

4.8 Internal Investigations	
(j) Policy	
Past	
<p>a) What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have in place in respect of internal investigations relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question. We are aware of the internal investigation carried out by Tayside Regional Council which is referred to elsewhere in our response (the Kendrick and Brodie report) which was an internal investigation into allegations of abuse by children in foster care, but there are indications that this was undertaken on an exceptional basis, because an issue had been identified, and not in accordance with any established policy in relation to internal investigations at the time. As referred to elsewhere in our response, it appears that allegations against carers were dealt with following child protection procedures.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General From a Perth and Kinross Child Protection Committee (CPC) perspective, of which Perth and Kinross Council was, and still is, a leading and current chairing partner, the CPC had in place the Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines from 2006. This was in compliance with the Scottish Executive's Child Protection Reform Programme (CPRP) 2003 – 2006 and in particular <u>Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committees</u> (Scottish Executive: 2005). These local child protection guidelines were shared and approved by all CPC partners and provided an inter-agency investigative framework for all allegations of child abuse, including those relating to children in foster care. These local child protection guidelines were subsequently updated in 2011, following publication of the first <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010</u> (Scottish Government: 2010) and again in 2017, following publication of the <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014</u> (Scottish Government: 2014).</p> <p>In addition, the CPC and Perth and Kinross Council adopted the <u>Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish Executive: 2007). This SCR guidance also emanated from the Scottish Executive's Child Protection Reform Programme (CPRP) 2003 – 2006 and is understood to have been the first of its type for CPC's and partners, including Local Authorities. Any initial case reviews and significant case reviews (ICRs / SCRs) relating to children, including those in foster care, would also have been investigated using this SCR guidance. This 2007 national SCR guidance was published as Interim Guidance and was supported by a Scottish Executive Explanatory Letter, describing why this guidance was considered to be interim (only in respect of initial handling and publication). It allowed for ICRs / SCRs to be conducted within and across services and agencies; including the local authority. Once published, Perth and Kinross CPC translated this 2007 national SCR guidance into a local Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008).</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any separate or specific information in respect of internal investigations relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status. In 2014, there is a record of updated internal guidance entitled "Managing Allegations against Foster Carers and Kinship Carers" being approved by the Child Protection Committee in relation to investigations of allegations against foster carers. This continued to align with child protection procedures and there is no separate policy in relation to internal investigations following allegations.</p> <p>As indicated elsewhere in our main response, allegations against foster carers were generally conducted in line with child protection policies and procedures. There was no separate policy in relation to internal investigations, other than that for SCRs referred to above.</p>
<p>b) Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention?</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General In summary, in terms of the national child protection guidance of 2010 and 2014, the policy intention was to support and develop a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. This was translated into the local child protection policy and practice landscape via the local child guidelines. The intention of the <u>Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u>,</p>

		<p>was to allow for ICRs / SCRs to be conducted within and across agencies; including the local authority. Once published, Perth and Kinross CPC translated this 2007 SCR national guidance into a local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008). The 2007 national SCR guidance and 2008 local SCR protocol allowed the CPC to investigate cases of concern brought to the attention of the CPC (including any relating to children in foster care), from any source and provided a policy, practice and procedural review framework to identify good practice; identify areas for improvement and a mechanism to make such improvements. It also provided a reporting and accountability framework for services, agencies, CPCs and Chief Officers.</p>
c)	Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were held and recorded on the CPC's Child Protection Database, which had a very restricted access. These would have been routinely shared with CPC partners. They were also published on the CPC's public facing website. The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) were held and recorded on the CPC's Child Protection Database, which had a very restricted access. These would have been routinely shared with CPC partners. We are unable to confirm if they were published on the CPCs public facing website.</p>
d)	What did the policies and/or procedures set out on the following:	
	i. Approach to/process of internal investigations	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is limited information in available records which would assist in answering this question. The only records we have been able to locate relate to particular cases. We refer to the information provided in our supplementary response to the Inquiry on 28 February 2022, which noted that there is some evidence of a review or investigation having been carried out in relation to particular cases, which information was submitted to the Kent Review.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines did not specifically set out any approach to / process of internal investigations. These were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. They merely provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach to ICRs / SCRs. They set out the purpose; criteria; and described a staged investigative approach from ICR notification to decision making. They both specified, in some detail, the SCR process and provided useful strategies and templates. The underpinning approach was one of learning lessons. The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any specific information in respect of the approach to/process of internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p>

