



scottish sports *futures*

Scottish Sports Futures

Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

Introduction

Scottish Sports Futures are committed to ensuring that children's rights are upheld and are wholly in support of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Ministers committed to CRWIAs as a means of delivering their children's rights duties under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 which embeds UNCRC rights in Scottish legislation.

Background

Scottish Sports Futures

Our Vision

A world where young people have the opportunity to fulfil their potential

SSF mission is to use the power of sport and physical activity to engage with vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and families in Scotland and empower them to be confident, healthy and happy.

We aim to improve the life chances, opportunities, physical and mental health of young people who live in deprivation. By working collaboratively alongside young people and their communities we deliver formal and informal education through sports which includes physical activity, volunteering and employability.

Young people and communities are at the heart of everything we do, we engage with at-risk and harder to reach groups in Scotland with 3 strategic goals: Develop people; Improve health and wellbeing; and Strengthen communities.

SSF have been instrumental in the use of sport to change the lives of vulnerable young people for 2 decades. To identify and address the root causes of low educational attainment and challenging behaviour; we build relationships with love, empathy and care. In partnership we design programmes that meet specific needs.

We are proud to have a culture which is inclusive and collaborative, where our people are valued and supported to lead and develop groundbreaking initiatives with young people and communities at the heart.

CRWIA screening

SSF delivers timely, person-centred support and effective interventions, improving life chances for young people aged 10-24 in areas of deprivation across Scotland. We deliver projects with love, care, and empathy; with young people at the heart.

As a result of our planned interventions, programmes which have flexibility to respond to the needs of young people we expect to see a change in behaviours and positive outcomes for the young people we support. These are listed here:

- Young people build their confidence and resilience, benefit from strengthened support networks and reduce risk taking behaviour
- Young people develop their physical and personal skills
- Young people's health and well-being improves
- Young people participate in activity which improves their learning, employability and employment options (positive destinations)
- Young people contribute positively to their communities
- Young people are diverted from criminal behaviour or involvement with the criminal justice system

We therefore conclude a CRWIA is needed.

Assessment

Key Findings - including an assessment of the impact on children's rights, and how the measure will contribute to children's wellbeing

The following UNCRC rights will be affected/enabled and promoted through our work:

- Article 3 (best interests of the child) The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.
- Article 12 (respect for the views of the child) Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right always applies, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.
- Article 13 (freedom of expression) Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, if it is within the law.
- Article 18 (parental responsibilities and state assistance) Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child. Governments must support parents by creating support services for children and giving parents the help, they need to raise their children.

- Article 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect) Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents and anyone else who looks after them.
- Article 23 (children with a disability) A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.
- Article 28 (right to education) Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.
- Article 31 (leisure, play, culture) Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities
- Article 42 (knowledge of rights) Governments must actively work to make sure that children and adults know about the convention.

Our assessment of the impact of our programmes is positive or neutral for children and young people.

SSF are committed to developing people and specifically supporting those most at risk and furthest away from positive destinations. We build confidence and resilience, skills and aspirations and through the power of sport we can improve learning and employment potential.

Sport and physical activity have a significant role to play in supporting positive mental and physical wellbeing. We allow young people to take the lead in tackling issues through our network of programmes and beyond. Our youth work approach means we have been successful at engaging those who need support most.

Partnership working and collaboration allow SSF programmes to successfully connect young people to their local communities and access meaningful volunteer and leadership opportunities. Our programme delivery and accessible training mean young people feel empowered and have the skills to "give back" and become inspiring role models to their peers.

As a result of our work, young people's feeling of being safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included will increase (These skills link to the SHANARRI indicators)

SSF will work with 1000 young people per year and consult regularly with children and young people to ensure their views and experiences and voices influence our interventions and ensure they are heard and can access support they require.

SSF carry out formal quarterly review and consultation with children and young people and formal annual stakeholder consultation.

Through consultation with 10 young mentors they created the terms of reference for an SSF Youth Advisory Board, subsequently ratified by the trustees. These young people guide the future direction of SSF. The youth advisory board carried out a SWOT analysis of programmes and created evaluation questions for staff to ask 100 young people from across each area of work. This was collated, presented back and formed the basis of new programme plans.

Young people with lived experience of care and justice, work in collaboration on the development of our referral programme specifically and provided crucial insight into how to bring all elements together. They help identify referral partners and explain how best to support young people looked after by social work. Young people who had been part of our referral-based programmes and have progressed on to positive destinations give crucial insight into how and why support had worked for them. They asked us to ensure focus on mental health inputs, peer- peer delivery & support which has informed our strategic direction.

Signed - 

Kirsty McNab
CEO
19th January 2022

Review date – 18th January 2023

[CRWIA - training tool](#)
[Children's rights legislation in Scotland](#)