

Workplan 2022-2023

Background

CYCJ works towards ensuring that Scotland's approach to children and young people in conflict with the law is rights-respecting, contributing to better outcomes for our children, young people and communities. We produce robust internationally ground-breaking work, bringing together children and young people's contributions, research evidence, practice wisdom and system know-how to operate as a leader for child and youth justice thinking in Scotland and beyond.

Our work centres on three key activities:

Participation and engagement: amplifying the voices of children and young people

Practice and policy development: developing, supporting and improving justice for children and young people

Research: Improving our understanding of justice for children and young people

These activities are underpinned and connected by communication and knowledge exchange work, which is focused on improving awareness of evidence in different forms, and supporting dialogue between different perspectives, types of knowledge and viewpoints.

Our focus for 2020-2025 is supporting Scotland to comply with its international commitments for children and young people in conflict with the law in relation to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), for further information see our 2020-2025 strategy.

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:

- 1. Supporting Children's Rights and UNCRC incorporation**
- 2. Meeting The Promise**
- 3. Supporting implementation of the new youth justice strategy/action plan**
- 4. Promoting the use of the whole system approach across Scotland**
- 5. Supporting practice and policy with changes to Age of Criminal Responsibility**
- 6. Developing best possible practice for children in conflict with the law**
- 7. Knowledge Exchange**

Our focus this year is to support the Scottish Government rights-based vision, focusing on the initial priorities & action plan for 2022/23

Key outcomes we are working towards this year include:

- Support children under 18 to be removed from adult Justice processes
- Across Scotland we have effective child friendly justice processes and practices for children in conflict with the law
- Improve awareness of children's rights across justice contexts/journeys
- Successful implementation of Youth Justice and Secure Care Pathway and Standards
- Improved participation of children, young people and families in justice policy and practice
- Improved participation of and support for child victims in justice processes
- Greater availability of high quality Restorative Justice in education
- Improved understanding of provision to address SLCN for children in conflict with the law.
- Greater access to the data and evidence needed to support system improvements
- Improved partnership working and learning across Scottish services
- Improved professional awareness and response to Child Criminal Exploitation
- Through addressing adversities an ecological understanding of children and young people in conflict with the law is promoted

Workplan 2022/23

The table below specifies the projects and activities we will undertake in 2022/23 funded by the Scottish Government's Youth Justice 'CYCJ grant', and the outcomes they contribute towards achieving. 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 the 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. The secure care work has a separate plan with actions to meet these included below.

Projects & Outputs	CYCJ Project Team & Partners	Timescales	Outcome
<p>Contribute to, support, develop and disseminate the Youth Justice Vision and Priorities and future action plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participating in Youth Justice Improvement Board - Project Managing the Implementation Groups which will deliver the action plan - Attendance at CHIP - Providing advice and support to policy colleagues - Supporting the work of NYJAG to contribute as appropriate - Improving awareness of children's rights - Promote and support implementation of YJ standards 	<p>Lead: Donna</p> <p>Project support: Ross</p>	Ongoing throughout Q1-Q4	Contributes to all outcomes for 2022/23 and specifically the two Implementation Groups ToR
<p>Support implementation of Children's Care & Justice Bill/Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support work of Advisory Group - Assisting with engagement sessions - Attendance on/chair of and sub-groups created - Support Bill team as required 	<p>Lead Ross</p> <p>Project Support: Karen & Practice Team</p>	Ongoing throughout Q1-Q4	Across Scotland we have effective child-friendly justice processes and practices for children in conflict with the law
<p>Improve Mental Health access and support for children on the cusp of or in conflict with the law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link in with existing working groups taking forward the Mental Health Strategy, in particular supporting the 	<p>Lead: Carole</p> <p>Project Support: Ruby</p>	Ongoing throughout Q1-Q4	Improved mental health access and support

<p>actions of Task and Finish Group 3 to ensure that the needs of children in conflict with the law are considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support wider SG work being considered around pathways and what health resources might be needed in the future to support young people - linked to such services as IVY and supports available to those in secure care. - Ensure all CYCJ staff have completed the relevant NES Trauma and Mental Health training packages and reflect on additional steps we can take to promote trauma-informed practice - Promote and support the implementation of existing resources in relation to mental health and trauma informed practice, including the development of a roadshow - Explore the value of development of a PG Cert Module on Mental Health and Trauma 			
<p>Support implementation of Age of Criminal Responsibility Act for the age increasing past 12:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support work to promote a culture shift - Support work of Advisory Group - Assisting with engagement sessions - Attendance on and chair of sub-groups - Developing evidence papers to support an increase in age 	<p>Lead: Fiona</p> <p>Project support: Practice team</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	<p>Across Scotland we have effective child-friendly justice processes and practices for children in conflict with the law</p>
<p>Participation of and support for child victims in justice processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explore information and services currently provided to child victims; linking to work of the 16/17 cross systems group & ACR victims subgroup - Explore the gaps in current provision across the different justice processes - Engage with key stakeholders in this area - Explore creative and developmentally appropriate ways to engage with child victims - co-production of materials and web apps being considered by victims' subgroup. - Link with development of Barnahus in Scotland and for child accused 	<p>Lead: Maureen</p> <p>Project Support: Yvette/Ross</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	<p>Improved participation of and support for child victims in justice processes</p>

