



Falkland Islands Safeguarding  
Children's Board

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Annual Report 2021-22



# Foreword

Welcome to the Falkland Islands Safeguarding Children Board (FISCB) Annual Report for 2021-22. This report seeks to provide a review of the work of the board over the period of 1 Apr 2021 to 31 May 2022, as well as providing an overview of our plans for the coming year. The report covers a period of 14 months (usually 12); the extra 2 months have enabled me to better understand the unique requirements of the Falkland Islands, having only taken up my post in February 2022.

The board has met regularly throughout the year and has had good representation across professional multiagency groups. The focus continues to be to protect and support young people living in the Falkland Islands. Although I cannot claim the success of the Board prior to my arrival, I do accept that where there remains work to do, this is now my responsibility to help maintain momentum and seek to reinforce the many successes we have had.

I am confident that we have a committed team, who are dedicated to safeguarding our young and vulnerable people. I feel strongly, that we can continue to grow to deliver first class support and continue to provide effective advice to all organisations; from those directly involved with Children and young persons on a daily basis; to the volunteers in our community who run clubs and events; through to those who only occasionally have cause to engage with children. It is critical that we continue to seek to engender a national culture of safeguarding; and I believe that the FISCB has an important role in doing this.

Transparency, professional challenge and fresh ideas remain a cornerstone of safeguarding, and as such I would wish to take this opportunity to encourage interested members of the Falkland Islands community to attend the open section of each FISCB meeting. These are held quarterly and advertised across all usual platforms. For those who cannot attend, minutes are readily available and I am very happy for letters, questions, ideas to be sent directly to me on [dhss@kemh.gov.fk](mailto:dhss@kemh.gov.fk) or through our Portfolio Holders; the Honourable John Birmingham MLA and Gavin Short MLA.



**Thomas Bale CMgr MCMl**  
FISCB Chair and Director of Health and Social Services

# Falkland Islands Safeguarding Children Board

## Purpose

To seek to properly safeguard children and young people within our community, requiring key agencies to work together in an assured, effective and efficient manner, in order to co-ordinate appropriate action. (NB - 'Child' and 'young person' includes persons under the age of 18 years).

## Objectives

To co-ordinate the appropriate actions of all agencies represented on the Board for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the Falkland Islands; and to ensure the effectiveness of these actions. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- ✓ Protecting children from maltreatment
- ✓ Preventing impairment of children's health or development, mental and physical
- ✓ Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- ✓ Undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances
- ✓ Enabling young people to enter adulthood successfully

Child protection continues to be the core business of the FISCB, with a wider remit to include preventative work to avoid harm being suffered in the first place.

The FISCB meets four times a year and is open to the public. There are some items that need to be discussed in a closed section of the meeting due to likelihood to disclose exempt information under paragraph 8 *information about children* and paragraph 15 *Draft Papers for Executive Council and information about them* of Schedule 3 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012. Minutes are taken and are publically available for the open portion of the meetings.

## Membership

The membership of the FISCB includes representatives from:

- ✓ The Legislative Assembly – portfolio holders for Health & Social Services and Education
- ✓ Representative of Government House – observer
- ✓ Director of Health & Social Services (DHSS) – **Chair**
- ✓ Director of Education (DoE) – **Deputy Chair**
- ✓ Head of Social Services (HSS)
- ✓ Chief Medical Officer (CMO)
- ✓ Chief Nursing Officer (CNO)
- ✓ Chief Police Officer
- ✓ Probation Officer
- ✓ Attorney General's Office – adviser
- ✓ MOD - Officer Commanding Base Support Wing on behalf of Commander British Forces
- ✓ MOD - Senior Social Work Practitioner (BFSWS)

## Legal Representation

The Attorney General is a member of the Safeguarding Children Board. Either he, or a representative of the Attorney General<sup>1</sup> attends each meeting of the Board. The Attorney General supports the work of the Board and assists both the Board and its Chairperson in matters of governance. This has included bringing specific matters to the Board for consideration by the Board as a whole where difficulties or competing issues have arisen in matters affecting the safeguarding and welfare of children.

