

---

**Report To:** Inverclyde Integration Joint Board      **Date:** 17 March 2020

**Report By:** Louise Long  
Corporate Director (Chief Officer),  
Inverclyde HSCP      **Report No:** IJB/23/2020/SMcA

**Contact Officer:** Sharon McAlees  
Head of Service      **Contact No:** 01475 715282

**Subject:** Update on Significant Case Review

---

## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report updates the Board on the actions taken to initiate the Significant Case Review (SCR) in respect of Ms Margaret Fleming, deceased.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Relative to the circumstances of the death of Ms Margaret Fleming, a Significant Case Review has been commissioned by the multi-agency partnerships for child and adult protection within Inverclyde, the Child Protection Committee and the Adult Protection Committee. In the circumstances, the Adult Protection Committee is the lead Committee for this SCR
- 2.2 The arrangements for SCRs have a clear statutory framework and follow set procedures as established by Scottish Ministers. It is a requirement and an essential necessity of due process that any SRC be commissioned through the partnership agency, above.
- 2.3 In terms of this multi-agency approach, both the Child and Adult Protection Committees made a recommendation to the Inverclyde Chief Officers' Group (comprised of the senior officers from each of the partners) to appoint an independent Chair to complete the critical work of the SCR and Professor Jean MacLellan OBE has confirmed her acceptance of this post and on 6 February 2020 first meeting. The SCR has now formally commenced.

## 3.0 RECOMMENDATION

That the Integration Joint Board:-

- 3.1 Notes the formal commencement of the Significant Case Review for the death of Ms Margaret Fleming, Chaired by Professor Jean MacLellan; and
- 3.2 Notes that the outcome of the Significant Case Review will be reported to Committee in public and to the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board as soon as is practicable.

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Committee will be aware of the criminal prosecution that has taken place of Edward Cairney and Avril Jones in connection with the death of Ms Margaret Fleming. The criminal proceedings concluded on 11 July 2019 and an appeal against both conviction and sentence was thereafter lodged by Mr Cairney.
- 4.2 Prior to events last year, on 17 April 2018, an initial case review process was initiated in respect of the, at the time, alleged death. Advice was received by the multi-agency partners that any initial case review/significant case review process should be deferred until such time as the criminal trial in respect of the matter had been concluded.
- 4.3 On 5 September 2019, a joint meeting of the Adult Protection Committee and the Child Protection Committee was convened to formally conclude that the threshold to proceed with a Significant Case Review had been reached and that the review should be conducted by an independent Chair with experience in the fields of both adult and child protection and that of individuals with additional support needs.
- 4.4 A Significant Case Review is a multi-agency process for establishing facts and for learning lessons from a situation where a person has died or has been significantly harmed. The Care Inspectorate is the central collation point for the evaluation of all Significant Case Reviews and the Care Inspectorate is required to report publicly on any findings from Significant Case Reviews in order to provide independent public assurance on the quality of multi-agency services for child and adult protection. Significant Case Reviews are intended to assist the sharing of any lessons and to promote improvements in child and adult protection across the country.
- 4.5 On 8 January, Professor MacLellan intimated her acceptance of the role of independent chair of the SCR. Professor MacLellan met with the review team on 6 February. Stage 1 of the review has been scoped and commenced. The outcome of the review will be reported to this Committee and to the Inverclyde Integration Joint Board with as much information as is possible in the public domain. The Committee will have the opportunity as part of that process to review all issues arising from the outcome of the Significant Case Review.

## 5.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 5.1 Finance

#### Financial Implications:

##### One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

##### Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

## 5.2 Legal

None.

## 5.3 Human Resources

None.

### EQUALITIES

#### 5.4 Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

#### 5.4.2 How does this report address our Equality Outcomes?

<b>Equalities Outcome</b>	<b>Implications</b>
People, including individuals from the above protected characteristic groups, can access HSCP services.	None
Discrimination faced by people covered by the protected characteristics across HSCP services is reduced if not eliminated.	None
People with protected characteristics feel safe within their communities.	None
People with protected characteristics feel included in the planning and developing of services.	None
HSCP staff understand the needs of people with different protected characteristic and promote diversity in the work that they do.	None
Opportunities to support Learning Disability service users experiencing gender based violence are maximised.	None
Positive attitudes towards the resettled refugee community in Inverclyde are promoted.	None

### CLINICAL OR CARE GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

5.5 There are no clinical or care governance implications arising from this report.

## 5.6 NATIONAL WELLBEING OUTCOMES

How does this report support delivery of the National Wellbeing Outcomes?

<b>National Wellbeing Outcome</b>	<b>Implications</b>
People are able to look after and improve their own health and wellbeing and live in good health for longer.	None
People, including those with disabilities or long term conditions or who are frail are able to live, as far as reasonably practicable, independently and at home or in a homely setting in their community	None
People who use health and social care services have positive experiences of those services, and have their dignity respected.	None

Health and social care services are centred on helping to maintain or improve the quality of life of people who use those services.	None
Health and social care services contribute to reducing health inequalities.	None
People who provide unpaid care are supported to look after their own health and wellbeing, including reducing any negative impact of their caring role on their own health and wellbeing.	None
People using health and social care services are safe from harm.	None
People who work in health and social care services feel engaged with the work they do and are supported to continuously improve the information, support, care and treatment they provide.	None
Resources are used effectively in the provision of health and social care services.	None

## 6.0 DIRECTIONS

6.1

<b>Direction Required to Council, Health Board or Both</b>	Direction to:	
	1. No Direction Required	
	2. Inverclyde Council	
	3. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (GG&C)	
	4. Inverclyde Council and NHS GG&C	X

## 7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None.

## 8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.