A snapshot of the Scottish Government's KEEPING THE PROMISE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This summary document has been created by Who Cares? Scotland for use at the Care to Connect: The Promise and You event on 18th June 2022. It is not intended to represent the Scottish Government’s Keeping the Promise Implementation Plan in its entirety. Instead, this is simply a time-bound workshop aid.
To the many people who have contributed to the Independent Care Review or to the work to Keep The Promise since February 2020, especially people with care experience and the care workforce, thank you.

Your voices and actions are vital to the future of children and young people in Scotland and in shaping a future where more children will experience love and compassion and more families will stay together.

To the children and young people who are in the care system now, we promise that we will not delay in making changes as soon as possible. I understand frustrations when change may take longer than you feel is needed. The Scottish Government really cares about getting The Promise right and we will work as hard as we can to keep it.
On 18th June 2022, we created space for people with care experience to engage with the Scottish Government’s ‘Keeping the Promise’ Implementation Plan. We wanted to find out Care Experienced people’s views on the plan as we believe that the Scottish Government must involve those with lived experience of care when planning on how to make it better. This gives the government a better chance of getting it right, and allows us to make sure people in power follow through on their promises.

The event took place in our office and online, with 46 people with care experience attending. Scottish Government officials also engaged in the conversations, and will feed in what they heard alongside this report back to government to effect change.

Alongside some energising activities, food and time to connect, our participants learnt about the plan and asked questions in the first session through a series of interactive posters we developed to explain each chapter, supported by our staff facilitators. The posters are included here in this PDF. The findings of this event will soon be published in a report and shared with the Scottish government and on our website at www.whocaresscotland.org.
KEEPING THE PROMISE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Community Support for Families
At least 5% of community health and social care spend invested in preventative whole family support by 2030.

National Investment in Families
£500 million invested by 2026 to keep families together.

Invest in Foster and Kinship
Set a Recommended National Allowance for foster and kinship carers.

Advice and financial Support
Support the costs of living for families and ensure advice for those who need it.

New Human Rights Bill
Including continued commitment to a human-rights based approach to public engagement.

Community Voices
Listen & respond holistically, create opportunity for a more integrated approach to local transformation, relevant to communities, for the benefit of everyone who lives there.

Reduce Missing Persons Numbers
Through implementation of Missing Persons Framework & collaboration with Justice partners, Health services & Missing People UK.

Whole Family Approach
Key policy areas - drugs & alcohol, children and young people mental health.

Improve Delivery of Family Support
Working with Children’s Services Planning Partnerships and the Kinship Care Collaborative.

Funded Early Learning/Childcare
For children aged 1 & 2, starting with low-income households.

Wraparound Childcare
Offering care before & after school & in the holidays for school age children, free to lowest income families.

KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

TACKLING INEQUALITY

SUPPORT TO STAY TOGETHER

WHOLE FAMILY SUPPORT
KEEPING THE PROMISE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**Raising Awareness to promote change**
Via engagement, resources for relationship-based approaches, incorporation of the UNCRC & Additional Support for Learning Implementation.

**Adult Learning Strategy**
Detailing holistic approach to learning (2022).

**Further and Higher Education**
Support access to further & higher education for Care Experienced learners less able to rely on family support.

**Closing Digital Divide**
Digital device & connectivity for every school aged child in Scotland, reviewing Care Experienced Children & Young People's Fund.

**Improved Attendance**
Support attendance & reduce exclusion of Care Experienced children from education.

**Tackling Child Poverty**

**Employment Support**
Improved access to employment, treating people with dignity & respect, providing flexible support, considering personal circumstances & removing barriers to accessing employment.

**Improve Access & Understanding**
Of benefits provided by Social Security Scotland.

**No One Left Behind**
we will continue to adopt the Scottish Approach to employability through the No One Left Behind approach.

**Reform of bail law**
Introduce bill by June 2022 reforming law governing bail decisions & mechanisms around prison release.

**Legal Aid Reform**
Improve access to legally aided services based on geographical areas or specific legal needs.

**Reduce Impact**
Of family imprisonment through range of ongoing work.

**Trauma - Informed Approach**
To support people in prison, reduce further trauma for our children & young people when they tell their story.

**Simplify Access**
Providing child protection, health, justice & recovery services in one setting with Bairn’s Hoose (2025).

**EDUCATION SYSTEM**

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

**KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER**

**EMPLOYABILITY**

**WHO CARES? SCOTLAND**

EQUALITY | RESPECT | LOVE
KEEPING THE PROMISE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

SCOTTISH APPROACH TO CARE

Universal and Inclusive Definition of Care Experience. Working with The Promise Scotland, to develop a relatable & understandable definition.