In addition to supporting the work of the Board the Attorney General and his colleagues in Chambers provide ongoing advice to the Government regarding safeguarding and the promotion of the welfare of children. The advice and assistance provided covers a wide range of matters relating to children, such as:

- ✓ Abuse and neglect
- ✓ Protection of children
- ✓ Police investigations
- ✓ Prosecutions
- ✓ Family proceedings
- ✓ Looked after children
- ✓ Healthcare
- ✓ Education and Training (local and UK based)
- ✓ Disciplinary matters in a care or education setting
- ✓ Child minding
- ✓ Health and safety law
- ✓ Protections relating to work

In addition, the Attorney General and his colleagues have provided support and assistance regarding:

- ✓ New Education Bill
- ✓ Devising new policy and guidance such as for child protection and for education and training

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<sup>1</sup> Eg Head of Legal Services or Crown Counsel

# Who are we?

## The Services & Staffing:

**Social Services.** The Social Services department comes under the authority of the Director of Health and Social Services, but is headed up by Nikki Murphy. Her team includes (data as at May 2022):

Post	Establishment	Filled	Vacant	Comments
Head of Social Services	1	1	0	
Team Manager	1	0	0	This post is currently being recruited to (2 <sup>nd</sup> round)
Advanced Practitioner Adult	2	1	0	
Advanced Practitioner Child	1	2	0	
Social Work Assistant	3	2	1	One SWA predominantly works with adults, the other runs Early Help. A Residential Support Worker is seconded to the third post until July 2022
Probation Officer	1	1	0	
Residential Support Worker Team Leader	1	1	0	
Residential Support Worker	8	5	3	The service is dependent upon casual staff.
PA / Office Manager	1	1	0	
Public Protection Police Officer	1	1	0	This post is funded by social services. The post-holder leaves in October 2022 and recruitment is underway for this crucial role (2 <sup>nd</sup> round)
Income Support Worker	1	1	0	

**The Royal Falkland Islands Police Staffing.** The Royal Falkland Islands Police (RFIP) Service establishment includes:

### General Policing:

- ✓ 1 x Chief of Police - Superintendent;
- ✓ 1 x Inspector;
- ✓ 2 x Uniformed Sergeants;

- ✓ 14 x Constables (2 vacant).

#### Criminal Investigation Department (CID):

- ✓ 1 x Detective Sergeant;
- ✓ 3 x Detective constables (including 1 Probation officer – based at Social Services).

#### Admin support:

- ✓ 1 x Senior Clerk;
- ✓ 5 x Station Enquiry Officer (3 vacant);

#### Reserve Police Constables (RPCs):

- ✓ 6 x active RPCs

All staff within RFIP have an active responsibility to identify, prevent, and respond to safeguarding concerns within the Falkland Islands. They play a critical role and work alongside the Social Services department on a daily basis.

**Health Services Staffing.** Staff at the KEMH receive higher levels of safeguarding training, and include a Health Visitor and School Nurse who have a specific remit for the care of children and young people. The two staff are working with the clinical psychologist and are part of the 0-19 service along with their colleagues from other services and other health professionals. During the year a consultant paediatrician visited from Oxford and it is intended that this will become an annual visit to augment the links established with the Oxford paediatric and neonatal units. The School Nurse and Health Visitor are leads in several early year intervention plans.

On occasion, it may also be necessary to seek advice or support from outside of the Islands which would be on a case by case basis.

**Education Staffing.** Staff within the Community School (FICS) and the Infant and Junior School and Camp Education (IJS & CE), Stanley House and Falkland College receive regular training in safeguarding. Policies and information/fact leaflets on e-safety are available for staff, students and parents/guardians alike. Each school has a designated safeguarding lead and works in close partnership with the RFIP MASH officer and social services.

Safeguarding training in the Education Directorate is secured through Falkland College. Falkland College are offering on-line Safeguarding Training, Levels 1, 2 and 3, to all professionals who work with both children and adults. In addition, Child Sexual Exploitation Training is delivered by the MASH Officer and Clinical Psychologist to all professionals, parents and young people to educate them on the signs and indicators of potential exploitation.