<p>ii. Identifying lessons/changes following internal investigations</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is limited information in available records which would assist in answering this question. The only records we have been able to locate relate to particular cases. We refer to the information provided in our supplementary response to the Inquiry on 28 February 2022, which noted that there is some evidence of a review or investigation having been carried out in relation to particular cases, which information was submitted to the Kent Review.</p> <p>1996 - 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines did not aim to identify lessons/changes following internal investigations. These were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. They merely provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach to all ICRs / SCRs. In terms of identifying lessons and change, the national SCR guidance and local SCR protocol set this out very clearly in terms of purpose. They specified the need to identify and share the learning, much of which would be included in ICR / SCR Reports with clear Recommendations. These would in turn be reported to the CPC and the Chief Officers. This was also supported by advice on handling and publication of such Reports. The Learning Cycle was specifically described within the national SCR guidance. Change and Improvement would have been managed via an Action Plan / Improvement Plan and would have been monitored by the CPC and the Chief Officers. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any separate or specific information in respect of identifying lessons/changes following internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p>
<p>iii. Implementation of lessons/changes following internal investigations</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 - 1930 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines did not include advice on the implementation of lessons / changes following internal investigations. These were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. They merely provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach to ICRs / SCRs. In terms of implementation of lessons / changes the national SCR guidance and local SCR protocol set this out very clearly. The national SCR guidance set out the need for a Communications Strategy – describing who needed to be aware of the ICR / SCR Reports and their findings. They both provided guidance for the ICR / SCR process, the focus of which was on learning lessons. They both specified the need for Reports complete with Recommendations. The Learning Cycle was specifically described within the national SCR guidance. Change and Improvement would have been managed via an Action Plan / Improvement Plan and would have been monitored by the CPC and the Chief Officers. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status, however, lessons for individual service areas or agencies would be captured including lessons and recommendations for improvement by the fostering service or children's social work services. Perth and Kinross Council is also required to review cases where a looked after child has died in line with regulations.</p>

		<p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any separate or specific information in respect of the implementation of lessons/changes following internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p>
iv.	Compliance	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010</u> and the <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014</u>, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices. Our compliance with the national guidance of 2010 and 2014 is evidenced by the development of our local guidelines of 2006 and 2011.</p> <p>The national guidance 2010 and 2014 and <u>Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committees</u> (Scottish Executive: 2005) also provided guidance for CPCs and Chief Officer Groups. Perth and Kinross CPC and the Perth and Kinross Chief Officers' Group can evidence that they have been compliant with this national guidance since 2005 and that compliance has been subject to external scrutiny and inspection by the Care Inspectorate – Joint Inspections in 2009; 2011 and 2018.</p> <p>The <u>Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish Executive: 2007) was received and embraced in full by the CPC and the Chief Officers' Group. The CPC translated this national SCR guidance into the local policy / practice arrangements via the Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008). This evidenced the CPC's and Chief Officers' Group compliance with the national SCR guidance. The local SCR protocol would have been approved by the CPC and the Chief Officers' Group and would have been the basis upon which any ICRs / SCRs would have been conducted. ICR / SCR Reports evidence our compliance with this guidance.</p> <p>The requirement to review deaths of looked after children in care has also been complied with.</p>
v.	Response (to child and abuser)	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010</u> and the <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014</u>, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices and in particular, the local child protection guidelines described our individual and collective approach to the recognition and response of child abuse. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p> <p>The <u>Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach and response to ICRs / SCRs. They set out and described a staged investigative approach from ICR notification to SCR publication. They specified, in some detail</p>

