

Children and Young People's Forum meeting notes 25/1/2022

Tuesday 25th January 2022

11:00 – 13:00

Speakers:

Darren Little, Children's Services Manager, DG Council
Lynsey Robertson, Children in Scotland

Present

Darren Little – Children's Services Manager, DG council
Lyndsay Robertson – Children in Scotland
Selina McMorran – Engagement Officer, TSDG
Allison Ball - Inspired Community Enterprise Trust Ltd
Briony Kincaid – Sustrans Scotland Dumfries and Galloway
Anthony Taylor – Senior Youth worker at YMCA
Alex Dickson - Dumfries and Galloway Befriending Project
Kat Dick - Newton Stewart Initiative
Allison - Visibility (Dumfries & Galloway)

Apologies

Claire Brown – Operations Manager – TSDG

11:00 – 11:10	Welcome/ Introductions	Selina McMorran
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Everyone was welcomed and introduced themselves.

It was the first CYP forum for a while and first for 2022!

11:10 – 11:40	Children's Services	Darren Little
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Children Services Plan

DL introduced his role and position at the council. His role supports the coordination and delivery of children services in D & G, working with multi-agency partners including

education, social work, health and police.

DL gave some background information regarding the [legislation](#) in place and how local authorities and health need to work together with partners to produce a three-year children's services plan which seeks to improve outcomes for young people.

DL – Accompanying the CYP 2014 ACT is [statutory guidance](#) which includes 10 steps for children and services planning. We can look at these 10 steps together along with the council, Third Sector, and other organizations to help deliver these.

DL – The Children's Services Executive Group (CSEG) was responsible for oversight of children's services in D & G however in 2021 it was replaced by the Children's Services Strategic and Planning Partnership (CSSaPP) which has both an Executive Group for senior officers and a wider partnership which meet regularly.

DL – The current three-year [D & G Children's Services Plan](#) runs from 2020 to 2023 and finishes 31/3/2023. On the 1/4/2023 we will need to take forward a new Child Services Plan which focuses on the strategic needs and collated data. The approach to produce a new plan will be considered by CSSaPP in Feb 2022 and thereafter there will be stakeholder engagement regarding the approach to be taken. It would be great for those involved in CYP forum, Third Sector organisations and other representatives to share their ideas on how best to take forward the new plan when stakeholder engagement commences.

DL – The current [quality framework](#) for children's services has a focus on children in need of care and protection.

DL is happy to share his details amongst the forum group and emphasized he is happy to help pull in services if a focus arises. He can be contacted as follows:

darren.little@dumgal.gov.uk

11:40 – 12:10

**Overview of:
GIRFEC**

Darren Little and
Lyndsey
Robertson

LR Introduced the National children charity, an organization which focuses on children rights and young people. Ambition of CPP's, is for children to be apart of services and planning.

LR Showed the influence of the network graph and how sub working groups exchange knowledge and assimilate information for local strategies.

Capacity was discussed at last meeting as it seems to be reducing. Representatives are finding it hard to find time to support groups.

DL – The policies are encompassed within GIRFEC in how we are working with young people and children. There are Challenges around legislation but it's positive that Government is giving new guidance.

DL – Locally the GIRFEC Leadership Group have been looking at requests for assistance processes of how services or organisations ask for help. The GIRFEC refresh by government doesn't yet include new guidance in relation to child's plans, but this is planned as a second phase.

LR - GIRFEC is starting to be refreshed. Guidance docs were released, and specific steak holders were invited to respond with 60 Third sector children services across country. GIRFEC presented guidance and key changes. The Refresh was welcomed, and it was encouraged to see positive language, the linking of priorities and covid recovery addressed.

UNCRC

DL – UNCRC and children rights - council and NHS recently published a joint report on rights covering the period 2017-20. The reporting requirement is for public bodies and therefore the published report doesn't include the full picture of what the third sector have been doing to support the rights agenda.

DL - Council has agreed to set up an officer and elected member working group that includes young people with children's rights and wellbeing being focused on. A recent example of progress from council – agreed to add 2 young people to learning committee.

LR – In 2021 summer project rolled out CRC training to ready the workforce for incorporation to continue to build capacity of the workforce.

LR - Is happy to offer more training for TSI's and happy look at resources available.

The Promise

LR – [The Promise](#) came out 5th of Feb 2020 with the aim to deliver change in the care system with the 5 priorities and plan for 2021 to 2024.

LR will send links and email if you want to get in touch. Modules are open for you to do.

DL – This area is a priority in the current children's services plan. Further action in this area is being progressed in order to achieve the ambitions of The Promise.

Self-Evaluation Tool

LR Described how a planning processes might help this forum to have influence with the Self-evaluation tool helping to identify challenges. The tool is resourceful during planning partnerships.

SMcM Encouraged Forum attendees to decide what they would like from this forum and how to make it work for you.

SMcM will be sending out a Questionnaire for all members to complete regarding frequency of the meetings and preferences regarding training and speakers.

SMcM encouraged group members to share their thoughts to each other.

SMcM - If you want to drive the forum forward as a chair you will be fully supported. We're all keen to pick up momentum to ensure that communication continues and grows.

Here is to many more meetings!

12:50 – 12:00

Close

Selina McMorran

Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 24th May 2022, 10am-12pm, please put this date in your diary.

An invite for the meeting will be sent out a month in advance.

The agenda will be sent out 2 weeks before.