Refresher Guidance Materials: to support consistent effective practice across all children’s services. Phase one of refreshed GIRFEC materials (Aug 2022).

Vision & Principles: what ScotGov wants to achieve, to guide policy, resourcing, business planning & strategy decisions to deliver the positive progress needed.

Address Stigma: build on the Each and Every Child Initiative & address stigma with input from local partners & Care Experienced Young People.

Intervention Welfare: £10 million per annum: a new £200 annual grant for 16-25 year olds with care experience.

A GOOD CHILDHOOD

Moving On

Care Experience Grant

- £10 million per annum: a new £200 annual grant for 16-25 year olds with care experience.

Care Leavers Support

- Positive destinations via the Young Person’s Guarantee, including Discovering Your Potential & Scotland’s Mentoring & Leadership Programmes.

Housing Support

- Continued implementation of 'Improving Care Leavers Housing Pathways' report & Youth Homelessness Prevention Pathway.

Support Families

- Supporting families whose children have required to go into care through the Birth Parents Whose Child(ren) Have Been Permanently Removed From Their Care fund.

Brothers and Sisters Practice Guidance

- Continue to monitor & evaluate guidance. By 2023, mechanisms to measure progress in keeping brothers & sisters together.

Lifelong Advocacy

- with The Promise Scotland to assess need for national lifelong advocacy service for CEP & their families.

Protected

- All Care Experienced children, wherever they live, will be protected from violence & experience the safeguard of equal protection legislation.

Young Offenders Institutions

- End the placement of 16 & 17 year olds in YOIs without delay.

New Legislation

- Raising the age for referral to the Children’s Reporter.
KEEPING THE PROMISE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**National Support**
Programme to develop trauma-informed social work services across Scotland.

**Future Progress**
Learning & guidance for continued development of trauma-informed workforce & services (2022/23)

**Delivery Plan**
Long-term plan to embed & sustain trauma-informed workforces, services & care (2023)

**Universal Health Services**
Continual review universal & targeted health services to identify areas for improvement, i.e. health visiting, family nurse.

**Policy Priorities**
To align & inform decisions on policies - Children & Families, Early Learning & Childcare, Children’s Nursing, Allied Health Professionals, Mental Health & Health & Social Care.

**Trauma Skilled Learning**
Programme for workforce working with babies, children & young people with care experience (2022).

**Children’s Hearings**
Redesign of the Children’s Hearings System, based on Sheriff Mackie review recommendations, bringing forward required legislation by end of Parliamentary session.

**Childrens Services**
With The Promise Scotland to build an evidence base of best governance, financial arrangements & models of care to assess how we can best Keep The Promise.

**Holistic Framework**
Collaborate with The Promise Scotland to scope a new framework for governance & accountability.

**Information Control**
Supporting The Promise Scotland develop blueprint on creation, control of & access to information on Care Experienced people, giving them more power.

**SCAFFOLDING**

**TRAUMA - INFORMED CARE**

**STRATEGIC APPROACH TO CHANGE**

**SUPPORTING THE WORKFORCE**

**National Workforce Development**
Values-based recruitment & development framework. Adhered to by relevant care organisations & professions.

**National Social Work Agency**
Consideration of a National Agency to support workforce, ensuring equality of services & support.

**Information Sharing**

**Universal Health Services**

**National Workforce Development**

**Strategic Approach to Change**

**Supporting the Workforce**

**Information Control**

**Future Progress**
Learning & guidance for continued development of trauma-informed workforce & services (2022/23)

**Delivery Plan**
Long-term plan to embed & sustain trauma-informed workforces, services & care (2023)
KEEPING THE PROMISE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**Promise Bill**
To make any further legislative changes required to Keep The Promise.

**Review**
Of the legislative framework relating to the care system in Scotland.

**Key Indicators**
To support the National Outcome "we grow up loved, safe, respected and that we realise our full potential". Indicators monitored to track progress Keeping The Promise.

**Whole Family Support Investment**
At least 5% of all community-based health & social care spend invested in preventative measures by 2030. An estimated £500 million per year will be redirected into preventative activity to support families.

**Whole Family Wellbeing Fund**
Complimented by a social outcomes funding approach over the coming months with an aim to introduce a social outcomes programme.

**BUILDING CAPACITY**

**LEGISLATIVE CHANGE**

**DATA MAPPING, COLLECTION & EVALUATION**

**The Promise Collective**
To be co-chaired with The Promise Scotland to support alignment & cohesion of activities.

**REALIGNING SPEND**

**Who Cares? Scotland**

EQUITY | RESPECT | LOVE