# How do we Operate?

## Signs of Safety

The FISCB adopted the *Signs of Safety* model of intervention in 2021. This is a strengths-based model that is used across the majority of UK authorities and in over 200 jurisdictions worldwide. *Signs of Safety* represents a different way of managing risk.

Training was provided to all relevant professionals prior to the introduction of the approach. Practitioners are now using the *Signs of Safety* approach when working with families, chairing child protection conferences, professional supervision of social workers and social work assistants and for reviewing work reflectively on an inter-agency basis.

## What is Signs of Safety?



We have commissioned monthly workshops with the trainer (via Teams) to ensure that the approach is embedded properly in our practice.



## Safeguarding in the Falkland Islands

There are robust safeguarding procedures in place that ensure children who require support and protection are identified and a multi-agency response is taken to safeguard and promote their welfare by working closely with the families and each other.

The Royal Falkland Islands Police have used their powers under S 68 of the Children Ordinance (2014) to remove children in an emergency on 2 occasions during this reporting period. On both occasions the child was placed with foster carers while investigations took place.

## Training

The need for training to be provided at the appropriate level for different groups is recognised and based on the guidance provided in *Working Together to Safeguard Children*. The FIG Corporate Management Team and the Safeguarding Boards have made safeguarding training mandatory. The Safeguarding Boards published a Safeguarding Training Prospectus which outlines which role is required to undertake which level of training, and how often this training should be updated. The mandatory training courses are:

- ✓ Adult Safeguarding level 1 [Advanced for defined posts]
- ✓ Child Safeguarding level 1 [Level 2 and 3 for defined posts]
- ✓ Understanding Child Exploitation

The Prospectus contains details of other courses provided to specific roles within the Safeguarding process such as *Achieving Best Evidence* workshops for ABE trained staff, to ensure that their skills are kept up to date.

Safeguarding Level 1 is provided within some FIG departments and via the Falkland Islands College online courses, for departments without routine access to qualified trainers. Safeguarding Levels 2 and 3 courses are delivered on-line via the college and these are complemented by a face-to-face Local Context course, which is delivered by Social Services' staff.

The Understanding Child Exploitation Course is delivered as both a half-day and a full-day course dependent on the individual's role. This is a face-to-face course, delivered by the Public Protection Police Officer and the Clinical Psychologist.

The monitoring of training up-take will continue to be reviewed by FISCBS as a standing item, forthwith.

# Child Sexual Exploitation Sub Group (CESG)

## Introduction.

The aim of the CESG is to continue to lead a series of activities to prevent and deter young persons (most often, younger girls) and Adults (most often, older men) from falling into relationships that are not permitted and are illegal. Convictions for CSAE offences have seen a number of older men imprisoned for lengthy custodial sentences.

## Membership.

The Chief of Police continues to chair the CSAE sub-committee and the monthly MAPPA meeting (see next section). The CSAE sub-committee is made up of the Head of Social Services, the Head of FICS and the representative from KEMH. The Multiagency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) officer and the clinical psychologist are co-opted on to the committee.

The sub-committee remains committed to undertaking education programmes within school and with parents to cover issues linked to exploitation.

## Intent.

Early intervention is key to preventing a child or young person falling victim to CSAE. RFIP have a response plan to CSAE to help gather information and intelligence to identify potential perpetrators and victims within the community. Work was previously focused on adult men who are identified as posing a significant risk to children – this will be expanded to include all adults who are identified as posing a significant risk to children.

The continued threat and potential use of child abduction warning notices together with convictions at court function as a positive deterrent and way of intervention to prevent offending.

## Community Engagement.

Relationships with the wider contractor community at Mount Pleasant Complex (MPC) continue to be developed. Thanks to the support and engagement of British Forces South Atlantic Islands (BFSAI), this is an area which the CSAE sub-committee have made further in-roads. This has enabled those unfamiliar with the laws of the Falklands to be educated and informed.

