

## Integrated Care for Children & Young People and Transitions to Adult Services

### Report of a Virtual Roundtable December 12th 2023

The International Centre for Integrated Care, a strategic partnership between the International Foundation for Integrated Care (IFIC), the University of the West of Scotland and the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland, is the home of [IFIC in Scotland](#). This report is the ninth in a series of virtual Roundtables with Health and Social Care Scotland networks to explore hot topics in integrated care. Previous reports and recordings can be accessed [here](#)



**Sara Redmond, Chief Officer of Development and  
Marianne Tyler, Senior Development Officer,  
[Health & Social Care Alliance Scotland](#)**

**(The ALLIANCE)** welcomed over 160 participants from across Scotland and from different sectors who had registered for the session.



The ALLIANCE is the third sector intermediary for health and social care in Scotland. Working together with members to improve the wellbeing of people and communities across Scotland, working collectively to influence policy, practice and service delivery.

**Paul Beaton, Head of the Children's Services Reform Unit at the Scottish Government,**



spoke about the work ongoing to inform the inclusion or exclusion of children's services in the National Care Service (NCS). The work focuses on the developments needed and what matters to children and young people across Scotland. Paul reflected that the NCS reform is an opportunity for improvement and to build on good practice. He highlighted the complexity of the current landscape in the children's sector alongside the commitment and dedication from the workforce and how Scottish Government continue work to make sure that all services for children and young people are fit for the future.

Paul signposted the series of reports by the Centre for Excellence on Children's Care and Services on reform of Children's Services in Scotland. The reports are available at

<https://www.celcis.org/our-work/research/childrens-services-reform-research>

**Jenny Miller, CEO [PAMIS](#)**, the sole organisation in Scotland supporting children and young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities and their families, highlighted how this group of young people are often invisible in policies. Jenny spoke about the need to invest to ensure they are given equal opportunities to live a healthy and valued life similar to their peers with their rights upheld and the need to truly listen to children and young people. 'It is time to move beyond commitment into action'.



**Fiona Paton, Lead for Nursing & AHPs in the Women, Children and Sexual Health Directorate in NHS Dumfries & Galloway**, spoke about the need for



connections and building relationships in the workforce as we emerge from COVID-19 to a changing landscape. Fiona highlighted the 'Sharing Practice Festival' held in Dumfries and Galloway earlier this year which brought together over 450 professionals across sectors to network and build stronger, more meaningful relationships. Fiona emphasised the need for local connections to grow stronger and how this is vital to supporting children and young people in their local area.

**Mark Inglis, Head of Children's Health, Care and Justice Services, South Ayrshire HSCP**, reflected how children and young people want and need the right services at the right time but should not need to be aware of the structures that sit behind these. He saw the role of services to create seamless opportunities in partnership for children and young people and their families. Mark emphasised the need for strengths-based approaches and a family first culture which focuses on prevention and early-intervention. Mark also spoke about the challenges of data collection and the need to measure the impact for children and young people and their families.



**Amy White, Senior Sensory Hub Officer, Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland** spoke of the uniqueness within audiology services. Children who are deaf won't transition in the health service as the support is ongoing from birth to adulthood. Children can build trusting relationships which lead to positive outcomes and the importance of early intervention from birth, a critical time for development in a child's life. Amy highlighted the need to show up and learn from children and young people and to provide stability, yet specialist staff is a dwindling resource that can't go unrecognised.



**Frances Foreman, Senior Education Officer, [Education Scotland](#),** reflected on the need for collaboration between all sectors to be central in supporting children and young people. She spoke of the good practice that exists within the 32 local authority areas but that it can be fragmented across Scotland. Frances highlighted the range of fantastic policies that exist within Scotland to support young people but that challenges still exist in their implementation. There is a need for everyone involved in policy to understand the national and inclusive context based on children's rights.



**Beth Luna, Trustee and Co-Founder of Learning to Understand Needs and Abilities**

**[The LUNA Project UK](#),** spoke of the creation of the Project. She explained that it stemmed from recognising the requirement for action by children and young people living with a long term condition to address the needs of children and young people living with a long term condition to achieve meaningful change. Beth highlighted the importance of providing tools and support to enable children and young people to advocate for themselves and giving them control so they don't always have to rely on others. She reflected on the need to build on existing good practice and the involvement of children and young people at all stages in service development.



**Sara Hampson, Head of Supporting Disabled Children and Young People's Unit, Improving Health and Wellbeing Division, Children and Families Directorate, Scottish Government,** spoke about the development of the National Transitions into Adulthood Strategy for disabled young people. Work currently underway looks at how services together with the voice of children and young people can work better together to improve transitions across Scotland, building on the Principles of Good Transitions. The strategy which is evidence based will be designed to complement and help bring a more co-ordinated and joined-up approach so that young people, families and practitioners who support them are better able to navigate it.



**Rebecca Williams, Policy and Development Worker, [ARC Scotland](#),** co-facilitates the Scottish Transitions Forum which works to improve the experiences of children, young people with an additional support need and their families as they make the transition to young adult life. Bec stressed the need for the Principles of Good Transitions to be embedded within practice to ensure young people get the support they need when they need it. Bec spoke about the importance of approaches to support transitions being person-centred and for children and young people to be at the heart of decisions that impact on their lives. Support should be co-ordinated across all services involved, building on trusting relationships and partnership working.



## Further reading and resources

Literature review of effective transitions and common experiences for disabled young people making the transition to young adult life. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/literature-review-transitions-adulthood-disabled-young-people/>

Scottish Government [Strategic Working Group](#) and [Statement of Intent](#) for the Transitions strategy. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/statement-intent/>

Scottish Transitions Forum. Young Leaders Team. Divergent Influencers <https://scottishtransitions.org.uk/divergent-influencers/>

Principles of Good Transitions 3. <https://scottishtransitions.org.uk/summary-download/>

Principles into Practice. The first national framework for transitions, with practical guidance and evaluation measures to improve planning and delivery of transitions for young people with additional support needs aged 14-25. <http://www.pn2p.scot/>

Compass Scotland specific online tool, providing relevant transitions information to young people with additional support needs, their parents and carers, and the professionals who support them. All three versions link to the best resources and information currently available. Find out more here: <http://www.compasslaunch.scot/>

Getting Transitions Right – ARC flagship training programme for professionals and practitioners, with a limited number of free places at each session available to parents and carers. Learning to Let Go, designed and led by parents and young people, launched this year. Find out more here: <https://scottishtransitions.org.uk/training/>

Exploring children and young people's mental health - A series of think pieces by Local Government Association <https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/children-and-young-people/exploring-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-series-think>

ALLIANCE Report. Seen, Heard, Included <https://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/blog/resources/seen-heard-included-report/>

**You can watch the recording of the webinar [here](#)**



**Watch out for our 2024 Series.**

## The International Centre for Integrated Care



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***Co-creating a healthier future with individuals and communities by developing courageous and compassionate leaders and practitioners with the knowledge, skills and confidence to design, deliver and evaluate people-centred integrated care.***

Check out our webpages to find out more about our partners, work and resources:

<https://integratedcarefoundation.org/ific-scotland>

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