

Workplan 2019-2020

Background

Our vision is a Scotland where all individuals and communities are safe and flourish; and where Scottish youth justice practice, policy and research is internationally renowned and respected.

To achieve this vision we work to advance four short-term **outcomes**:

1. There is a good understanding of what supports, and what are barriers to, children and young people being safe and flourishing
2. Youth justice practice and policy are informed by our best knowledge and evidence
3. Youth justice stakeholders work together to design, develop and implement improvements
4. Youth justice practitioners have the skills, confidence and support they need to best help children and young people

To make progress on these four outcomes our work focuses on three broad areas:

Practice Development: Working with practitioners and policy-makers to undertake, support and coordinate activities to improve outcomes

Research: Undertaking, supporting and coordinating research

Knowledge exchange: Sharing and disseminating knowledge

CYCJ is primarily funded through a grant from the Scottish Government and this workplan details the work we will deliver funded by this grant. We will also sometimes charge for some of the training listed here, to encourage attendance and cover costs.

Themes:

Rights (supporting compliance) (UNCRC)

Supporting implementation of Whole System Approach, GIRFEC & other SG policies

Developing Best possible practice

Knowledge Exchange

Key deliverables this year include:

- **Embed Children's Rights under the UNCRC in Scotland by: improving justice processes; supporting the use of community based interventions; supporting children to remain in families/communities; conducting research into trauma/adversity and alternatives to restraint.**
- **Design and deliver events for parents and carers: considering resources, tools and events to support and inform parents and carers, recognising them as key supports to children and young people**
- **Promote the participation of children and young people: ensuring that young people's' views are sought, listened to and taken into consideration when decisions about their lives are made**
- **Support the delivery and implementation of the National Standards for Secure Care and Youth Justice**
- **Support implementation of all aspects of the Whole System Approach and GIRFEC promoting multi-agency working across the spectrum of offending behaviour including EEI, diversion as prosecutorial action, court support, alternative provision to support risk reduction and management in the community, reintegration and transitions and high risk. Within the aspects of WSA ensure preparedness for increase in ACR, development of the role of RJ across WSA and focus on understanding role of violence and how to respond and the positioning of 16 and 17 year olds**
- **Examine best practice with specific focus on supporting boys; families; risk practice; prevention/early intervention; bail, remand and reintegration**
- **Support practice by increasing knowledge of practitioners, improving practice and offering opportunities to network through: a national two day, and two one day conferences; supporting NYJAG; up-dating the youth justice guide, information sheets; roadshows, training and lectures, and practice advice for all 32 local authorities and partners.**

Workplan 2019/20

The table below specifies the projects and activities we will undertake in 2019/20 funded by the Scottish Government 'CYCJ grant'. We provide a separate workplan for the IVY service and agree deliverables for the secure care work. We report on activities, progress and performance on a quarterly basis to the Scottish Government and CYCJ's Executive Governance Group. Most of our activities make some contribution to all four of our outcomes specified above, but here the key outcomes for each activity are noted. Each year we leave some capacity to respond to emerging priorities from the three youth justice implementation groups.

Project plans will be produced for each significant piece of work and kept up to date as the work progresses. These plans will specify approach, remit, timescales and outcomes in greater depth, and will be available on request.

Projects & Outputs	CYCJ Lead & Partners	Revised & original timescales	Status	Impact
Rights (supporting compliance) (UNCRC)				
Article 40: All children must be treated with dignity and respect, have the right to legal assistance and a fair trial that takes account of their age, needs within systems; supporting additional needs; keeping children and young people out of adult justice systems. This will be done through Judicial training regarding factors which may impact the sentencing of young people, links and training for SCTS to change how under 18s are held and treated in court, research looking at the use of Bail and Remand, and work to support alternatives to Court/diversion and increasing the use of the children's hearing system for all 16 & 17 year olds.	Donna Fiona	Q1-4		
Article 37b: The arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child shall be in conformity with the law and shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time; consider research and practice needs in relation to improving access to intensive community supports, responses to managing high risk behaviour and the interface between secure care and custody.	Debbie Carole Kristina	Q1-Q4		