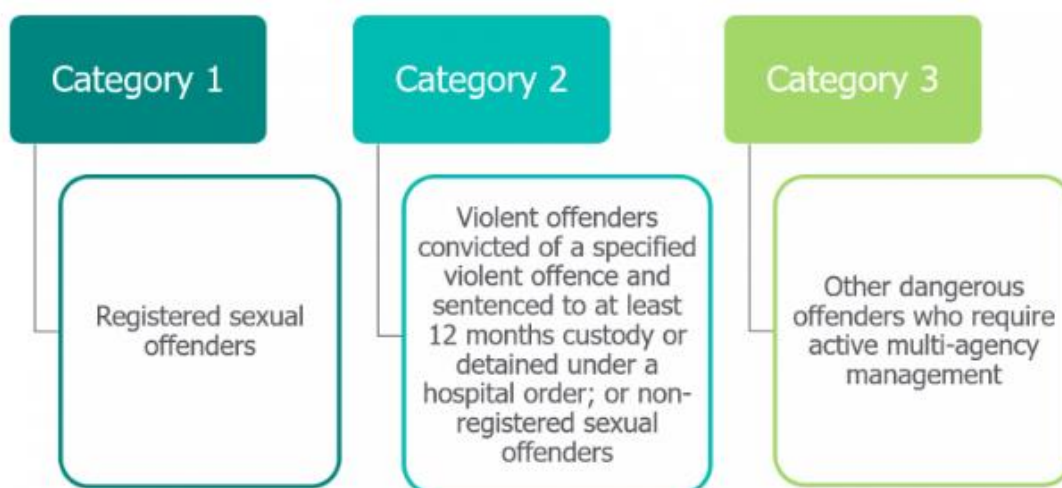
Work is focused on ensuring key messages are passed on to our harder to reach communities to enable the continued education across the wider Falkland Islands' community. The MASH officer has delivered a number of presentations on key themes over the last year to a variety of audiences and has developed significant key partnerships with both the statutory and non-statutory sector to further support the wider safeguarding agenda.

# Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

## Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) were introduced in the UK, in 2001 with the aim of improving inter-agency collaboration. They are organised with probation, the police and prison service coming together to form the MAPPA Responsible Authority area. Other agencies, such as Health, Social Services and Education have a duty to cooperate with MAPPA. All work together to identify, assess and manage those individuals who pose a higher risk of harm to others.

There are three categories of MAPPA service user and they are managed at three differing levels:



In the Falklands, MAPPA meetings are held monthly and include;

- ✓ The Chief Police Officer (Chair)
- ✓ Probation Officer
- ✓ Police Inspector
- ✓ Prison Manager
- ✓ Head of Social Services
- ✓ The Senior Community Psychiatric Nurse

At the time of writing this report there are **five** people who are subject to MAPPA in the Falklands.

## The 0-19 Service

The 0-19 service (Health Visitor and School nurse combined working together) is a growing service that offers a bespoke package to children and their families of the Falkland Islands. The School Nurse is based in both schools during the week. The Health Visitor attends Jelly Tots weekly and nurseries regularly, in order to ensure high visibility and accessibility. Every early intervention and contact is a safeguarding opportunity, it is therefore vital that 0-19 service remains accessible and pro-active in the community we serve. We offer a wide range of services that support other professionals and parents to safeguard children, this includes:

- ✓ **As a service we are the lead professionals in Early Help Assessments (EHA).** Early intervention work may be underestimated as it is a powerful tool in supporting families to prevent them needing Social Services intervention. As part of the ongoing EHA's we are completing safeguarding work, such as delivering PANTS\* work to children on a one to one basis.

\*PANTS is a simple and clever acronym devised to teach children the underwear rule: privates are private; always remember your body belongs to you; no means no; talk about secrets that upset you and speak up, someone can help.

- ✓ **We provide high quality interagency and multi-disciplinary working and communication to ensure joined up thinking and excellent sharing of information.** An example of this, is working with KEMH regarding those children seen in and out of hours, following up on those children to offer parents further support if needed. We review the data provided and the medical records to identify patterns that may highlight a safeguarding concern and take appropriate action as indicated.
- ✓ **Prevention and identification of safeguarding concerns.** The service is an active member of the Child Sexual Exploitation working group. We attend meetings with education and the police to share/receive relevant and appropriate information to reduce escalation in safeguarding concerns.
- ✓ **Our service has been actively involved in improving awareness of safeguarding and health subjects in the community.** An example of this is, we lectured at the early years' conference on brain development in early child development, focusing on the neglected brain and then led on to adverse childhood experiences and how this affects future health and wellbeing of the child. Due to the success of this training and positive feedback, we are rolling out this training regularly for professionals and the public. Training is available on why women in Domestic Abuse situations return to their abusive partner; this is focused on behaviour activation work that is being completed by our service to support women in this situation.

