

**VISION STATEMENT**

Edinburgh’s Children, Loved, Safe and Respected

**EDINBURGH’S PROMISE 2021-2024**

**Supporting the workforce**

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| **Promise call to action** | **Edinburgh actions required** | **Taken forward by** | **By when** |
| **StW1** - Organisations that have responsibilities towards care experienced children and families and those on the edge of care will be able to demonstrate that they are embedding trauma informed practice across their work and within their workforce. | **Trauma Informed Awareness (NES Programme) to be offered to all colleagues**  **Trauma Informed Training to be essential training**  **Scope and scale (who has and who has not been trained)** | **Trauma Group**  **Trauma Group, L&D** |  |
| **StW2** - There will be no blanket policies or guidance that prevent the maintenance of relationships between young people and those who care for them. Settings of care will be able to facilitate the protection of relationships that are important to children and young people. | **Review existing policies for colleagues and foster carers offering care.**  **Establish or create an overarching policy regarding clarity on roles and extending a role beyond the immediate care of a child or young person** | **Working Group 2** |  |

**Good childhood**

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| **Promise call to action** | **Edinburgh actions required** | **Taken forward by** | **By when** |
| **GC1** - Every child that is ‘in care’ in Scotland will have access to intensive support that ensures their educational and health needs are fully met. | **What is the level of unmet need in education or health from existing reviews?**  **What are the trends where intensive support is not offered?** | **Working Group 1** |  |
| **CG2** - Local Authorities and Health Boards will take active responsibility towards care experienced children and young people, whatever their setting of care, so they have what they need to thrive. | **Are there still issues for education and health support when a child or young person is placed outwith Edinburgh?**  **What are the thematic issues connected to gaps in support provision?** | **Working Group 1** |  |
| **GC3** - Care experienced children and young people will receive all they need to thrive at school. There will be no barriers to their engagement with education and schools will know and cherish their care experienced pupils. | **See GC1**  **Review by school-based colleagues regarding care experienced pupils and accessing everything they need for their support and opportunity to thrive.** | **Working Group 1** |  |
| **GC4** - School improvement plans will value and recognise the needs of their care experienced pupils with robust tracking of attendance and attainment so that support can be given early. | **Tracking and monitoring of attendance and attainment work underway between Virtual HT for care experienced children and young people and Practice Team Managers** | **Working Group 1** |  |
| **GC5** - Care experienced young people will be actively participating in all subjects and extra-curricular activities in schools. | **Active schools co-ordinators in Primary settings (Edinburgh schools) will already know**  **What resource to monitor in Secondary setting and outwith Edinburgh?**  **Any identified unmet need via Reviewing Team?** | **Working Group 1** |  |
| **GC6** - The formal and informal exclusion of care experienced children from education will end. | **Existing policy review – what does it say and how in line with this call to action is it? What happens to Edinburgh’s Children not placed in Edinburgh schools?** | **Working Group 1** |  |
| **GC7** - Schools will support and ensure care experienced young people go on to genuinely positive destinations, such as further education or employment. | **Existing provision via Hub for Success and TCAC team. Data on positive destinations already held.**  **SDS also actively working in Edinburgh with schools.** | **Working Group 1** |  |
| **GC8** - All children living in and around Scotland’s ‘care system’ will be maintaining safe, loving relationships that are important to them. | **Voice of the child, stating who is important to them (SCRA)**  **Shift in culture where focus is primary relationships with parents – all other relationships secondary to that.**  **How to formalise the informal?** | **Working Group 2** |  |
| **GC9** - There will be no barriers to ‘contact’ and children will be supported to have time with people they care about. | **Reviewing how we informalise care to be more like family life?**  **De-professionalise contacts and relationships for children and young people living in care.** | **Working Group 2** |  |
| **GC10** - Relationships between brothers and sisters will be cherished and protected across decision making and through the culture and values of the people who care for them. | **Work underway to have better data on the complexities of why brothers and sisters are placed apart.**  **Thematic analysis of issues**  **Maintenance of connections to be key focus of reviews** | **Working Group 2** |  |
| **GC11** - The disproportionate criminalisation of care experienced children and young people will end. | **Review where we are with this – data.**  **Understand the issues as they stand in Edinburgh. Work with both colleagues and young people on alternatives to criminalisation. Union involvement**  **Age of criminal responsibility affected this call to action** | **Working Group 2** |  |
| **GC12** - There will be sufficient community-based alternatives so that detention is a last resort | **Extensive alternatives to detention exist and are in place**  **Challenge exists regarding Remand and decision making connected to these circumstances** | **Working Group 2** |  |
| **GC13** - All care experienced children and their families will have access to independent advocacy at all stages of their experience of care. Advocacy provision will follow the principles set out in the promise. | **At what stages do we offer advocacy?**  **In what settings do we offer advocacy?**  **When and where do we offer family/parent advocacy?** | **Working Group 3** |  |
| **GC14** - Care experienced children and young people will be able to easily access child centred legal advice and representation. | **Review existing supports from CLAN, SCRA and other agencies.**  **Are these as well promoted as they could be?** | **Working Group 3** |  |
| **GC15** - Decisions about transitions for young care experienced people who move onto independent living or need to return to a caring environment, will be made based on individual need | **New process (Jan ’21) in place for transition between practice team and TCAC**  **Enhanced continuing care arrangements in place**  **Return to caring environment process to be reviewed/mapped.** | **Working Group 3** |  |
| **GC16** - Each young care experienced adult will experience their transition as consistent, caring, integrated and focussed on their needs, not on ‘age of services’ criteria. | **Larger numbers of care experienced young people remaining in care**  **Reporting arrangements to CPMOG** | **Working Group 3** |  |
| **GC17** - All care experienced children, wherever they live, will be protected from violence and experience the safeguard of equal protection legislation. | **Are Edinburgh’s Children safer in our system than when at home?**  **Benchmarking of this call to action?**  **Number of care experienced children experiencing issues - as described - whilst in care?** | **Working Group 3** |  |
| **GC18** - Restraint will always be pain free, will be used rarely, and only when required to keep a child safe. | **Critical analysis of the use of restraint and single separation at ESS underway**  **Restraint in foster care – what happens?**  **Role of critical debrief following restraint**  **Restraint notification of a significant event?**  **Use of restraint in education and health – scale and procedures/review** | **Working Group 3** |  |
| **GC19** - There will be well communicated and understood guidance in place that upholds children’s rights and reflects equal protection legislation. | **Learning and development work to be undertaken to ensure practice guidance is understood and in place across care settings** | **Working Group 3** |  |
| **GC20** - The workforce will feel supported to respond to behaviour in a trauma informed way that reflects a deep understanding of the children in their care | **See trauma informed in previous section;**  **further focus on care providing colleagues beyond basic level**  **Clearer trauma informed pathways and access to training for all colleagues working with care experienced children and their families** | **Trauma group**  **Trauma group** |  |

