

Workplan 2020-2021

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:

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

Key deliverables this year include:

- Support Children's Rights under the UNCRC to be embedded in Scotland**
- Support the development and work of the new youth justice action/strategy and all associated groups**
- Promote the extension of the children's hearing system for all 16 and 17 year olds; through evidence, data and events**
- Promote the participation of children and young people: ensuring their 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**
- Promote the use of CARM for young people displaying risk of serious harm**
- Support implementation of all aspects of the Whole System Approach including EEI, diversion, court support, alternative provision to support risk reduction and management in the community, reintegration and transitions and high risk**
- Support the implementation of the ACR Act by 2020/21 through gathering evidence, supporting a cultural shift, and the work of the advisory group and any sub groups**
- Examine the use of secure care and alternatives to secure care, looking at the recommendations from the Independent Care Review**
- Examine best practice with specific focus on research into youth justice issues**
- Produce annual data on all youth justice areas where data is available**
- Support practice by increasing knowledge, improving practice and offering opportunities to network**

Workplan 2020/21

The table below specifies the projects and activities we will undertake in 2020/21 funded by the Scottish Government 'CYCJ grant'. 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 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. The secure care work has a separate plan with actions to meet these included below.

Projects & Outputs	CYCJ Project Team & Partners	Timescales	Action & Impact
<p>Develop a practice improvement programme to support positive engagement with incorporation of UNCRC for children in conflict with the law. Focusing on three key partners/contexts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local authorities - Courts - Children's Hearing System 	<p>Lead: Ross Gibson</p> <p>Project support team: Practice team Fiona Dyer Claire Lightowler</p>	<p>This is likely to involve a series of inter-related projects which will span the year, and some of which will extend beyond 2020/21.</p> <p>A detailed programme plan will be developed by end of Q1 2020/21 once initial scoping work undertaken.</p>	
<p>Co-produce a guide for children and young people in relation to their rights under all areas of WSA</p>	<p>Lead: Ross Gibson</p> <p>Project support team: Pamela Morrison</p>	<p>Work will start on this in Q1, and guide complete by Q4</p>	
<p>Identify which LA/partners need support with WSA and which areas are in a position to advance WSA to all young people under age 21 and barriers/enablers of implementation</p>	<p>Lead: Donna McEwan</p> <p>Project support team: Pamela Morrison</p>	<p>Q1-3 mapping implementation of WSA components in each area (includes social work services, Education, Health, SCRA, COPFS, Police, CHS, 3rd Sector, SCTS), inclusion in Service Plans or referenced, level of measurement of success. Q4 - Collate</p>	

		information from across CYCJ & SG.	
<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 sub-groups - Developing evidence papers 	<p>Lead: Fiona Dyer</p> <p>Project support team: Practice team</p>	Attendance on ACR steering group and any relevant sub-groups during the next three years, as per the TOR for the group.	
<p>Embedding UNCRC compliant CARM guidance through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting risk practice - Supporting implementation in local authorities 	<p>Lead: Donna McEwan</p> <p>Project support team: Carole Murphy</p>	A review of the changes to the UNCRC CARM guidance will be undertaken in Q1 and a plan developed for how the changes are best disseminated. Implementation will be supported through Q2-Q4.	
<p>Contribute to, support, develop and disseminate the Youth Justice Strategy and future strategy/action plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participating in Youth Justice Improvement Board - Project Managing the Youth Justice Implementation Groups - Attendance at Community Justice Leadership group & sub-groups - Attendance at CHIP - Providing advice and support to policy colleagues - Supporting the work of NYJAG to contribute as appropriate 	<p>Lead: Fiona Dyer</p> <p>Project team members: Practice team</p>	Will be ongoing Q1-Q4.	

<p>Support implementation of the YJ Standards through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active support to all corporate parents with responsibility for their implementation - Host learning and engagement events - Support partners to audit/monitoring the use of standards - Work with partners to identify and address the system, strategic and national barriers to implementation 	<p>Lead: Pamela Morrison/Donna McEwan</p> <p>Project support team: Practice team</p>	<p>In Q1 we will gain feedback from partners about the support that would be helpful and develop a plan for implementing this throughout Q2-Q4.</p>	
<p>Support implementation of Secure Care Standards and secure care work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Active support to all corporate parents with responsibility for their implementation - Host learning and engagement events - Undertake research, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the standards - Implement communications plan and manage website - Work with partners to identify and address the system, strategic and national barriers to the implementation - Review the standards making any outstanding calls for action from the Secure Care National Project - Continue to build understanding of the available and potential range of alternatives to secure care within the continuum of supports for children where there are extreme needs, vulnerabilities and actual or risk of significant harm to self and/or others amendments to the standards as necessary - support the redraft of the 205/208 SG guidance - publish papers on the 2018 and 2019 secure care census <p>Participate in the Secure Care Research Group Participate in the Secure Care Group</p>	<p>Lead: Debbie Nolan</p> <p>Project support team: Ross Gibson</p>	<p>Will be ongoing Q1-Q4</p>	

