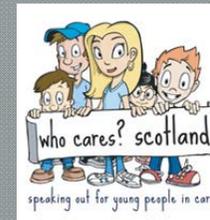


Welcome...

LIFE
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OPPORTUNITY

Corporate Parenting Awareness

Argyll & Bute Council



Key Phrases



Looked After Child or Young Person is a term given to describe children or young people if:

- The Child is subject to a supervision requirement under section 70 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995.
- There is a permanence order under Part 2 of the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007 in respect of the child.
- The child is accommodated by the local authority under section 25 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995.

Examples Of Looked After Children

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Kinship Care

Looked After
At Home

Foster Care

Residential
Child Care

Through Care

Secure
Accommodation

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National: Facts and Figures

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12% of care leavers are reporting as homeless*

*This figure is seen as an underestimate as there is a larger group of Care leavers who lose touch with services and are not included in this figure

50% of Looked After Children will have a Mental Health issue*

•Compared to One in Ten of all 5-16 year olds

1% of care leavers go on to University

*Compared to 37% of all young people

More than **28%** of the adult prison Population were Looked After Children*

*Compared to 2% of the General Adult Population

44% of Looked After Children go onto a Positive Destination*

*Compared to 86% of All 16-19 year olds

*Taken from Public Audit Committee Report 2011

Education

50% of LAC Children will leave school with few or no qualifications

0.5% of looked after at home young people attained 5 or more Standard grades in 2010 (fewer than one in 100)

*** Compared to 56% of non looked after**

59% of Care Leavers have an initial positive destination, this falls to 44% for the follow up destination

*** Compared to 87% for all 16-19 years olds, with a 1% drop at point of follow up destination**

33% of care leavers go onto Further Education

National : Facts & Figures

How many looked after Children does Scotland have?

16,171

Looked After At Home

39%

Looked After Away From Home

61%

Of the 61% Looked After Away from Home, Two Thirds are in Foster Care

Fact or Fiction...



Fiction

...Young People only come into care because they have done something wrong.

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Fact...

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- **Rejection** by the parent
- There's **no one** else able to provide care
- Substance **misuse** by the **parent**
- **Abuse**
- **Neglect**

*... Young people come into care
for **various** reasons*

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Native American Saying

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*'walk a mile in another
person's moccasins
before you
criticize them'*



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What Is A Corporate Parent?



“the formal partnership needed between all local authority departments and services and associated agencies, which are responsible for working together to meet the needs of looked after children and young people”

(We Can And Must Do Better: Scottish Executive, January 2007)

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Your Corporate Parenting Responsibilities



Make sure that your looked after children and young people are given the same **opportunities** that any good parents would provide for their child and that you have the same **expectations** and **aspirations** as you would have for your own children.

Make sure that the views of young people are **heard** and **listened** to, and when decisions are being made that their views are taken into account.

Promote a **positive** view of looked after children and young people and care leavers, and help **raise public awareness** about the care system

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Your Corporate Parenting Responsibilities

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Be **certain** that the services your council provides or commissions for your looked after children and young people and care leavers are **meeting the needs** to the highest possible standard, including when the child is placed outwith your own services or **geographical area**.

Make sure that your housing allocation policy is sufficiently **flexible to meet the needs** of care leavers without resorting to the use of homelessness legislation

Know **how many** children and young people are Looked after by your local council, **why** they are looked after, that they are **safe** at all times and how **well** they are doing.

The Local Angle:

Facts &
Figures



How many looked after Children does Argyll & Bute Council have?

211

At Home

72

Kinship Care

55

Foster Care

55

Throughcare & Aftercare

2 (20)

Residential Units

12

External Placements

17

External Residential Placements

11

CWD

4

Secure Accommodation

2

What we are doing now?



