

Services for Children and Young People in Orkney

The ambition for all of Scotland's children is that they are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

To achieve this every child and young person needs to be safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected & responsible; included.



U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: Article 1

...children are rich in potential, strong, powerful, competent...

In Orkney, the people working with children and young people strive to make sure that each day, each child, gets the right help, at the right time, in the right way



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Services for Children and Young People in Orkney

In May 2013 a report of an inspection of services for children and young people in Orkney was published by the Care Inspectorate. The inspection was one of two pilot inspections and involved a team made up of inspectors from the Care Inspectorate, Education Scotland, Healthcare Improvement Scotland and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland.

The report highlighted a number of key strengths, including the way in which staff build trusting, empowering and respectful relationships with children and families; and the range of different support services readily available for children and families.

The report also indicated that a number of improvements were needed and summarised in 4 key points for action:-

- Develop and implement clear procedures for assessment and planning for children requiring extra help
- Ensure Getting it Right for Every Child assessments are used by health staff
- Accelerate integrated children's services planning and establish a joint strategic direction
- Develop a programme of joint self-evaluation which identifies how well children's services are performing and what needs to improve

Leaders from across the community planning partnership, representing both the statutory sector and third sector, met with members of the inspection team to consider how to build on strengths and bring about improvements in the outcomes for children, young people and families in Orkney. The 'Services for Children and Young People Development Group', which is a thematic group of the Community Planning Partnership, has taken ownership of the planning and monitoring of actions in response to the report and recommendations.

Orkney's ambition for children and young people is that this is a place where service providers and community work together so that, as children and young people grow up, they get the right help, at the right time, in the right way. Planning and development for services for children and young people are linked to Orkney's Community Plan and the Single Outcome Agreement. In particular actions are aligned to National Outcomes 5, 4, 3 and 8, that is

- 'Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed'
- 'Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens'
- 'We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation'
- 'We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk'

Each of the actions planned in response to the inspection report is linked to these overarching ambitions for Orkney's children and young people.

Recommendation 1 Develop and implement clear procedures for assessment and planning for children requiring extra help

Recommendation 2 Ensure Getting it Right for Every Child assessments are used by health staff

Outcome planning as a consequence of these recommendations:		Outcome Indicators	Data Type
Revisit and review the implementation of Getting it Right for Every Child (systems, culture and practice)	to ensure cross cultural understanding of the role of the named person	Feedback from practitioners and service users	Survey and focus group output
	to ensure systems support early and effective information sharing	Reduction in the number of children (in need of support) not identified prior to transition	PSCDT referrals and evaluations of impact
	to ensure practice and planning around children focuses on long term outcomes and sustained improvement	Child's Plan in place for all children who need one	Sampling of assessment and planning carried out with respect to children in need
	to ensure Getting it Right assessments are used by health staff		

Actions (Include reference to other plans if appropriate):	Lead	Milestone Date(s)
Re-establish SCYPDG as the Getting It Right steering group and implementation group	MO'S	May 13
Establish a Getting it Right practitioner/reference group	CL/PC	Sept 13
Identify lead staff to 'champion' Getting it Right within their service	CL/PC	Sept 23
Investigate health documentation used in other areas nationally	WS	Sept 13
Health visiting documentation to be reviewed and assessments implemented as standard	WS	Oct 13
Develop and deliver a Getting it Right training/learning plan with a focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of the named person Sharing information (including statutory, 3rd and private sector – where appropriate) Assessment and planning 	CL/PC	Mar 14
Evaluate the impact on culture and practice of the revised health documentation	WS	Mar 14

Recommendation 3 Accelerate integrated children's services planning and establish a joint strategic direction

Recommendation 4 Develop a programme of joint self-evaluation which identifies how well children's services are performing and what needs to improve

Outcome planning as a consequence of these recommendations:		Outcome Indicators	Data Type
Accelerate integrated children's services planning	to ensure a joint strategic direction for service development	Integrated children's services priorities agreed and understood by all Practitioners enabled to connect personal actions with agreed priorities	Focus group output Survey sample and feedback from supervision (or similar) activity across services and agencies
Develop a programme of joint self-evaluation and undertake scrutiny and moderation activities	to assure young people, parents and staff of the quality of the services for children and young people in Orkney	Community confidence in services for children and young people in Orkney	Survey output Collation of data from action plan

Actions (Include reference to other plans if appropriate):	Lead	Milestone Date(s)
(re)-constitute the strategic group with responsibility for the Orkney Integrated Children's Services Plan	MO'S	May 13
create draft ICSP based on consultation activities carried out 2012-2013	MS	Sept 13
include quantifiable measures as part of ICSP action	MS	Sept 13
publish ICSP	MO'S	Oct 13
review data sets (their relevance, meaning and use) currently included in SOA	MO's	Dec 13
carry out sample dialogue meetings on relevance of ICSP (and amendments for 2014)	MS	April 14

Key to initials: MO'S – Marie O'Sullivan; CL – Cathy Lyner; PC – Peter Connolly; WS – Wendy Sinclair; MS – Maureen Swannie
Associated work plans include: Integrated Children's Services Plan; Education, Leisure and Housing Service Plan, Orkney Health and Care Service Plan