	<p>the ICR / SCR process and provided useful strategies and templates. The underpinning approach was one of learning lessons from our previous responses to child abuse.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any separate or specific information in respect of the response (to child and abuser) relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p>
<p>vi. Response to complaints (including response by local authority)</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010</u> and the <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014</u>, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices and in particular, the local guidelines described our individual and collective approach to the recognition and response of child abuse. They did not specifically include information and advice in relation to the response to complaints.</p> <p>The <u>Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach and response to ICRs / SCRs. They set out and described a staged investigative approach from ICR notification to SCR publication. They specified, in some detail the ICR / SCR process and provided useful strategies and templates. The underpinning approach was one of learning lessons. They did not specifically include information and advice in relation to the response to complaints.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any specific information in respect of the response to complaints (including response by local authority) relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status. In sections 4.1(c)(vi), 4.2(i)(d)(xvii) and 4.7 of our response we set out the position in relation to complaints. There are no other records which indicate that there was separate policy in relation to complaints and internal investigations.</p>
<p>vii. External reporting following internal investigations</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General The <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010</u> and the <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014</u>, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices and in particular, the local guidelines described our individual and collective approach to the recognition and response of child abuse. They did not specifically include information and advice in relation to the external reporting following internal investigations</p> <p>The <u>Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish</p>

		<p>Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach and response to ICRs / SCRs. They set out and described a staged investigative approach from ICR notification to SCR publication. They specified, in some detail the ICR / SCR process and provided useful strategies and templates. The 2007 national SCR guidance and 2008 local SCR protocol allowed the CPC to investigate cases of concern brought to the attention for the CPC (including any relating to children in foster care), from any source and provided a policy, practice and procedural review framework to identify good practice; identify areas for improvement and a mechanism to make such improvements. It also provided a reporting and accountability framework for services, agencies, CPCs and Chief Officers. This would have allowed for ICR / SCR Reports to be shared with Chief Officers and for these to be examined by the Care Inspectorate and other scrutiny and inspection bodies. In addition, it would not have been uncommon from 2003 onwards to have shared such Reports with the Scottish Government, Ministers and Officials, a practice that was actively encouraged.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any specific information in respect of the response to the external reporting following internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008.</p>
e)	Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014</p> <p>Child Protection – General The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, was developed at a national level via the Scottish Government with the support of various agency representative bodies and staff associations; in particular practitioners and managers across Scotland.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committees (Scottish Executive: 2005) was developed by the Scottish Executive's Child Protection Reform Programme Action Team of Professional Advisors in partnerships with agency representative bodies and staff associations; in particular practitioners and managers across Scotland.</p> <p>The local child protection guidelines and the local SCR protocol was developed by key partners of the Perth and Kinross CPC and was approved by the CPC. The 2014 guidance in relation to "Managing Allegations against Foster Carers and Kinship Carers" was compiled by managers responsible for the fostering service and was presented to the Child Protection Committee for approval.</p>
f)	When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014</p> <p>Child Protection – General The Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committees (Scottish Executive: 2005) was published in 2005 for immediate implementation.</p> <p>The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, were published for immediate implementation in 2010 and 2014 respectively.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish</p>

		<p>Executive: 2007) was published in 2007 for immediate implementation.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006 and 2011 were published for immediate implementation in 2006 and 2011 respectively.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) was published in 2008 for immediate implementation.</p>
g)	Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 The <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010</u> was reviewed and refreshed by the <u>National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014</u>. They were reviewed again in 2021.</p> <p>Child Protection – General The Perth and Kinross CPC inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006 were reviewed and replaced by the Perth and Kinross CPC inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2011. They were reviewed again in 2017.</p> <p>The <u>Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish Executive: 2007) was refreshed again in 2015 and again in 2021.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) was reviewed again in 2017.</p>
h)	If so, what was the reason for review?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General All national guidance and local guidelines / protocols were periodically reviewed to keep pace with national child protection legislative and policy changes and with local child protection process and practice changes.</p>
i)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General Any changes made were to keep pace with national child protection legislative and policy changes and with local child protection process and practice changes. Learning, change and improvement underpinned the changes made. In general terms, there were no substantive changes. They simply kept pace with national and local change and improvement work.</p>

