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Secure Care Pathway Review: The experiences of young people in – or on the edges of – secure care accommodation.

Briefing paper June 2022

Launched in October 2020, the [secure care pathway and standards Scotland](#) set out what young people in or on the edges of secure care should expect to receive from services in Scotland. The standards outline the requirements for service delivery before, during and after a young person is placed in secure care. They focus on the joint delivery of the right services at the right time locally, to prevent placement or return to secure care. They also focus on the timely provision of support to address young people's needs during and after involvement in secure care. We will use the pathway and standards to help us consider the experiences of young people.

What will we do?

Between August 2022 and August 2023, we will carry out a review that will focus on young people up to the age of 18 who are placed - or are at risk of being placed - by Scottish local authorities, in secure care accommodation.

The purpose of the review is to gather evidence to enable us to report on the experiences and views of young people. We seek to understand the ways in which services have worked together to provide the right support at the right time for young people and their families. We will focus on the importance of relationships for young people, consider the extent to which their rights have been upheld and consider impact and outcomes for young people.

How will we do this?

A team of inspectors will track the experiences of 30 young people from Scottish local authorities who are in - or who are on the edges of - secure care accommodation. We will develop an understanding of their outcomes and experiences at the before, during and after stages of a young person's secure care journey. At three points over a nine month period, we will ask young people, their families and the team of staff supporting them about their experiences. We will also be gathering information from all 32 local authority areas and consider progress in relation to implementing the secure care pathway and standards, building on the evidence that we already gather from registered secure accommodation providers.

How will we report our findings?

In Autumn 2023, we will produce a national report which will aim to present learning and promote the improvement of services for young people in, or on the edges of, secure care. The report will focus on the voices and rights of young people. We will present our findings detailing what has been working well and identifying areas for improvement. As well as publishing a report, we will provide feedback to the young people, families and staff involved in the review process.