Child Protection Policy – Where are we now?

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Chief Executive

Child Protection Policy – Where are we now?

- Drivers of Change
- Eileen Munro's Review
- Future Policy Direction
- What should we think?

Drivers of Change

- Baby P backlash
- Social Work Reform Programme
- Budget pressures
- Coalition Government

Future Policy Direction (1) Coalition Agreement

- “we will publish serious case reviews, with identifying details removed”
- “we will review the criminal records and vetting & barring regime, and scale it back to common sense levels”
- “we will investigate a new approach to helping families with multiple problems”

Eileen Munro Review

- Aims:
  - Remove barriers & bureaucracy
  - Get SW's spending more time with children
  - Promote collaborative working
- Principles:
  - Early intervention
  - Trusting professionals
  - Greater transparency & accountability
- Reports Sep, Jan & April

Future Policy Direction (2)

- Back the Task Force, College, Reform Board
- Social Work Reform
  - Recruitment, Care First, higher grades, CPD
  - Retention at front-line, career structure
  - Chief Social Worker
  - Volunteers

Future Policy Direction (3)

- SW System Reform
  - Inspection
  - Social Work practices
  - Contact Point
  - CRB & Vetting & Barring
  - NSDU closure
- Wider system change
  - Sure Start, Health visitors
  - Serious Case Reviews
  - Children's Trusts & LSCBs

What do we think about it?

- Got to make the system more proportionate...
- ...less dependent on CP system, more on the community...
- ...more time for SW, but more focus on wider workforce...
- ....in a society that is less risk-averse...
- ...building on the best of what has gone before...
- ...and owned by the sector, and by the community

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