j)	Why were changes made?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General All national guidance and local guidelines / protocols were periodically reviewed to keep pace with national child protection legislative and policy changes and with local child protection process and practice changes. Any changes made were to keep pace with national child protection legislative and policy changes and with local child protection process and practice changes. Learning, change and improvement underpinned the changes made. In general terms, there were no substantive changes. They simply kept pace with national and local change and improvement work.</p>
k)	Were changes documented?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General All changes made were documented. Changes were made with multi-agency involved and agreement and changes involved multi-agency staff from across all key services, agencies and representative bodies. Changes were approved at national level and signed off by Scottish Government Ministers and Officials. Local changes would have been signed off by the CPC partners and the Chief Officers' Group. None of this was ever carried out without consultation and never in isolation. As referred to elsewhere in our response, recent practice has been to remove previous versions of guidance once new guidance is issued, to prevent confusion.</p>
l)	Was there an audit trail?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 Child Protection – General In terms of national and local publications, there would have been audit trails – Scottish Executive; Scottish Government; Perth and Kinross Chief Officers Group and the CPC etc. This would have been documented in key Reports / Minutes and on various agency databases. As referred to elsewhere in our response, recent practice has been to remove previous versions of guidance once new guidance is issued, to prevent confusion. New or updated guidance will normally be approved through internal management team structures.</p>
Present		
m)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?	<p>As referred to elsewhere in our response, recent practice has been to remove previous versions of guidance once new guidance is issued, to prevent confusion.</p> <p>Yes</p>

n)	If so, please give details.	<p>Child Protection – General</p> <p>We reported above on the development of refreshed National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014. This also falls within the scope of this section of our submission in terms of Present Policy. Whilst not within that scope, we would advise for completeness, that following its publication, we took the opportunity to refresh and develop our Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2017. These remain our current local child protection guidelines, which are currently under review.</p> <p>We would also advise that in 2015, the Scottish Government refreshed their previous 2007 national SCR guidance and published the National Guidance for Child Protection Committees: Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Government: 2015). Thereafter, Perth and Kinross CPC published the Perth and Kinross CPC Joint Protocol for Conducting Initial Case Reviews (ICRs) and Significant Case Reviews (SCRs) 2017. This remains our current local ICR/SCR guidance, which are currently under review.</p> <p>Finally, in 2021 the Scottish Government has published further updated / refreshed guidance – National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 and National Guidance for Child Protection Committees: Undertaking Learning Reviews 2021, both of which the CPC are currently implementing.</p>
(ii) Practice		
Past		
a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in respect of internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014</p> <p>Child Protection – General Yes. In terms of the national policy publications and local policy and practice publications mentioned above, the CPC and partner agencies, including Perth and Kinross Council have always adhered in practice to these national and local policy/procedures when investigating the abuse or alleged abuse of all children, including those in foster care.</p>
b)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures on the following:	
	i. Approach to/process of internal investigations	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014</p> <p>We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General Yes. In terms of the national policy publications and local policy and practice publications mentioned above, the CPC and partner agencies, including Perth and Kinross Council have always adhered in practice to these national and local policy/procedures when investigating the abuse or alleged abuse of all children, including those in foster care. This can be evidenced from CPC previous business meetings and papers and from the Cere Inspectorate’s external scrutiny and inspection reports of 2009; 2011 and 2018.</p>
	ii. Identifying lessons/changes following	

