

# **SCRA Annual Report for Young People 2020 - 2021**



# Introduction to our report

Welcome to our fourth annual report for children and young people.

In spring 2020 we published our three year Corporate Parenting Plan. In this plan we set out three key themes: Care, Connect and Protect and described the work that we would be doing over the three years. This report covers the first year of this plan and lets you know about some of our work in 2020/21.

We launched our Corporate Parenting Plan just at the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. As a result, we haven't been able to do everything the way we wanted to in the first 12 months, but there has still been a lot of work going on and there is lots happening in the year ahead.

We hope you enjoy this report. Please get in touch with any comments or questions - we would love to hear from you.

Neil Hunter  
Principal Reporter/Chief Executive Officer



SCOTTISH  
**CHILDREN'S REPORTER**  
ADMINISTRATION

# Aims of our Corporate Parenting Plan

## Care:

We Care by delivering a service that meets your individual needs and rights.

## Connect:

We Connect by working with you and our partners to make sure our service is as good as it can be – for you, our staff and the environment.

## Protect:

We Protect by making decisions to help keep you safe, supporting you to take part in your Hearing, making sure your rights are met and that all the information that we use is clear and secure.

Read on to see some of our highlights in 2020/21 ...

# We Care:

We know how important it is that you are treated fairly when you come to your Hearing. We are committed to delivering our service in a way that treats you with care, kindness and respects you. Here's what we have been up to...

- We welcomed publication of The Independent Care Review and gave a commitment to work to **The Promise**.
- Made with Care – our latest art display by care-experienced young people went on show at our Hearings Centre in Glasgow.
- We revamped more Hearing rooms taking away the big table and making the space more welcoming and child-friendly.
- When the pandemic struck, we introduced virtual Hearings and offered data packages for those who needed them.
- We consulted with Hearings-experienced young people from Our Hearings, Our Voice to plan the return to face to face Hearings – and acted on what they told us.
- We introduced take away sensory kits suitable for children, young people and adults in our Hearing centres during the pandemic.
- With toys and books removed for health and safety, thanks to a suggestion from OHOV, we launched take away colouring in packages for young children.
- We teamed up with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to launch an initiative to gift free books to young children attending some of our Hearing centres.



**We Connect:** Your safety and welfare are important to us and the decisions that we take are to help protect you. We work with local communities to make sure that everyone understands their part in keeping you safe. Here's some of our progress in 2020/21...

- We launched a new piece of research with Barnardo's Scotland looking at child sexual exploitation and we are working with partners to make improvements
- We supported the launch of Our Hearings, Our Voice Zine and we are working on implementing as many of the 40 Calls To Action that we can.
- We joined with Who Cares? Scotland to produce more accessible information for young people to request their information from SCRA.
- We built and launched an advocacy website for children and young people working with the Scottish Government and advocacy providers.
- We designed information leaflets to promote local advocacy services.
- We worked closely with all our partners to ensure you could return safely to our Hearing centres once lockdown restrictions were eased.
- We worked with local partners to recruit our thirteenth care-experienced Modern Apprentice.
- We worked with a Champions Board to start to redesign our All About Me form and Going to a Hearing leaflet for young people.



# **We Protect:** We recognise the importance of relationships in all that we do, our approach to what we do will focus on our connections - to children, young people and their families, our staff, our partners, the community, and the environment. Here's some of our work...

- We worked with Who Cares? Scotland to understand how to improve your privacy and participation – and are working on ways to make this better.
- We launched a new film for children and young people about Compulsory Supervision Orders in consultation with Hearings-experienced young people thanks to a suggestion made by young people.
- We produced more online easy read guides (including one about Compulsory Supervision Orders).
- We asked about your experience of virtual Hearings – the technology, the support, the information – to see what we could do to make them better.
- We created information materials to help children and young people participate in virtual Hearings, including flyers, online information and a cartoon animation.
- We created child-friendly signage to highlight changes and physical distancing in all our Hearing centres once face to face Hearings were re-introduced.
- We warmly welcomed the Scottish Government's landmark Bill to fully incorporate the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots law.
- As co-founder, we celebrated the third anniversary of Stand Up For Siblings.

# So, what's next?

We are now working on our actions for next year as we work to achieve what we set out in our three year plan.

If you have any suggestions about what you would like to see us working on, then please get in touch via [communications@scra.gov.uk](mailto:communications@scra.gov.uk)

Thank you, we hope you have enjoyed our report!



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