

Reimagining Secure Care: Current World View

What is happening?

Events, activities, lived experiences etc.

Therapeutic practice is happening in both communities & secure care settings, but more is available in secure.	Decisions taken are not always in the best interests of the child	Issues in recruitment & retention
CYP will have different workers, services & support throughout their care journey	Trauma informed responses differ across settings	Workforce report lack of skills in Mental Health needs of CYP
Multidisciplinary team around some CYP and not for others	Secure settings have adaptable spaces to meet CYP needs	Listening to CYP helps shapes services
CYP have different experiences of care and support in different settings	Risk to CYP is inherent in society, especially when CYP are being exploited.	Public Protection Multi-agency training
Restrictive practice differs across setting	Thresholds for secure are subjective and inconsistent	There is an over reliance on specialist MH services
24/7 support for some CYP and not others	Evidence & learning doesn't always reach practice	Barriers exist to accessing Community Supports
Geographical inequalities	Participation & Collaboration with CYP is valued	Endings and transitions are often poorly planned.
The system is 'unsettled by' and less well able to understand and meaningfully support neurodiversity and mental health issues such as suicide	Placements can end abruptly, without consideration of the importance of relationships and relational practice	Unhealthy / 'risky' patterns are disrupted in secure settings
Secure settings have a range of materials & resources available to work in a trauma responsive way e.g. Talking Mats	Our understanding of extrafamilial risk and trauma is shifting for the better.	Limitations around CYP supported to develop skills for the future - inconsistency

CYP at risk of harm to self can traumatise other CYP through their actions/behaviour	Pro-social modelling e.g. participation & employment	When children are removed, underlying issues for CYP and their families are not fully addressed
Working with groups of CYP in secure care can mean that individualised plans cannot always be actioned	Limited services available to meet needs of parents/carers.	Workers don't always have time or resources to build relationships

Who is involved?

Roles, organisations etc.

Children & Young People	Parents/Carers	HMIE
Secure Care Centres	Residential Childcare	Care Inspectorate
Family Systemic Supports	STARR	Judiciary
CSWO	Children's Hearing System	Sports / Activity Clubs
Health	National Centres for Excellence	Support Worker
CAMHS	Education & Employment Services	Pupil Support
Mental Health Services	Youth Workers	Police
Social Work	Voluntary Sector	Educational Psychology
SCRA		

What are the priorities?

Policies, processes, legislation, indicators etc.

Children (Care & Justice) Bill	No national consistent model of trauma responsive approach	Processes, pathways and systems are inconsistent and disconnected
Secure Care Pathways & Standards	Decision making is led by competing professional agendas and resourcing.	Poorest families are overrepresented in the system
FRAME & CARM	Not enough resourcing for staff/resources/environment s	Multidisciplinary Teams do not follow a consistent model
Independent Care Review	Whole Family Approach	Scaffolding and supports for staff are less well prioritised.
GIRFEC	Workforce not consistently trained e.g. Trauma	Cliff edges around age/boundaries/thresholds /service criteria

National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland	Support stops at geographical boundaries	Engaging with parents of neurodiverse children is not prioritised
Scottish Ministers Programme for Government 2022/2023	Individualised, person-centred holistic planning is a priority	Services and supports are siloed, creating competing agendas
The Promise	Policy priorities do not get implemented / translated into service delivery.	Multi-Agency training is not consistent nationally.
UNCRC	There are different risk thresholds across Scotland	Significant focus on specialist MH services as the main option for therapeutic work
SOFI	Staff potential is not tapped - training/cultures/attitudes	Physical Health - not all needs met
A Rights Respecting Approach to Justice CYP Scotland Vision & Priorities	Development (CPD) for workforce to support CYP/families	
Secure Care National Standards Framework	Info sharing is not always prioritised to help inform individualised intervention & support	
Whole System Approach	Long term strategy development is not prioritised	

What are the cultures and mindsets?

What drives / motivates what is happening in the system?

"The system is stuck"	"The current commissioning model prioritises needs of system over CYP/families."	"Services are more therapeutic in the community"
Current scrutiny mechanisms are not fit for purpose	"Error Terror" - risk aversion & low flexibility in decision making	Perceptions of pathways in and out of secure care are inconsistent depending on professional background
"CYP will get "fixed" if they go to secure care"	"Justice requires punishment."	"The system perceives that MH services feel / are separate to the continuum of care"
There is stigma and negative attitudes towards CYP, families/carers.	"Families need to fit with what services offer them."	"There is not enough time and resourcing for relational practice."

"Social care doesn't know how to engage with the wider community."	"We are worried we cannot keep all in secure care safe."	"People within the system don't understand what secure care does and what it can offer"
"Relational practice has better outcomes."	"A medicalised model cannot respond to crisis or safety issues"	"We can't keep all children safe in the community."
There is increased stigma for CYP in conflict with the law.	"Older children are a risk to younger children"	"It is difficult to imagine a world without secure settings"
"MH services do not meet CYP needs"	"Children get to be children in secure settings"	
"We do not have the same aspirations re. education for CYP in secure care (same for all non-mainstream CYP)"	"Child friendly justice should prioritise welfare."	