**Building capacity**

**No local actions from calls to action**

**Whole family support**

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| **Promise call to action** | **Edinburgh actions required** | **Taken forward by** | **By when** |
| **WFS1** - The 10 principles of intensive family support will be embedded into the practice (planning, commissioning and delivery) of all organisations that support children and their families, directly or indirectly. | **Review of what we have, are there any gaps set against the 10 principles?** | **Working Group 4** |  |
| **WFS2** - Scotland’s family support services will feel and be experienced as integrated to those who use them. | **How do we measure integration at this level? How are services felt by families currently – baseline – what needs to change and how do we improve the integrated feeling?**  **Use of advocacy to guide families through services?**  **Services agreeing a basic level of language that is helpful to families?** | **Working Group 4** |  |
| **WFS3** - All families will have direct and clear access to family therapies and specific support across a range of issues, so that accessing support is seen as something that a range of families may need throughout life. | **Family therapy mapping – what exists, how is it accessed, demand versus capacity and identify gap.** | **Working Group 4** |  |

**Planning**

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| **Promise call to action** | **Edinburgh actions required** | **Taken forward by** | **By when** |
| **P1** - Investment in the lives of children and families will be considered strategically and holistically in the context of their experiences. | **Where and how is money invested currently – across the Children’s Partnership – how does this align to this call to action? Does anything need to change?** | **Working Group 4** |  |
| **P2** - Organisations with responsibilities towards children and families will be confident about when, where, why and how to share information with partners. Information sharing will not be a barrier to supporting children and families | **Review information sharing arrangements – integral to this - GIRFEC** | **Working Group 4** |  |

**WORKING GROUPS**

The Edinburgh’s Promise plan and its associated activities will be taken forward by 4 working groups:

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| **Group** | **Lead** | **Co-lead** | **QA support** |
| **Group 1 - StW2-GC6** | Sharon McGhee | Lynn Paterson | Chris Martin |
| **Group 2 - GC7-GC12** | Andy McWhirter | Brenda-Anne Cochrane | Keith Dyer (pending QAO recruitment) |
| **Group 3 - GC13- GC19** | Steve Harte | Keith Fairbairn | Heather Smith |
| **Group 4 - WFS1-P2** | Oli Campbell | Mark Merrell | Pauline McKinnon |