<p>16 & 17 year olds in the CH/YJ System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Produce an evidence paper - Supporting engagement events including supporting young people's participation and gathering views - Attendance at working group 	<p>Lead: Ross Gibson</p> <p>Project support team: Fiona Dyer</p>	<p>Attendance at, and all associated work from the sub-group over the year and into the next 2-3 years.</p>	
<p>Run specific training and refresher sessions on the following topics (one training session per quarter based on demand):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CARM - Safer Lives - SAVRY - START:AV - AIM3 - Other relevant training 	<p>Lead: Carole Murphy</p> <p>Project support team: Practice Team</p>	<p>An update of the multi-agency training brochure will be carried out in Q1 with an invitation to partners to identify their training priorities. A training plan for 2020-21 will then be developed and delivered through Q2-Q4. The exception to this will be a START:AV training event delivered in Q1.</p>	
<p>Review any new research/evidence/developments in relation to reducing high risk behaviours (including contextual safeguarding) and support the dissemination and implementation of this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support a review of relevant WSA guidance to incorporate concept of contextual safeguarding • Consider the need for resources/support to partners to incorporate principles of contextual safeguarding • Collaborate with partners to develop proposal for impact evaluation of incorporating contextual safeguarding into practice 	<p>Lead: Carole Murphy</p> <p>Project support team: Practice Team Nina Vaswani</p>	<p>Will be on -going Q1-Q4</p>	

<p>Undertake research using IVY referral to examine; Childhood experiences leading to vulnerabilities which increase the risks of harming or being harmed by HSB involving other children and young people</p>	<p>Lead: Kristina Moodie</p> <p>Project support team: Nina Vaswani</p>	<p>Q1-2</p>	
<p>Collate and produce a Youth Justice dataset/publication from existing data, identify gaps and engage with partners and stakeholders to overcome existing barriers to some of the gaps.</p>	<p>Lead: Carole Murphy</p> <p>Project support team: Nina Vaswani</p>	<p>Build on previous data papers produced by CYCJ and the Youth Justice: System Performance paper to produce an updated publication for 20-21.</p>	
<p>Supporting the response to the ICR recommendations related to YJ and justice-related corporate parents</p>	<p>Lead: Debbie Nolan</p> <p>Project support team: Ross Gibson</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	
<p>Participation of young people and seek their views on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all aspects of the WSA - Youth Justice Policy - Other relevant issues raised by young people 	<p>Lead: Ross Gibson</p> <p>Project support team: Ruth Kerracher</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	
<p>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 including delivering roadshows to meet local priorities/need; LAs and partners; chair SPS partners meetings; Run regular</p>	<p>Lead: Debbie Nolan</p> <p>Project support team: Practice team</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout Q1-4</p>	

<p>Forums on: Risk Formulation; EEI & Diversion</p>			
<p>START-AV evaluation: Review impact of START:AV implementation on quality of assessments, intervention planning, outcomes for children and young people and workforce confidence.</p>	<p>Lead: Carole Murphy</p> <p>Project support team: Nina Vaswani</p>	<p>Data collection will commence in Q1 with a final report produced by Q4. The final report will detail the impact and make recommendations for going forward.</p>	
<p>Implement Learning from CYCJ Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement recommendations - Develop reflective practices and other processes - One year review of progress 	<p>Lead: Claire Lightowler</p> <p>Project support team: Fiona Dyer Nina Vaswani</p>	<p>A plan to meet the recommendation will be written in Q1 – progress will be reviewed at Q2 and Q4</p>	
<p>Maintain and improve dissemination of CYCJ & partner material including information sheets and an annual up-date of the YJ guide; maintain an active associate's scheme; create targeted web content for harder to reach groups; increase multimedia output; boosting our audience and mailing list sign up; and introduce podcast series</p>	<p>Lead: Charlotte Morris</p> <p>Project support team: Holly MacLean</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the year. Impact measured in quarterly monitoring report. Three new chapters for the YJ Guide have been identified for this year that will be published in Q1.</p>	
<p>Deliver a national two day Youth Justice conference</p>	<p>Lead: Charlotte Morris</p> <p>Project support team: Conference working group Fiona Dyer</p>	<p>Planning underway via a planning group with external representatives. Conference booked for June 17 and 18 at the University of Stirling. Theme on 'Children's Rights to Justice: Our 2020 Vision and Beyond'.</p>	

Work not funded by the Scottish Government:

Projects & Outputs	CYCJ Lead & Funder
Inclusion as Prevention	Project Lead: Debbie Nolan Funder: Big Lottery
Designing socially just institutions for 18-25 year olds	Project Lead: Nina Vaswani Funder: Scottish Universities Insight Institute
ROSA	Project Lead: Nina Vaswani Funder: Stop it Now
Youth Justice Voices	Project Lead: Ross Gibson Funder: Life Changes Trust