internal investigations	<p>Amended / Updated Submission by RD on 3/2/2022</p> <p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General Yes. The <u>Scottish Executive’s Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach to identifying and learning lessons from ICRs / SCRs. In terms of identifying lessons and making change, the national SCR guidance and local SCR protocol set this out very clearly. They specified the need to identify and share the learning, much of which would be included in ICR / SCR Reports with clear Recommendations. These would in turn be reported to the CPC and the Chief Officers. The Learning Cycle was specifically described within the national SCR guidance. Change and Improvement would have been managed via an Action Plan / Improvement Plan and would have been monitored by the CPC and the Chief Officers.</p>
iii. Implementation of lessons/changes following internal investigations	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General Yes. The <u>Scottish Executive’s Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review</u> (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach to identifying and learning lessons from ICRs / SCRs. In terms of identifying lessons and making change, the national SCR guidance and local SCR protocol set this out very clearly. They specified the need to identify and share the learning, much of which would be included in ICR / SCR Reports with clear Recommendations. These would in turn be reported to the CPC and the Chief Officers. The Learning Cycle was specifically described within the national SCR guidance. Change and Improvement would have been managed via an Action Plan / Improvement Plan and would have been monitored by the CPC and the Chief Officers.</p>
iv. Compliance	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p>

	<p>Child Protection – General</p> <p>The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices. Our compliance with the national guidance of 2010 and 2014 is evidenced by the development of our local guidelines of 2006 and 2011. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p> <p>The national guidance 2010 and 2014 and Protecting Children and Young People: Child Protection Committees (Scottish Executive: 2005) also provided guidance for CPCs and Chief Officer Groups. Perth and Kinross CPC and the Perth and Kinross Chief Officers' Group can evidence that they have been compliant with this national guidance since 2005 and that compliance has been subject to external scrutiny and inspection by the Care Inspectorate – Joint Inspections in 2009; 2011 and 2018.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) was received and embraced in full by the CPC and the Chief Officers' Group. The CPC translated this national SCR guidance into the local policy / practice arrangements via the Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008). This evidenced the CPC's and Chief Officers' Group compliance with the national SCR guidance. The local SCR protocol would have been approved by the CPC and the Chief Officers' Group and would have been the basis upon which any ICRs / SCRs would have been conducted.</p>
<p>v. Response (to child and abuser)</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General</p> <p>The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices and in particular, the local child protection guidelines described our individual and collective approach to the recognition and response of child abuse. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach and response to ICRs / SCRs. They set out and described a staged investigative approach from ICR notification to SCR publication. They specified, in some detail the ICR / SCR process and provided useful strategies and templates. The underpinning approach was one of learning lessons from our previous responses to child abuse.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any separate or specific information in respect of the response (to child and abuser) relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p>
<p>vi. Response to complaints (including response by local authority)</p>	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p>

	<p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices and in particular, the local guidelines described our individual and collective approach to the recognition and response of child abuse. They did not specifically include information and advice in relation to the response to complaints.</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach and response to ICRs / SCRs. They set out and described a staged investigative approach from ICR notification to SCR publication. They specified, in some detail the ICR / SCR process and provided useful strategies and templates. The underpinning approach was one of learning lessons. They did not specifically include information and advice in relation to the response to complaints.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any separate or specific information in respect of the response to complaints (including response by local authority) relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008. All children and young people were treated equally, irrespective of status.</p>
vii. External reporting following internal investigations	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 and the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014, together with the 2006 and 2011 local child protection guidelines were national and local publications aimed at supporting and developing a competent, confident and skilled multi-agency workforce and to provide a shared and consistent approach to child protection practice across Scotland. Their content was relevant to all children, young people and families, including those in and providing foster care and all professionals, services and agencies. These provided a national and local framework for the delivery of child protection processes and practices and in particular, the local guidelines described our individual and collective approach to the recognition and response of child abuse. They did not specifically include information and advice in relation to the external reporting following internal investigations</p> <p>The Scottish Executive's Protecting Children & Young People: Interim Guidance for Child Protection Committees for Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Executive: 2007) and the local Perth and Kinross Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross (Perth and Kinross CPC: 2008) set out a systematic approach and response to ICRs / SCRs. They set out and described a staged investigative approach from ICR notification to SCR publication. They specified, in some detail the ICR / SCR process and provided useful strategies and templates. The 2007 national SCR guidance and 2008 local SCR protocol allowed the CPC to investigate cases of</p>

