

THE NATIONAL JOINT INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEWING PROJECT

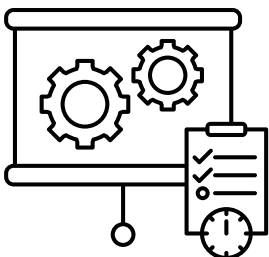
NEWSLETTER ONE - OCTOBER 2020

INTRODUCTION

These newsletters are for all partners in child protection work. They will provide current information regarding the new approach to joint investigative interviewing of children in Scotland, and all related work in respect of improving this aspect of protecting children and young people. These newsletters are brought to you by the National JII Team. This is the first newsletter and, in future, you will be able to access previous newsletters at: <https://bit.ly/34w4HsM>



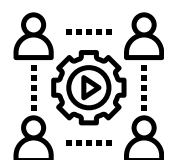
BACKGROUND



Since November 2017, Police Scotland and Social Work Scotland have been working in partnership with Scottish Government to take forward the recommendations of the Evidence and Procedure Review and the subsequent Joint Investigative Interviews Workstream Project Report. The aim was to design a new approach to joint investigative interviewing that was both trauma informed and facilitated high quality interviews that could be used as Evidence in Chief, thereby removing the need for children to give evidence in court and reduce the potential of further trauma for child victims and witnesses.

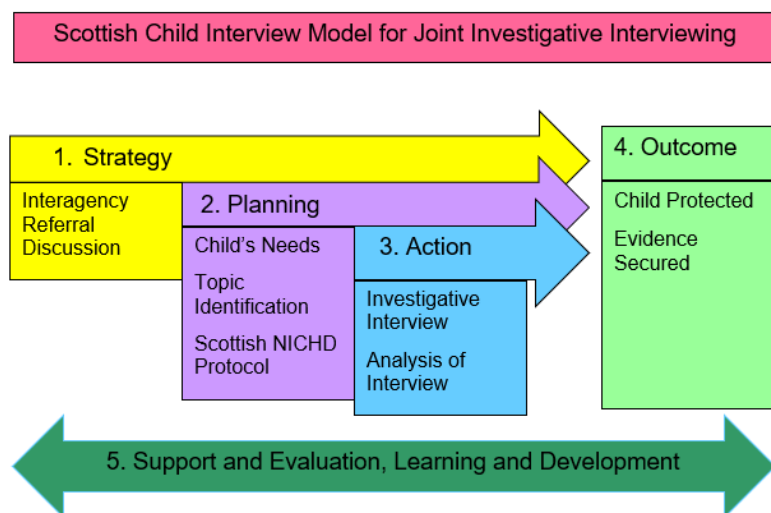
The research and development phase of the project was extensive and explored both national and international evidence in forensic interviewing of children. This research led to development of a five component model that keeps children's needs and rights at the heart of the approach.

The new model is underpinned by a new, extensive training programme for interviewers.



THE SCOTTISH CHILD INTERVIEW MODEL (SCIM)

The Scottish Child Interview Model is both trauma-informed and achieves best evidence through robust planning and interviewing techniques. The approach is based upon five component parts:



All five components are inter-linked and all must be implemented for the model to achieve the intended outcomes for children's protection and justice.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Scottish Child Interview Model is being piloted in two sites in Scotland. The first is Lanarkshire, involving both North and South Lanarkshire Councils, Q Division of Police Scotland, NHS Lanarkshire and local representatives from SCRA and COPFS. They have been live in practice since February 2020.



The second site is a North Strathclyde partnership involving East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and Renfrewshire Councils, K and G Division of Police Scotland, Children 1st, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and local representatives from SCRA and COPFS. They have been live in practise since August 2020.

Joint investigative interviews are formal interviews conducted by trained police officers and social workers where there is a concern that a child is a victim of, or witness to, criminal conduct and where there is information to suggest that the child has been or is being abused or neglected or may be at risk of significant harm.



To find out more about the Scottish Child Interview Model, download the Initial Information Pack here: <https://bit.ly/34w4HsM>

The development of the Scottish Child Interview Model has been funded by Scottish Government.

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