



*Protection*

*Child centred*

*Justice*



# **National Joint Investigative Interviewing Project Evaluation and Learning Framework**

## Introduction and scope

The purpose of this document is to bring together elements related to quality assurance, quality improvement, data, research and evaluation in respect of the pilot phase of the new model for joint investigative interviewing in order to support coherence and cohesion across the different strands. This will also support best use of available resource for this work.

### Scope

The different strands include:

1. Learning from the pilots to inform national implementation of this model
  - Evaluation of the training course and impact on interviewer practice
  - Testing different approaches to implementing the model and identifying factors which impede or facilitate effective application of the new model
  - Investigating the implementation contexts in order to identify why something works well or doesn't work well depending on the context
  - Identifying costs of implementing the new model
2. Evaluating the outcomes for children achieved through implementing this model
  - Evaluating whether children are safer and better protected
  - Evaluating whether the experience of a joint investigative interview with this new model is better for children than the experience of a joint investigative interview currently
3. Evaluating the outcomes for justice achieved through implementing this model
  - Evaluating whether the evidential and technical quality of interviews conducted using the new model is of sufficient standard as required to be used in court.
  - Evaluating whether the evidential and technical quality of interviews conducted using the new model is of sufficient standard as required to be used in the children's hearings system.
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4. Measuring the quality of the application of this model

- Establishing a quality assurance and data framework that assists local areas in quality assurance of the new model
- Implementing the quality assurance and data framework to support improved quality of application of the new model
- Implementing the quality assurance and data framework to support improving competence of specialist cadre

These different strands are interconnected and some of the available data will contribute to more than one of the above areas.

## Resources

The resources available to help gather pertinent data during the pilot phase are:

- Local teams (strategic and operational) in each pilot site
- Interviewer cadres in each pilot site
- The National JII Team
- Leading Improvement Workshops
- Justice Analytical Services
- Two studentships offered via partnership between SIPR/Police Scotland/Social Work Scotland/University of Dundee/Glasgow Caledonian University
- PhD student via NHS Education for Scotland (NES)
- COPFS and SCRA who can provide feedback on quality of interviews within their specific service contexts

## Evaluation of JII pilots – evaluation questions

Aim:

1. To determine the extent to which the Scottish Child Interview Model for joint investigative interviewing was implemented as intended, identify variation and any associated impacts.
2. To determine the impact of the Scottish Child Interview Model for joint investigative interviewing on children interviewed and on the quality of the investigative interview.

Objectives:

1. To gather data at service, staff and individual levels to ascertain whether intended outcomes reflected in the Scottish Child Interview Model driver diagram have been achieved.
2. To investigate whether interviews are perceived by children as responsive to their needs and contribute to keeping them safe.
3. To investigate whether interviews are conducted in such a way as to provide better quality of evidence for criminal proceedings, children's hearing system proceedings and/or children's planning processes.
4. To investigate whether the audio, visual, space and equipment elements of the investigative interview are of sufficient quality for their intended purpose.
5. To explore fidelity to the core Scottish Child Interview Model and variation of processes of implementation within each site.

Research questions:

1. How does the Scottish Child Interview Model for joint investigative interviewing work, for whom and in what circumstances?
2. Did children experience a trauma informed, well planned interview that was responsive to their needs? What are the determinants of this type of experience?
3. Were interviews conducted as intended as part of the Scottish Child Interview Model? What were the factors that facilitated or impeded this?
4. Was the quality of evidence secured during the interview of sufficient standard as required to be used for the respective purpose (whether for court, for children's hearings or for care planning)?

# Driver Diagram