- ✓ **Training and Support** The 0-19 service has been instrumental in bringing together all relevant services to research the best parenting support available. Following this we have spearheaded the use of the good examples from Solihull, ensuring a cohesive approach amongst professionals and families involved in the process. The School Nurse has been working closely with the Clinical Psychologist to develop and roll out the nurture programme THRIVE, in the senior school and *Blame it on the Brain* sessions across schools, parents and professionals.
- ✓ **COVID -19 posed a unique situation in March 2020 and this has been ongoing. We demonstrated flexibility by being able to cover each other's roles, ensuring safeguarding remained high priority.** The School Nurse adapted the crib sheet for child COVID-19 vaccinations to ensure vaccinators considered safeguarding concerns when vaccinating young people.
- ✓ **Personal Training and Development.** We are Level 3 Safeguarding Lead Trained and are committed to updating skills and knowledge regularly. Our medical records are robust and current, ensuring that our child protection reports are clear and concise. A recent example of this is when the Health Visitor presented evidence during a recent court case. We manage alerts on our database so that other professionals are aware of any concerns.
- ✓ **Routine contacts can very often highlight safeguarding concerns.** Our Health Visitor offers 10 points of contact before a child is 2 ½ years old, which includes childhood vaccinations. Development Checks using the *Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3)* and *Ages and Stages Questionnaire-Social & Emotional (ASQ-SE)* – which are internationally recognised development tools. Health Surveillance is offered in our baby clinics, *jelly tots*, nurseries and at home. Baby massage is now offered routinely at the six week contact on a one to one basis, this supports attachment and bonding between caregiver and baby.
- ✓ **School Nursing** – Height, weight and vision screening has been significantly developed and is offered to all children and young people of school age, following Public Health England guidelines and ensures robust data collection. School vaccinations are delivered in line with the English Schedule. The 0-19 service also encompasses Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CaMHS); offering universal (up to tier 3) mental health services. The 0-19 team has an excellent uptake on routine contacts.
- ✓ **New this year** we have forged connections with other British Overseas Territories and UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), formerly Public Health England (PHE). We hold regular online meetings and are able to share best practise and skills.

**Health Visitor Active caseload.** At the time of writing, the Health Visitor had a caseload of:

- ❖ 1 x *Early Help* case

- ❖ 2 x *Child in Need* cases
- ❖ 1 x *Child Protection* case
- ❖ 12 x Babies at six-week contact breast feeding
- ❖ 6 x Babies of mixed feeding at six-week contact

**School Nurse / Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CaMHS) Active Case load.** At the time of writing, the School Nurse / CaMHS had a caseload of:

- ❖ 7 x CaMHs cases
- ❖ 2 x *Early Help* cases
- ❖ 7 x *Child in Need* cases
- ❖ 1 x *Child Protection* case
- ❖ 1 x Looked After Young person
- ❖ 2 x Individual defined as *Over 16 years*

## Analysis of the Emerging Themes in Referrals

Over this reporting period, there have been reports of and investigations into sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, emotional abuse and domestic abuse.

'Sexting' was identified as a worrying and increasing theme in the last annual report. However, over the past 12 months this issue has not presented as much, which could be a result of the cohesive response that was put in place to deal with the matter over the past few years. The Education Department remains proactive in informing children about the dangers and consequences of this behaviour in routine PSHE classes, and this has been supported in FICS via the provision of assemblies and tutor groups on the subject, including the sharing of Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) material. The Clinical Psychologist and Public Protection Officer have also undertaken a programme of training and education with professionals and young people in regards to Child Sexual Exploitation which is working very well.

