



CORPORATE
PARENTING PLAN
2021-23

FOREWORD

I AM DELIGHTED TO PUBLISH THIS VERSION OF OUR CORPORATE PARENTING PLAN FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.
WE HAVE JUST WRITTEN OUR CORPORATE PARENTING REPORT, WHICH SETS HOW WE ACHIEVED THE OUTCOMES IN OUR CORPORATE PARENTING PLAN 2017-2020.



Peter Macleod
Chief Executive

It shows how corporate parenting is important to the work of our whole organisation.

We recognise that our children and young people need to be at the heart of our commitment as corporate parents. They will continue to inform this plan and we will involve them in holding us accountable for the delivery it.

This plan reflects 'The Promise' and will continue to develop in line with it.

I would like to thank our young inspection volunteers, many of whom are care experienced. They have contributed heavily to this plan and to our corporate parenting report. They continue to bring important contributions and perspectives to our work.

Throughout our plan, we refer to care experienced young people as "our children and young people". This reflects our values, responsibilities and commitments as corporate parents.

Along with this summary, there is a full, detailed action plan on how we will meet our commitments from 2021-2023. You can access it [here](#).



WHY BEING A PARENT IS IMPORTANT

"Care experienced young people often don't have a reliable family. So we need the professionals in our lives to act as parents. They should be there for you when your parents should be. To help you with your own circumstances when it comes to education and health among other things. They should provide for us and make sure we have the opportunities that every young person should have."

One of our children and young people, aged 15

As a corporate parent, we expect to carry out many of the roles any parent should.

We have a duty to work with other corporate parents, to best meet our shared responsibilities, promote the wellbeing of our children and young people and keep them safe from harm.

It is important that as corporate parents we enable our children and young people to have as much of a say as possible.

Our full **Corporate Parenting Report** shows our contact with and for our children and young people during the last three years.

This includes:



These are some examples of our commitment to the care, welfare and safety of our children and young people.

OUR SIX NEW COMMITMENTS

We pledge to listen to our children and young people, take action and do our best to improve their life chances. Our action plan is set around these commitments and will show in detail how we will meet them:

1

We will strive to meet the needs of our young people and promote their rights.

2

We will listen to our young people and we will learn how their experiences of the 'care system' can best shape our approach to scrutiny, engagement and improvement to help improve the lives of others.

3

We will continue to inspect different services and partnerships and report on how well they work together. We will help services share what works well and learn from what needs to improve, to help make sure that our young people get the right support at the right time.

4

When one of our young people makes a complaint about the care they receive, we will take that complaint seriously and we will respond in a timely, thorough and proportionate way. We will always provide feedback to the person who made the complaint in a way that they will understand.

5

We will improve opportunities for our young people to develop skills, experience, and confidence to achieve their personal, employment and career ambitions.

6

We will work with other corporate parents to make sure that together we can do our best for our young people.



To deliver our plan, we will focus on four areas.

1

Improve how we communicate and engage with young people across Scotland. This is to help us better understand their aspirations, needs, and challenges.

2

Ensure that everyone in our organisation understands what corporate parenting means. Support them to become the best corporate parents they can be.

3

We will involve our children and young people in reviewing the young inspection volunteer programme to understand where it has been successful and where we can improve.

4

We will expand opportunities for our children and young people to receive training, development and employment with us.

Our young inspection volunteers

We currently work with 15 young inspection volunteers. They visit children and young people's services with us when we inspect and support a range of our scrutiny activities. They are between 18-26 years old.

Our young inspection volunteers talk with children and young people who use services and listen to their views. They meet managers to find out how well they involve children and young people in developing and improving services and they hear how well partnerships are fulfilling their responsibilities and duties as corporate parents.

Our action plan

Our corporate parenting group and our young inspection volunteers have developed the action plan.

It sets out our commitment to being the best corporate parents we can be. Our plan sits alongside [Involving You!](#), our 2018-2021 involvement strategy. We also used information from our [UNCRC report \(2020\)](#), research, lessons from inspections and our previous learning to create it.

Our corporate parenting plan is a whole organisation responsibility. That means that every member of staff in our organisation has a part to play in delivering it.

Our corporate parenting group and our young inspection volunteers developed the action plan which you can access [here](#).

UNHAPPY ABOUT YOUR CARE SERVICE

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