

STARR's Success Stories

Supporting the work of the Secure Care Strategic Board

STARR has undertaken workshops producing reports and content in relation to the Vision, Purpose, Values and Actions developed by the Board. The roundtable and residential workshops were attended by a diverse audience reflecting gender balance, geographical spread, age range, experience of being in and on the edges of secure care and experience of other care environments, CAMHS and the adult justice system. Reports were presented to the Chair of the Board and the Independent Care Review.

Secure Care Pathway and Standards Scotland

STARR were at the heart of developing the <u>Secure Care Pathway and Standards Scotland</u>. Launched in October 2020, Scotland's first national standards set out what support children and young people should expect when in, or on the edges of, secure care.

The 44 Standards seek to ensure support is provided before, during and after a stay in secure care and that the rights of children and young people, often facing extreme vulnerabilities, needs and risks in their lives, are respected. STARR members supported the co-production programme called 'From me, for me, with me' completed with young people who were in secure care during the development of the Standards to share how they feel, what helps and what needs to be different all of which was reflected in the finalised Standards.

STARR members were involved in drafting the Standards and contributed to each iteration. This included undertaking a comprehensive traffic light and strategic implications review of the draft pathway and national standards framework. Beth-Anne Logan sat on the Pathway and Standards working group and made sure the views and ideas of STARR were listened to and acted on.

"Growing up in secure care, we wished we had a tool such as the Standards to help us know our rights and what to expect off the people caring for us as secure can be a scary place sometimes - especially when you first move in there. These Standards should be a beacon of hope, and we should all be striving for the best possible care for Scotland's children."

STARR members also contributed to the co-design of the Standards website, with Beth-Anne Logan and Liam Slaven providing the "voice of the website".

Keeping The Promise

STARR worked with the Independent Care Review, presenting a number of key messages and asks at the outset of the review. This dialogue continued to shape the Independent Care Review's inquiries and findings into secure care and approaches to children on the edges of secure care. In addition, STARR members were represented on a number of the Review's working groups. STARR continue to work with The Promise Scotland to drive forward the work of change demanded by the Review.

Conversations, connections and communications

As a core member of the Scottish Government Secure Care Group, STARR seeks to be at the heart of all discussions and developments related to children in secure care. STARR has provided multiple inputs and presentations to events, including to colleagues in Northern Ireland and beyond the UK. There has been significant interest in the approach taken by STARR and its development. STARR members also provided inputs to radio, TV and written media coverage of the Secure Care Pathway and Standards Scotland.