<p>Article 37a - No child shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; consider research and practice needs in relation to system practices such as the use of restraint; strip-searching etc, and how to support trauma-informed systems and services. Publish paper on trauma-informed practice in Polmont, and develop practice outputs drawing from data on the use of these practices, and research evidence.</p>	<p>Nina Debbie</p>	<p>Q3</p>		
<p>Article 12: (respect for the views of the child) Participation of children and young people: support will be given to partners who seek to ensure that children & young people’s views are sought, listened to and taken into consideration when decisions about their lives are made. CYCJ will work alongside Staf to drive forward a justice experienced participation project and seek to use this post to influence macro level decisions, and ensure people with lived experience of secure care <i>advise, inform, influence and challenge</i> professionals via support to the STARR group .</p>	<p>Ross Debbie Ruth</p>	<p>Q1-Q4</p>		
<p>Article 5: Parties shall respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided for by local custom: consider resources, tools and events to support and inform parents and carers, recognising them as key supports to young people. This may include an update to the website, or the organisation of an event for parents and carers.</p>	<p>Nina Charlotte</p>	<p>Q1-2</p>		
<p>Article 19: the right for protection from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation: continue research into adversity and trauma, including nature and impact of experiences and potential interventions / trauma-informed approaches. Publish paper on trauma-informed practice in Polmont, prepare</p>	<p>Nina</p>	<p>Q4</p>		

a paper on the prevalence of bereavement in Scotland for baseline comparisons. Conduct research at the intersection of bereavement and offending to better understand the relationship.				
Article 39 the right to help to recover from, traumatic experiences, including abuse, violence, exploitation and neglect: Provide a project management role for the design, delivery and implementation of the National Standards for Secure Care	Debbie	Q1-4		
Supporting implementation of Whole System Approach, GIRFEC & other SG policies				
Diversion from Prosecution; support practitioners to enhance their capacity, knowledge and confidence in delivering interventions that can serve as a robust and meaningful option in lieu of prosecution through Court. This will include practitioners' forums and roadshows where requested and linking in with CJS.	Ross	Q1-Q4		
Age of Criminal Responsibility and associated legislation; support the implementation and any associated practice development requirements including attending working groups, writing a practice paper to support practitioners to make necessary changes.	Fiona	Q1-Q4		
Violence; Pilot new guidance on working in a solution focused and systemic way to reduce violence, review feedback, revise guidance and publish on-line.	Carole	Q1-Q4		
Run regular Forums on; Risk Formulation; EEI & Diversion to bring practitioners together to look at best practice/support practice	Donna	Q1-4		
Contribute to, support, develop and disseminate the work of the Youth Justice Strategy and future strategy/audit, by attending the Youth Justice Improvement Board and Project Managing its 3	Carole Fiona	Q1-4		

implementation groups, and by embedding the Youth Justice Standards in practice.				
Contribute to and support the work of the Children's Hearing Improvement Partnership, Justice Leaders Network, DIVERT, Child Protection Improvement Programme, Restorative Justice action plan, SLCN sub-group; Scottish Care Leavers Covenant, Scotland Works for You; STAG and the Care Review with one dedicated member of staff as the contact point and project manager for each group.	Pamela Donna	Q1-4		
16 & 17 year olds; support the ongoing work of CHIP and CPIP to extend the Children's Hearing System to all 16 and 17 years olds, in line with UNCRC.	Ross	Q1-Q4		
EEI; supporting implementation of research for a legal/robust process which upholds children's rights.	Donna	Q1-2		
Information Sharing; support the understanding and application of DPA 2018 & GDPR across WSA in line with Scottish Government developing protocols.	Donna	Q1-2		
Run specific training and refresher sessions on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CARM • Safer Lives • SAVRY • START:AV 	Carole	Q1-Q4		
Mental Health; support the progression of the relevant points of the strategy, attendance at the 'at risk' group as part of the MH task-force, and MH group for Polmont. This will build on needs identified via the WSA Implementation Group high risk/mental health meetings.	Donna Fiona Debbie	Q1-3		
Developing Best possible practice				