<p>Improve SLCN provision for all children in conflict with the law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support WSA leads to better understand SLCN and SLT leads to better understand children in conflict with the law - Support WSA and SLCN leads to work more closely to improve local provision - Work collaboratively with SLT and other partners to improve SLCN provision 	<p>Lead: Maureen</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-Q4</p>	<p>Improve understanding of what is required to address SLCN to promote change</p>
<p>Support children under 18 to be removed from adult Justice processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the removal of children under 18 from YOI - Increase the use of alternatives to custody - Proposal for alternative to adult courts - Support re-design of CHS - Support inclusion of 16/17 year olds in CHS - Support inclusion of YP post 18 in secure care 	<p>Lead: Donna</p> <p>Project Support: Ruby/Ross</p>		<p>Scotland has a child friendly justice system which upholds children's rights</p>
<p>Support implementation of Secure Care Pathway and Standards and secure care work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce the number of cross-border children in Scottish secure care - Support children over 18 to remain in secure care - Support secure care to manage children from YOI - Development of secure care transport specification and provision - Support agencies with responsibilities for implementation: recognising the different phases/needs of areas and agencies - Identify and support local and national barriers to implementation - Evidence the impact of implementation - Continued dissemination of the Standards, provision of spaces to share experiences and capturing of good practice; and findings of secure care censuses - Capture learning about the journey of implementation and impact of the Standards through a range of mediums, including events, blogs, Information Sheets, case studies and maintenance of the website 	<p>Lead: Ruby</p> <p>Project support: Ross</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-Q4</p>	<p>Successful implementation of Secure Care Pathway and Standards</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of the website to capture areas not explicit within the Standards e.g. education, secure care transport - Develop and implement evaluation, monitoring and accountability processes for the Standards and any necessary research - Continue to support and grow the Standards Champions Group and STARR, as well as attendance at any Secure Care related groups - Continue to offer local authorities opportunities for case review 			
<p>Develop and support an understanding of HSB/Contextual Safeguarding within Scotland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the work of the HSB Delivery Group as well as the Assessment and Intervention subgroup and Research subgroup (which is piloting the NSPCC audit tool) - Support the work of the Contextual Safeguarding Core Group as well as the Research subgroup 	<p>Lead: Carole</p> <p>Project Support: Donna</p>	Ongoing throughout Q1-4	Across Scotland we have effective child-friendly justice processes and practices for children in conflict with the law
<p>Societal adversities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and highlight the range of adversities encountered by families - Link with relevant partners in this area - Highlight case examples, and systemic responses, to address these issues 	Lead: Ross	Ongoing throughout Q1-4	An ecological understanding of children and young people in conflict with the law is promoted
<p>Workforce Development:</p> <p>Run the PG Certificate on Children and Young People in Conflict with the Law</p> <p>Deliver the Train the Trainers package for FRAME & CARM</p> <p>Deliver ChiRPs Training</p> <p>Run specific training and refresher sessions on the following topics (one training session per quarter based on demand):</p>	<p>Lead: Carole</p> <p>Project support team: Maureen/Donna</p>	Ongoing throughout Q1-4	Across Scotland we have an effective child-friendly justice workforce for children in conflict with the law

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - START:AV - AIM3 - Other relevant training <p>Deliver one lecture per university on issues facing children and young people in conflict with the law</p>			
<p>Contribute to Government and partner consultations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the rights of children in conflict with the law are central to all new proposed policies/legislation - Ensure children and young people are supported to have their say in all consultations 	<p>Lead: Fiona</p> <p>Project Support: Practice Team</p>	Ongoing Q1-4	The rights of children in conflict with the law are included in any new policy/legislation
<p>Support Corporate Parenting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support agencies to develop their corporate parenting plans - Support agencies to ensure that plans are coherent and set out the 'what' and 'how' of proposals - Engage those with lived experience in the corporate parenting planning process - Work with agencies (e.g. Police Scotland, SPS) to ensure that children's rights are upheld - Promote the evaluation of corporate parenting strategies - Promote corporate parenting planning for young people who come into contact with the justice system - a young person's justice work 	<p>Lead: Ruby</p>	Ongoing Q1-4	Promote the rights of children under corporate parenting legislation