		<p>concern brought to the attention for the CPC (including any relating to children in foster care), from any source and provided a policy, practice and procedural review framework to identify good practice; identify areas for improvement and a mechanism to make such improvements. It also provided a reporting and accountability framework for services, agencies, CPCs and Chief Officers. This would have allowed for ICR / SCR Reports to be shared with Chief Officers and for these to be examined by the Care Inspectorate and other scrutiny and inspection bodies. In addition, it would not have been uncommon from 2003 onwards to have shared such Reports with the Scottish Government, Ministers and Officials, a practice that was actively encouraged.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2006, 2011 and subsequent 2017 versions did not contain any separate or specific information in respect of the response to the external reporting following internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. Neither did the Perth and Kinross CPC Protocol for Conducting a Significant Case Review in Perth and Kinross 2008.</p>
c)	How was adherence demonstrated?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General In terms of the national policy publications and local policy and practice publications mentioned above, the CPC and partner agencies, including Perth and Kinross Council have always adhered in practice to these national and local policy/procedures when investigating the abuse or alleged abuse of all children, including those in foster care. Adherence can be demonstrated in that we translated the national child protection policy developments into the local child protection process and practice arrangements, supported by local protocols, guidance and other practice guidance. All of this has been subject to external scrutiny and inspection by the Care Inspectorate in their Joint Inspections 2009; 2011 and 2018.</p>
d)	How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General In terms of the national policy publications and local policy and practice publications mentioned above, the CPC and partner agencies, including Perth and Kinross Council have always adhered in practice to these national and local policy/procedures when investigating the abuse or alleged abuse of all children, including those in foster care. Adherence can be demonstrated in that we translated the national child protection policy developments into the local child protection process and practice arrangements, supported by local protocols, guidance and other practice guidance. All of this has been subject to external scrutiny and inspection by the Care Inspectorate in their Joint Inspections 2009; 2011 and 2018.</p>
e)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence?	Amended / Updated Submission by RD on 3/2/2022

		<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General Yes. In terms of national and local publications, there will be audit trails – Scottish Executive; Scottish Government; Perth and Kinross Chief Officers Group and the CPC etc. This would have been documented in key Reports / Minutes and on various agency databases.</p>
f)	Have such records been retained?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p> <p>Child Protection – General Yes. In terms of national and local publications, there will be audit trails – Scottish Executive; Scottish Government; Perth and Kinross Chief Officers Group and the CPC etc. This would have been documented in key Reports / Minutes and on various agency databases.</p>
g)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not?	<p>1930 – 1975 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question</p> <p>1975-1996 There is no information in available records which would assist in answering this question.</p> <p>1996 – 17 December 2014 We are not aware of any previous specific policy on internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care (as opposed to policy and procedure in relation to investigating specific allegations against foster carers, which is referred to elsewhere in our original response) and therefore we can only provide limited information in relation to this question.</p>
Present		
h)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?	Child Protection – General

		Yes
i)	If so, please give details.	<p>Child Protection – General</p> <p>We reported above on the development of refreshed National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014. This also falls within the scope of this section of our submission in terms of Present Policy. Whilst not within that scope, we would advise for completeness, that following its publication, we took the opportunity to refresh and develop our Perth and Kinross CPC Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines 2017. These remain our current local child protection guidelines, which are currently under review.</p> <p>We would also advise that in 2015, the Scottish Government refreshed their previous 2007 national SCR guidance and published the National Guidance for Child Protection Committees: Conducting a Significant Case Review (Scottish Government: 2015). Thereafter, Perth and Kinross CPC published the Perth and Kinross CPC Joint Protocol for Conducting Initial Case Reviews (ICRs) and Significant Case Reviews (SCRs) 2017. This remains our current local ICR/SCR guidance, which are currently under review.</p> <p>Finally, in 2021 the Scottish Government has published further updated / refreshed guidance – National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 and National Guidance for Child Protection Committees: Undertaking Learning Reviews 2021, both of which the CPC are currently implementing.</p> <p>Compliant with national guidance has been subject to external scrutiny and inspection by the Care Inspectorate – Joint Inspections in 2009; 2011 and 2018. Further evidence can be found on the CPC business meetings and business papers.</p>

Ross Drummond

4 February 2022