<p>Supporting boys; develop a research programme and gendered approach to practice for boys, considering adverse experiences, help-seeking, interventions and trauma-informed approaches within the context of gender, masculinity and offending behaviour. Prepare paper on masculinity and trauma within prisons</p>	<p>Nina</p>	<p>Q4</p>		
<p>Risk Practice; improve assessment and interventions for children and young people through implementation and evaluation of START:AV and the needs identified through its use; review assessment and intervention tools for HSB and develop a proposal to update these.</p>	<p>Carole Nina</p>	<p>Q1-Q4</p>		
<p>Families: conduct research into the adverse experience of parental separation, the prevalence, impact, and relationship to offending behaviour; and the roles, experiences, perceptions and needs of families of children in conflict with the law. Publish a review of the literature on parental separation. Conduct research with families .</p>	<p>Nina Kristina</p>	<p>Q3</p>		
<p>Responses to extreme needs, vulnerabilities and actual or risk of significant harm: conclude research into the profile of children & young people within the secure estate and examine possibility for continuing this study into the future, as well as supporting transformational change in responses and improvements in secure care. This will involve supporting the implementation of the vision for secure care, the provision of practice advice/resources and support for learning and knowledge exchange.</p>	<p>Ross Debbie</p>	<p>Q1-4 Q1 – publish data from 1st census.</p>		
<p>Bail/remand; research into the use of bail and remand, the factors which may influence decision makers and subsequent impact upon under 18s. Identify whether there is any relationship between a range of factors such as route to Court, timescale of bail conditions, bail conditions imposed, frequency of breaches of bail as</p>	<p>Donna Kristina</p>	<p>Q1-3</p>		

well as highlighting examples of good practice which may inform practice development.				
Improve reintegration & transitions for young people leaving custody; including via the SPS partners meeting, the ongoing publication of data, with a particular focus on housing; and addressing early intervention and prevention of y/p entering prison through work to highlight robust alternatives.	Pamela Fiona	Q1-4		
Prevention and early intervention Continue to develop thinking about inclusion as prevention and the relationship of early intervention to outcomes. Identify best practice examples or principles in prevention in youth justice for publication	Claire Fern	Q3		
Victims and Community Confidence Build on work in previous stakeholder surveys with communities and conduct research to develop understanding of the community's perspective of their role as both a victim and a solution in relation to youth justice	Nina Kristina	Q4		
Knowledge Exchange				
Maintain and improve dissemination of CYCJ & partner material. Outputs: CYCJ website, Raising Youth Justice blog, Twitter, podcast series, CYCJ monthly e-bulletin, press engagement, events; Youth and Criminal Justice in Scotland: the young person's journey and Journey through Justice	Pamela Vacancy	Q1-4		
Associates: Maintain an active CYCJ Associates Scheme to ensure active engagement in youth justice issues across the sector.	Charlotte	Q1-4		
Youth justice practice guide: Update and add in new sections as required.	Nina	Q1		
Practitioner support service: Provide a practitioner support and information service, and more detailed bespoke work with localities and organisations through regular contact with all 32 LA's and partners.	Debbie	Q1-4		
Lectures: Undertake lectures across Scottish Colleges and Universities to support the future social work, education and allied workforce.	Ross	Q1-Q4		

Roadshows: Liase with local authorities to plan, collate and present materials, and deliver local roadshows (at least six) in specific geographical areas tailored to local priorities/need. To include core skills training.	Donna	Q1-4		
Information sheets: two page summaries of key youth justice issues, at least 1 produced each quarter. This year we will include sheets covering key information/agencies on areas of effective throughcare (eg housing, benefits etc).	Nina	Q1-4		
Develop links with Education, Health & Judiciary through delivering judicial training, consider a joint YJ & Health conference in 2020 and follow up with contacts made with education at the 2018 confernce and the work of the expert group.	Fiona	Q1-4		
Deliver a National 2 day Youth Justice conference and two 1 day events.	Charlotte	Q1		
NYJAG: Provide support and help to promote the work of NYJAG through attendance at meetings, conferences/events and the CYCJ e-bulletin and web-site	Carole	Q1-4		
Placements Host a placement for someone beginning the transition from prison to community, with a focus on research and knowledge exchange; and/or a placement for practitioners in the field of YJ	Nina	Q1-4		