

National Autistic Society Scotland

Child Rights & Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA)

Stage 1: Screening

1. Background to CRWIA's

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is an internationally mandated children's rights framework. The articles of the UNCRC cover all aspects of a child's life, setting out the rights that all children everywhere are entitled to.

Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) is the Scottish Government's approach to promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland.

CRWIA's utilise both UNCRC and GIRFEC frameworks to assess the potential impact of a policy or measure on children and young people's rights and wellbeing in Scotland.

2. Our Charity

The National Autistic Society is the UK's leading charity for people on the autism spectrum and their families. Our vision is a society that works for autistic people.

Our mission is to transform lives by providing support, information and practical advice for the 700,000 autistic adults and children in the UK, as well as their three million family members and carers. It is also our mission to change attitudes by improving public understanding of autism and helping businesses, local authorities and government to provide more autism-friendly spaces, deliver better services and improve laws.

Our values are that firstly that we learn from real experience. No one has more practical knowledge of autism. But we move with the times and we understand that there's always more to learn. Secondly, we tell it like it is. We share what we have learned about autism, so that more people can make informed decisions and lead the best lives possible. Thirdly, we inspire. We celebrate progress, open up new possibilities, spur people into action and motivate change. Finally, we are courageous. We won't accept ignorance or inequality, and we'll never stop pushing for more understanding, greater support and a better world for people on the autism spectrum.

3. Our Programme

Moving Forward+ with CashBack for Communities is a programme delivered by the National Autistic Society Scotland. Funded by CashBack for Communities since April 2017, the programme is aimed at autistic children and young people aged 12-24 and living in deprived areas of Glasgow and West Central Scotland.

4. Elements of Our Programme Affecting Under 18's

Moving Forward+ with CashBack for Communities has two strands. The first strand supports autistic children aged 12-15 who have disengaged from school. Programme staff reach out to these children using a very flexible and person-centred approach to encourage a level of

positive engagement with us that each child is comfortable with. From there, we aim to gradually build each child's confidence and self-esteem to a point where they can consider returning to school. For those who are unable to return to school, we will look to alternative positive activity, which may include progression to the second strand of our programme, depending on the child's age.

The second strand sees us support young people aged 16-24 who have left school but are not in employment, education or training. The same flexible and person-centred approach is used to help each young person build their confidence and resilience and identify and progress towards their preferred goals. These goals may include further or higher education, training, employment or voluntary work.

Both strands of our programme therefore affect under 18's.

5. Likely Impact on Under 18's

Given all of the young people we support are autistic and residing in primarily SIMD 1 & 2 communities, many join us at a point where they are facing multiple and complex challenges. Moving Forward+ with CashBack for Communities aims to help each child and young person overcome these barriers and realise their potential. It is therefore intended that the programme has a direct and positive impact on children and young people, as per the six mandatory outcomes specified in our Grant Offer Letter;

Outcome 1: Young people build their confidence and resilience, benefit from strengthened support networks and reduce risk taking behaviour

Outcome 2: Young people develop their physical and personal skills

Outcome 3: Young people's health and well-being improves

Outcome 4: Young people participate in activity which improves their learning, employability and employment options (positive destinations)

Outcome 5: Young people contribute positively to their communities

Outcome 6: Young people are diverted from criminal behaviour or involvement with the criminal justice system

6. Conclusion of Screening Process

Given Moving Forward+ with CashBack for Communities will directly affect children and young people under the age of 18, it was concluded that it would be necessary to undertake a CRWIA.