

Pre Event

Ensuring all infants and young people receive a fair hearing every time with all professionals attending the hearing being prepared and working collaboratively

Balancing the needs of the child with our obligations to the victim(s) of their crime/the public.

There are no advocacy service for babies and infants

There are very few options for advocacy. It is not a true choice

Event Discussion

the hearings system can make this difficult (ensuring a fair hearing) whilst recognising the amazing work panel members do.

need more advocacy to support parents in hearings

where are Who Care's? Children's rights? (not with our Young People!)

Agree very difficult to access services equitably

awareness increasing of advocacy- what it is

independent advocacy for all young people across all of Scotland

Pre Event

Often decisions are made based on resources rather than on the specific needs of the child or young person. We do not yet have FGDM embedded, and so children are often coming in to care when this could be prevented although we are on our way to building a team to allow us to embed this in practice in the future.

Benchmarking-performance (first Plan continuation of measurement into the 2nd Plan) and quality assurance.

Participation

Managing change

Its hard for different organisations to share information because on GPPR and different systems

There is often a big delay in information about decisions being communicated to multi-agency partners

Event Discussion

set up outreach workers to keep children at home

set up an alliance to discuss what's going on

FGDM training is not common

encouraging families to still be involved when their child moves into residential houses maintaining a trauma informed approach

decision making - using language that children and families understand

decisions being made in regards to money instead of what young person wants to move back to city

some young people don't want to be involved in meetings to implement culture change

views of infants and babies not always understood and do not influence decision making

Implementation of the infant pledge

SMART objectives are not child friendly, yet the Care Inspectorate expect them in young people's plans

FGDM across all LAs

engaging volunteers with all the skills and keeping up with the volume of change to be high quality decision makers in Children's Hearings

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Foster carer recruitment and retention

retention and recruitment of foster carers to meet the needs of children and young people

Resources

We work with Kinship carers and families so ensuring that we are listening and engaging with families, trying to meet their needs within a statutory framework and local authority with all the complexities and constraints that this can bring. We do have a committed, flexible, knowledgeable and collaborative team

There needs to be more support for kinship carers in relation to housing solutions. Practical solutions and less red tape

Event Discussion

differences in processes and support in local authorities = challenge

all agencies working together- more communication for stability got young people

networking opportunities like today, to learn from one another

seeing the bigger picture, weathering the storms, endings as last resort

I've seen asylum seekers who are studying but are trapped in college because there is a constantly changing date, it's a ticking clock but is it good enough?

housing / social work Hub: Group to work jointly to identify needs- team up!

Are we acting on the voice of young people about what makes them feel safe where they live?

resources- know what you are getting for cost- data and value for money compared with other examples

challenge resources if you are not getting what's paid for for the benefit of all who use

increased recognition of the fact that spending more on supporting children & young people will also mean that money further down the road (e.g. in residential care) as well as the human aspect of improved outcomes for children and young people)

are we always asking young people the right questions around where they live or want to live?

Increased support / financial/ emotional / practical for carers to maintain stability

'mockingbird' style Hubs adopted more widely

Pre Event

We don't always have the right support for young people moving on, especially for those that have lived out of our authority when Looked After.

Funding and Support

We support Young Scots, including those who have been supported in the authorities and who then do not continue with the care system, looking to support them with welfare in the local authority who cannot find and meet the needs of the young person. This could include providing them with the help of supporting the young person participate in a full range of activities and opportunities and help them to find a place to live. We have a dedicated team for this.

Moving on
accommodation options

Ensuring sufficient and safe and well designed resources at the part of the system where young people want to experience interdependence .

Education

Moving on - thinking ahead to when a care experienced pupils leave school and what supports are available for them to access and who will support them to access these.

I am currently working as a mentor support worker, primarily supporting young people who have been removed from residential placements and are now living at home but need ongoing support. I have been working for 10 years for a local authority, I have been a mentor support worker for 6 years. I have been a mentor support worker for 6 years. I have been a mentor support worker for 6 years. This is the challenging part for most people to use. Every young person has their support and still needs and takes on risk and resources often do not allow for this.

moving on support is postcode dependent and YP moving back to areas from out of area placements can be very confused as there is no consistency across Scotland in terms of what is offered

Housing is the biggest challenge. Many care experienced young people cannot live where they want to, in the communities they know because there is no affordable housing

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graph TD; A[outreach support from residential staff to offer support & maintain relationships] --> B[preparation for moving on ensuring foster carers prepare young people for potential independent living]; B --> C[challenges seem to arise. Sometimes feel like they are rushed or there are not so many options - should we look at when to start thinking about moving on earlier?]; C --> D[transition pathways sometimes starting as early as 16 to support moving into adult services]; D --> E[having conversations early about moving on = good transfer! looking at college options (and funding)]; E --> F[UASCs can now access more full time and part time courses, not just ESOL (as well as adults who claimed asylum before 16)]; F --> G[young people can be supported to move on to independent living];
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having conversations early about moving on = good transfer! looking at college options (and funding)

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young people can be supported to move on to independent living

Pre Event

I think there is still a long way to go for social workers to be supporting families so that they can get the support they need to prevent children from coming into care. So that coming into care really is a last resort. It's such a traumatic experience coming into care for children and young people.

Participation

Working with Birth Parents and seeing the impact on families who children are adopted. Trauma that is lifelong for birth parents when the only contact they have is letterbox (if granted)

Financial barriers to maintain relationships across local authority areas and throughout out of area placements

Understanding how to get better at family time for siblings and ensuring all siblings have a voice in the Hearing system.

Lack of consistency across organisations about ongoing staff and young people relationships and how these are maintained but while considering staff work life balance

supporting children and young people to maintain significant relationships when they move on from foster carers.

putting more funding into services to support both parents so the cycle can stop

more open admissions/ permanent foster care placements

all professionals involved being in contact and enabling family contact if appropriate

more gatekeeping to prevent young people coming into care by addressing what they need to stay together and offer support

permission for life long relationships

truly empowering families to support them e.g. FSGM

balancing one point of contact with building relationships with multiple specialists in different areas e.g. funding employment/ housing

acknowledge the important role family still plays in a child's life when they become care experienced

keeping all relationships as important and not falling off radar (care plan)

there is the challenge for people understanding what's in it for them and what it actually looks and feels like

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graph TD; A[Pre Event] --> B[Capacity to deliver change, funding and evidencing outcomes and impact.]; A --> C[Funding]; B --> C;
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The diagram illustrates the relationship between three key components: Pre Event, Capacity, and Funding. Pre Event is shown at the top, with arrows pointing down to both Capacity and Funding. Capacity, in turn, has an arrow pointing down to Funding. The Capacity box includes the text: "Capacity to deliver change, funding and evidencing outcomes and impact."

remaining aspirational and not accepting systemic gaps, push for change

young adults to share their stories on the impact services have had on their lives and where are they now in life, share good news stories

getting Exec leaders to support HECM invest-disinvest