and the ability to hire, re-direct funds, or re-design positions **to engage two, carefully selected individuals (at least .5 FTE each)** as implementation specialists to coordinate the implementation effort.
- There is **willingness to participate** in and contribute to a **community of practice**.
- There is **willingness to collect and use data** related to the implementation, progress, and outcomes of this effort.



# Exploration phase involves

- Being on the journey to addressing neglect and enhancing wellbeing, with a particular focus on children who are vulnerable and ‘on the radar,’ CELCIS guiding an active implementation process that promotes:
  - A deeper understanding of the current system of supports within local areas (x3) for families of children experiencing neglect
  - The development of a strategic evidence-informed approach to intervene earlier and more effectively to address neglect and enhance wellbeing
  - The development of additional local capacity (to enhance the skill set of the existing workforce) to support complex change and continuous improvement – for this initiative and beyond.



# Activities

- Sept/Oct – selection of areas, initial engagement in local areas deciding to take work forward: Dundee/Inverclyde/Perth&Kinross
- Oct/Nov – building team infrastructure and processes to take work forward (e.g. local areas repurposing roles; identification of strategic groups guiding work; setting up of engagement areas...)
- Nov/Dec – wider engagement within areas to support exploration process

# Stage 1: Engagement and Exploration



- Exploration of System As Is: meetings, conference calls and engagement activities tailored to each area
  - *Engagement with key partners*
  - *Readiness and communication activities*
  - *Analysis of the System as Is (Context, Connections, Components, Infrastructure, Scale)*
  - *Identification of key areas of concern, challenges, and risks*
  - Review of relevant evidence related to key areas for neglect
  - Identification of key areas for change (Policies, Procedures, Processes, Services, Connections, Practice)
  - Co-design of change approach and action plan
  - Co-development of initial structure to support the change process (management structure, stakeholder engagement, implementation teams)
- Monthly engagement with strategic leaders and core team





# Complex Case Support

- Consultation with key stakeholders to review the aims, objectives and processes.
- Building on what's gone before – Community of Expertise.
- Low burden.
- Team around the child.
- Primary function should be to 'build capacity' in areas for dealing with challenging/complex cases, and that system 'learning' should be at the heart of the model.
- Support in 'reviewing' past complex cases, to help get the most learning from them.
- Different areas/people are going to need different things, and that our model has to remain flexible. But the key issues of transferring learning and building capacity should be the driving principles.
- Role of 'broker' to ensure build capacity in local authorities eg CJ.
- Is it 'complex' or 'challenging' cases. Complex would be different for different areas depending on experience of staff in the area.



# Website

- Concerns about a child.
- Existing WithScotland website.
- Review of research – complicated.
- How do we meet the needs of all corporate parents in relation to protecting children?



# Tackling Child Neglect in Scotland – first steps

A collaborative project between  
CCWP and CELCIS

# Update and progress



## Follow-up survey (baseline 2012)

- Survey issued early September to CPC Chairs and Lead Officers
- 23 CPCs responded; 2 almost complete; 1 unable to participate
- Follow-up email sent early November 2016
- Analysis underway

## Rapid analysis of national policy and UK-wide initiatives

- Analysis of policy in relation to children's services across the UK almost complete
- Analysis of policy in relation to children's lives underway

# Update and progress



## Review of research literature and relevant publications

- **Data search:**
  - Search terms and parameters identified, and timeframe agreed [2000-2016]
  - All E-Journals searched through Wiley Online Journals Library (158 peer reviewed e-Journals) and ScienceDirect Freedom collection (20 peer reviewed journals). From 510 articles, an initial trawl identified 76 articles for the first step of data filtering.
  - Databases relating to a range of disciplines searched: SocINDEX with Full Text, ScienceDirect, Political Science Complete, Criminal Justice Abstracts with Full Text, ERIC, Academic Search Index, PsycInfo, Business Source Complete and CINAHL Complete. The search yielded 385 articles and publications from which 85 were identified for the first step of data filtering.
  - Reference list pulled together and circulated to colleagues within CCWP and CELCIS to identify gaps

# Update and progress



## Review of research literature and relevant publications

- **Data filter (stage 1):**
  - From 164 research articles, reports and reviews: 94 included, 23 possible and 47 rejected
  - Tests for inter-rater reliability
  - Work complete
- **Data extraction (stage 2):**
  - All *includes* and *possibles* being reviewed for methodological strength and relevance, and scored appropriately
  - Joint work with CCWP and CELCIS
  - Work underway

# Toolkits and outputs



## Collation of existing toolkits

- Bring together all UK-wide and Scottish toolkits in use in a range of settings which impact on the lives of children living in Scotland who may be experiencing neglect
- Work underway

## Outputs

- Analysis and write-up of survey to CPCs
- Report on rapid policy analysis, review of research and collation of toolkits