The issue of children being conveyed in vehicles by unrelated young adults was raised in last year's annual report as an on-going concern due to the potential for child sexual exploitation and also the wider safeguarding concerns of risks of being involved in an accident, vehicle safety and the access to alcohol and cigarettes and exposure to passive smoking. The police continue to implement their disruption policy which has entailed stopping vehicles and contacting the parents of the children being conveyed in such vehicles. RFIP and Social Services have issued *Child Abduction Warning Letters* to 5 individuals. The combined impact has seen a decrease in referrals of this nature, but we need to guard against complacency and remain vigilant to this activity.

# The Childcare Project

There are three strands to the childcare regulations project:

## Regulatory Strand

The Childminding and Day Care Ordinance 2018 came into force on the 15 January, 2019. Much work has been done with the project team, the legislative drafters and other government departments in order to produce the ordinance, the regulations and an exemption order. The Childminding and Day Care Ordinance 2018, requires all persons responsible for the care of children to register with the Falkland Islands Government in order to provide childcare services. The legislation covers:

- ✓ The register of childcare providers; how to apply; and the requirements for registration,
- ✓ Cancellation and suspension of registration if the requirements are not met,
- ✓ Inspection arrangements,
- ✓ Information and data required in order to maintain registration,
- ✓ Offences, criminal proceedings and fixed penalties,
- ✓ Fees, notices and transitional provisions.

The primary legislation is underpinned by a piece of subsidiary legislation in the form of a set of regulations, which give more detail to the items above. There is also an exemption order which outlines the clubs, schools and societies etc., that are not required to adhere to the regulations.

The legislation is supported by a comprehensive set of minimum standards, outlined in an underpinning document that childcare providers can access easily in order ensure they are adhering to the regulations. Stanley Kids Zone secured silver standard in early 2022. This was the first nursery to secure this standard.

**Capital Strand.** In order for childcare providers to meet the new regulatory requirements FIG, is providing financial and logistical support. The Capital Development Fund – Childcare, forms the capital strand of that support.

**Subsidy Strand.** Executive Council has committed to providing a prescribed amount of subsidy to childcare providers on the register, providing they submit the requisite auditable documentation. This will support settings to adhere to the regulations, which include, but are not limited to, such matters as minimum space requirements per child, staff to child ratios, health and safety, safeguarding arrangements, training for staff and communication with parents. The subsidy scheme was enshrined in legislation in 2021 and has been implemented successfully, thus far.



# Looking Ahead – Key Strategic Priorities

## Safeguarding Board Strategic Plans

Over the next 12 months the FISCB will:

- ✓ **Prepare** – Provide strong leadership, effective systems and working with partners to tackle child sexual exploitation (CSE)
- ✓ **Prevent** – Raising awareness of CSE amongst young people, parents, carers, the community and potential perpetrators and provide help at the earliest opportunity. This includes building resilience with families and partners to understand and act together in preventing this form of abuse.
- ✓ **Protect** - Safeguard young people by providing targeted support in order to achieve good outcomes for those who are at risk of or already victims of exploitation and support professionals to do so.
- ✓ **Develop** - there will be a focus on producing a strategic plan for the Falkland Islands Safeguarding Children Board which dovetails with that of the Adult Safeguarding Board, wherever there are shared goals. To this aim, each sub-group that sits under the Board will have a clear plan in place which compliments the overall Strategic Plan and outlines their goals for the year ahead and ways to achieve them. Where there are common themes, we should look for opportunities to combine Child and Adult sub-groups and coordinate the work that they do wherever appropriate. It will remain imperative to consider the different needs of children and adults, but overall, this approach should lead to a more cohesive and efficient outcome, reducing the duplication of work – without reducing the quality of the service.

We will also support and guide the following department initiatives:

### Social Services.

Over the next 12 months, Social Services will be leading with the following safeguarding initiatives.

**Training.** It is really positive that safeguarding training has been made mandatory and we now need to ensure that key roles undertake the required training. The responsibility for this lies within each directorate. The college will provide on-line training and Social Services will provide the local context face-to-face course. Social Services will keep a record of attendees, and compliance will be monitored via a standing item at FISCB and SAB. We will also seek to encourage this across the Private Sector.