<p>Development of restorative practices within education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project lead for RJ within field of Youth Justice - Work with key stakeholders to support the development of restorative practices in education 	<p>Lead: Yvette</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	<p>Greater availability of high-quality Restorative Justice in education</p>
<p>Support the collection/collation of data and research on children in conflict with the law to aid service redesign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update published children's data paper annually - Publish data paper on young people annually - Progress implementation of minimum data sets if approved - Feed the recommendations from the children's rights data paper into the SG implementation groups for action and provide support where appropriate 	<p>Lead: Carole and Nina</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-Q4</p>	<p>Greater access to the data and evidence needed to support system improvements</p>
<p>Support partners to implement the recommendations of The Promise by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting service re-design - Supporting service re-location - Design new pathways, services and implementation - Remove children from YOI - Reduce criminalisation of children in care 	<p>Lead: Donna/Ross</p> <p>Project support: Maureen</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-Q4</p>	<p>Across Scotland we have effective child-friendly justice processes and practices for children in conflict with the law to meet The Promise</p>
<p>Support the development of Scottish Government policy for Child Criminal Exploitation:</p> <p>Develop links across legislation, policy and practice to support practice research to influence future policy direction/practice support.</p>	<p>Lead: Donna</p> <p>Project support: Fiona</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	<p>Improved professional awareness and response to Child Criminal Exploitation</p>
<p>Participation of young people and seek their views:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All aspects of the WSA - Youth Justice Policy/consultations - Support Young People's Research - Other relevant issues raised by young people - Develop child-friendly version of YJ standards - Review Journey through Justice and other CYCJ 	<p>Lead: Ross</p> <p>Project support team: Ruth Julia</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	<p>Improved participation of children, young people and families in justice policy and practice</p>

<p>resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend Implementation groups to represent the views of children & young people - Link with Youth Justice Voices - Support STARR/the work of STARR - Work with a group of young people to develop new standards for youth justice - Create opportunities for children aged 12-16 to influence the youth justice sector - Support partners in local authorities, third sector, government and others to promote and embed participation 			
<p>Practitioner support service:</p> <p>Provide a practitioner support and information service, and more detailed bespoke work with localities and organisations through regular contact with all 32, including delivering roadshows to meet local priorities/need; LAs and partners; chair SPS partners meetings. Run regular Forums on: Risk Formulation; EEI, Diversion and Participation</p>	<p>Lead: Maureen</p> <p>Project support: Practice team</p>	Ongoing throughout Q1-4	<p>Across Scotland we have effective child-friendly justice processes and practices for children in conflict with the law</p> <p>Improve awareness of children's rights across justice contexts/journeys</p>
<p>PhD Studentship: Children in Conflict with the Law:</p> <p>Jointly funded by CYCJ, SG, Strathclyde, Pathfinders and Centre for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Lead: Nina</p>	Ongoing Q1-Q4	<p>Increased scholarship and developing research capacity specifically focused on children in conflict with the law</p>
<p>Maintain and improve dissemination of CYCJ and partner material including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information Sheets and annual update of the YJ guide; - Managing an active Associates scheme; - Regular team and guest blogs; more multi-media content - Boosting CYCJ's audience reach and mailing list sign-up; - Monthly webinar series - Ensuring CYCJ website is fit for purpose for all audiences, including targeted web content for harder to reach groups; 	<p>Lead: Charlotte</p> <p>Project support: Holly</p>	Ongoing throughout Q1-4	<p>Greater access to the data and evidence needed to support system improvements; share understanding and mobilise knowledge; brand awareness and reputation strengthening</p>

- Supporting comms activity for partnership projects			
Deliver a National Youth Justice Conference: Decision made to hold this online due to uncertainty over Scotland's pandemic restrictions. Theme continues to focus on children's rights, expanding to include young adults in the justice system. A working group will advise and support	Lead: Charlotte Project support: Conference working group Holly	Q1	Sharing evidence and understanding; mobilising knowledge

Work not funded by the Scottish Government Youth Justice Team:

Projects & Outputs	CYCJ Lead & Funder
Inclusion as Prevention	Project Lead: Nina Vaswani Funder: Big Lottery
Youth Justice Voices	Project Lead: Ross Gibson Funder: Life Changes Trust
Supporting the Scottish Government Restorative Justice Action plan	Project Lead: Yvette O'Donnell Funder: Scottish Government Victims Team
Glasgow Youth Court Evaluation	Project Lead: Nina Vaswani Funder: Glasgow City Council
National Leadership Network	Project Lead: Ross Gibson Funder: Life Changes Trust
Talking Hope 3	Project Lead: Fiona Dyer Funder: Mixed
Socially Just Justice for Young Adults aged 18-25	Project Lead: Nina Vaswani Funder: Royal Society of Edinburgh

PhD Studentship. How and to what extent does research on youth violence prevention influence policy responses?

Project Lead: Nina Vaswani
Funder: Strathclyde / Student