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Police Scotland

Corporate Parenting Plan 2024 - 2027

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Introduction

I am pleased to introduce Police Scotland's Corporate Parenting Plan 2024-2027 for people with experience of care.

Scotland made a promise to children with experience of care to grow up loved, safe and respected by the year 2030.

This plan shows what we will do over the next three years to keep this promise to improve the lives of children with experience of care.

We want to make sure children with experience of care feel safe, happy, respected, and supported so they can do their best.

If you would like to ask any questions or tell us something, please get in touch using the contact details at the end of this plan. We would love to hear from you.

ACC Catriona Paton

Policing Together

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What is a Corporate Parent?

Police Scotland is a Corporate Parent. This means we must help keep children with experience of care safe and happy. We will make sure their rights are respected.

Care Experienced or people with experience of care means anyone who has experienced or is currently, living in a children's house, secure centre, foster care, with another family member, adopted, or living at home with a supervision order.

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Engagement

Many people helped make this plan, with the most important information being gleaned from children with experience of care across Scotland.

We listened to what children told us they need from Police Scotland. We made sure this Corporate Parenting Plan does what they need.

We know it is important to listen to what children with experience of care say about the police.

We worked with other Corporate Parents, who told us what they would like in our plan. The work Police Scotland did, and did not do, in our last plan helped us shape and create this new plan.

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Vision

Police Scotland wants to be helpful and caring to people with experience of care. We will do this by working hard, being helpful, using kind words, and showing we care.

We understand that people with experience of care all feel differently about some words and that not everyone agrees on which ones they would like Corporate Parents to use.

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Our Four Commitments

We promise to do four important things about Language, Relationships, Scaffolding, and Opportunities. These commitments will guide our work over the next three years.

Language

We know that the words used about care can make some people feel bad. It is important to use words that are kind and do not upset anyone.

Commitment

We will use kind and caring words to treat people with experience of care with respect and fairness.

Relationships

Relationships are the connections we have with other people. We know it is important for Police Scotland to build good and trusting relationships with people with experience of care. We will strengthen these relationships because trust and respect are needed for people to feel safe, supported, and understood.

Commitments

We will support our officers and staff to ensure they have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to work and build relationships with children with experience of care. Our officers will have the awareness that some people may have faced difficulties, and we need to show them kindness and patience.

Scaffolding

Just like scaffolding supports a building, we will support our children with experience of care by working with them and other groups and people. This way, we can make sure their needs are met.

Commitments

We will listen, understand, and work to improve the journey of children with experience of care who come in conflict with the law.

Opportunities

An opportunity is a chance to do something good or to try something new. Children with experience of care should feel included, supported, and valued as they consider their future career opportunities.

Commitments

We will help people with experience of care find and apply for jobs and volunteering opportunities with Police Scotland.

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Contact Details and Further Information

For further information on Police Scotland's Corporate Parenting Plan and our responsibilities please contact:

PolicingTogetherChildrenandYoungPeople@scotland.police.uk

If you would like more detail, you can read the full version of our Corporate Parenting Plan 2024-2027 which provides a lot more information.

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