**Policy Development.** The Social Services Department is focusing on drafting policies and procedures for their key areas. This includes:

**Child Safeguarding Procedures** – these were written in 2014, and are currently being updated to reflect the developments in practice that have taken place since this time

**Threshold Document** - the review of the Child Safeguarding Procedures will necessitate a review of the *FISCB Threshold of Need* document to ensure that they align – Social Services will take the lead in this work

**Pathway Planning** - for young people moving on from being looked after

**Child in Need** - policy and procedures

**Early Help.** The Early Help model works really well and we have seen the positive impact that it has. The pandemic and the introduction of the new Income Support System has meant that the Early Help Coordinator has been pulled from her core duties to support other areas of the service. It is a priority in 2022-2023 that the Early Help Service is able to develop and thrive, to continue to provide timely intervention to family's that require extra support and that diverts them from requiring statutory services.

**Signs of Safety.** We will continue to work to embed and develop the model. We still have work to complete to fully implement the model, e.g. amend forms and paperwork to ensure Signs of Safety is used when undertaking existing processes. The Safeguarding Procedures are being updated and they will include Signs of Safety once they are complete.

**Recruitment.** Social Services and the Royal Falkland Islands Police are working together to recruit a replacement for the Public Protection Police Officer. The provision of this role that works across Police and Social Services has provided extra value to the safeguarding processes. The first round of recruitment was unsuccessful. It is essential that a high-quality candidate is found for this specialist role.

## Education

**Stanley House.** For Stanley House and the Annual Development plan to adhere to minimum standards will be a key focus for 2022/23. The plan has been reviewed and up-dated by the Director of Education. Whilst progress in addressing the action plan has been made, there are a few key issues to be addressed. The Board will continue to actively monitor progress. A FIG led review of Stanley House will be undertaken later in 2022/23. Many capital improvements at Stanley House have been secured with all outstanding capital works scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022.

**Safeguarding awareness and education.** Raising awareness and ongoing maintenance of vigilance on issues such as internet safety and child sexual exploitation will continue to be a

theme promoted at the schools through assemblies and PSHE lessons. These are an ongoing part of the curriculum and tailored to the cognitive ability and specific issues associated with different age groups. Parents briefings have been held, and will continue to be held, with the RFIP.

**Post 16.** The post-16 education strategy includes options available for school leavers who wish to stay at home in the Falklands and also those who wish to continue their studies overseas. The Education Directorate will continue to work with overseas providers in order to promote the unique background and culture that Falkland Islands students embody, so as to safeguard them from particular dangers that they have hitherto not been exposed to.

**Traffic Safety around the schools and St Marys Walk playground.** Traffic safety around IJS and CE, FICS and St Mary's Walk playground remains a continuing concern to the Education Directorate. An action plan has been approved by the elected members in May 2021. The delivery of this plan is supported by a task and finish group. Both schools held successful Traffic Safety Weeks in March 2022 and continuously reinforce the importance of traffic safety both internally and externally. However, securing the agreed actions has been extremely challenging. Thus, many of the safeguarding risks related to traffic safety remain. The Director of Health and Social Services, in his role as Chair of FISCBS wrote to the Chief Executive and Director of Public Works to seek an update of the progress of these works. Responses (which will be provided in the Open Section of the Jun 22 FISCBS), indicate that works will take place forthwith. FISCBS and the Director of Education will continue to monitor progress – though the Transport Advisory Committee have a key role in the strategic delivery of these improvements and will likely have primacy.

**Education Estate.** The Education Estate working Group meets half-termly to review issues across the Education Estate and solutions. The externally commissioned Fire Safety Reports for the three IJS and CE and FICS buildings in 2021 highlighted key maintenance and fire safety risks and examples of unsatisfactory housekeeping. Both schools have energetically addressed the housekeeping issues. The maintenance and building design issues highlighted in the Fire Risk Assessments are far more challenging to address. The FISCBS receives regular updates re progress and challenges. Regular fire evacuations are undertaken with the FIFB. These are monitored and reported to the Education Board and FISCBS. Updated Fire Risk Assessments for all school buildings will be secured in 2022. These will provide a secure evidence base of progress in addressing the key fire risks. In FICS, many of these risks cannot be addressed until the school is modernised. This endeavour is part of a capital bid submitted in September 2021.

\*\*\*Report Ends\*\*\*