Delivering strong leadership in improving LAC outcomes

GIRFEC group oversees LAC services

LAC improvement plan working to improve LAC outcomes

Strong emphasis being given to listening and respecting all LAC

Through and After Care Services nationally acclaimed

LAC coordinators in every school

2 Nurse Co-ordinators with responsibility for LAC appointed

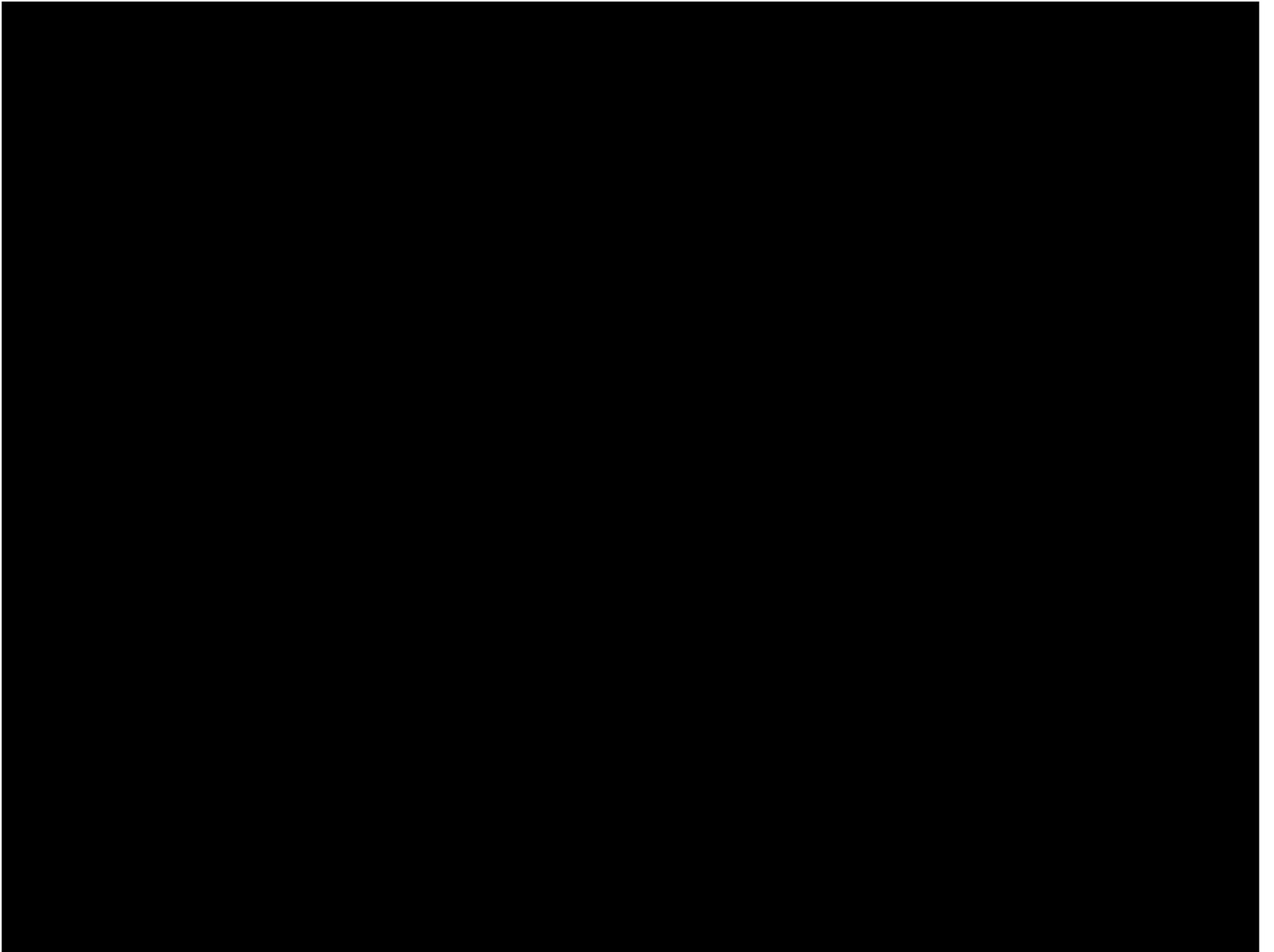
DVD:

A Local Perspective-
Young People's
Voices



Let's Hear from Your
'Bairns'

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DVD:

A Local Perspective-
Young People's
Voices



Discussion

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Conclusion

Five Key Messages

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- Your **additional** and **specific** statutory duty under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 to safeguard and **promote the welfare** of the children in your care.
- **Strong leadership** within the council within CHP, CPP and in the community
- Strong governance - have the right information, **driving improvement**, challenging service, focus on outcomes for the young people.
- **Listen** to children and young people.
- Being able to say yes to the question '**Is This Good Enough For My Child?**'.

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*So everyone is in the council is
working together to make my life
better*

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Argyll & Bute's Promise



Combat the myths associated with Children and young people in care

Promote a positive message of the achievements of children in care

Help to educate communities and workforces on the reasons for Children being accommodated

Listen to children and young people and work in partnership with them to increase opportunities for them to thrive

Advocate for looked after and accommodated children and young people as children first

Support the campaign through practical and material activities

Find creative ways to support children and young people, including young people leaving our care

Support children and young people in fulfilling their potential

Continue to provide high quality services