



SCOTTISH
CHILDREN'S REPORTER
ADMINISTRATION

19 October 2010

Scott Wood
Via email: scott.wood@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Principal Reporter/Chief Executive:
Netta Maciver

If calling please ask for:
Nick Hobbs

Direct Dial:
0300 200 1604

Dear Scott,

REVIEW OF GETTING OUR PRIORITIES RIGHT

We received your letter dated 28 September 2010 on the potential for a review of Getting Our Priorities Right (GOPR) from one of our Authority Reporters who had in turn received it via their involvement in the local Child Protection Committee. SCRA agrees that a review of GOPR would be timely. As you know, new Child Protection Guidance is about to be published and ensuring that the two documents complement each other, as well as sharing and reinforcing key messages would be extremely useful. Likewise, as you reference in your letter, the Scottish Government's Drugs Strategy has now been in place for just over two years and no doubt there is learning that can be taken from that and applied to the guidance. GOPR was also written in a largely pre-GIRFEC age and the whole document, but especially the sections relating to multi-agency working, would benefit from being GIRFEC-proofed.

Furthermore, SCRA has undertaken a number of research studies into the backgrounds of children referred to the Reporter and as a result we have more information available on the extent of parental substance misuse in the lives of children in the Hearings System. This has led to particular concerns about the impact on the 0-2 age group. We are also aware that more information is now available from other organisations. For example, Children in Scotland have done a lot of work on Foetal Alcohol Syndrome.

We look forward to being involved in the review process if it goes ahead and would be grateful if you could add us to your distribution lists for this and any similar or related correspondence/consultations.

Yours sincerely

Nick Hobbs
Policy & Public Affairs Manager