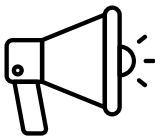


THE NATIONAL JOINT INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEWING PROJECT

NEWSLETTER FOUR - OCTOBER 2021

TEAM NEWS



Some big changes in the National JII Team recently: very best wishes to DI Helen Pasquale who retired from Police Scotland this month and a huge congratulations to Lorrette Nicol who has moved to a new post as Protecting Children Policy and Practice Advisor with Social Work Scotland. Jennifer Morrison has now assumed management responsibility for the social work side of the team and recruitment continues for her post - watch this space!

We warmly welcome DI Linda Dunn to the National JII Team from next month. Linda brings a wealth of experience from her long career in Police Scotland and also particular insight to this work from her time as a key member of the North Strathclyde JII Partnership - our second pilot site. Additionally, we've been delighted that DC Kenny Gilkison joined the team during the summer - making the Police Scotland contingent of the national team complete.

Pilot Sites

Our four pilot sites - Lanarkshire, North Strathclyde, Dumfries & Galloway and Glasgow - are now all live in practice, generating lots of learning for us to consider as we introduce the Scottish Child Interview Model for joint investigative interviewing across the country.

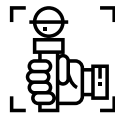
Lanarkshire and North Strathclyde are well established and building on their Year 1 progress. Dumfries & Galloway and Glasgow are in the early stages of implementing in practice. All four sites recently came together for a Discussion Forum to share learning and support each other with this complex practice change.

The four cohorts of interviewers recently attended an Awards Ceremony at Tulliallan to receive their programme certificates. The new interviewers training programme has been credit rated at SCQF level 9 (40 points) and we are working with the Scottish Social Services Council to have the programme recognised as Specialist Training for social workers.



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. You can access previous newsletters and other information at: <https://bit.ly/34w4HsM>

INSIGHT FROM CHILDREN



Pilot sites are focused on listening carefully to children and their carers to better understand their experiences. These are some of their insights:

"When I was talking, I was letting it all out and I felt better"

"Aw do you have to (finish the interview). Can I stay for another hour?"

"She was made to feel really relaxed during the interview"

"I felt that no-one was going to listen to me, but youse have listened to me and youse have made me feel better"

"I was worried about going to the police station"

"I liked the fidget toys"

"I wasn't in trouble"

"The interview was long, but I got breaks"

INSIGHT FROM INTERVIEWERS

Interviewers have fed back they feel more confident in forensic interviewing practice and that they are better able to plan for, and respond to, the child's needs during interview.

They also feel more confident in utilising their improved knowledge and skills in relation to question structuring, using the Scottish NICHD Protocol to capture key evidential details during interview.

Interviewers from the first two pilot sites recently presented an overview of their experiences to the National JII Governance Group. Part of this presentation was recorded and is available to view, under "Presentations" here: <https://bit.ly/34w4HsM>

NATIONAL PICTURE

Fife are the first area out with the pilot sites to implement the new model of practice and they went live in October 2021.

Lothians and Borders have been undertaking robust planning and preparation for the implementation of the model across their regional partnership and their staff are due to access the training programme from the end of November 2021.

Two further partnerships - Ayrshire and North East Scotland - have established their local governance arrangements to steer implementation of the new model and have begun to map out the system adaptations they will undertake to successfully integrate this model into their local child protection systems.

EMERGING LEARNING



Lanarkshire have documented their Plan Do Study Act test cycles in relation to the deployment and management of their social work interviewers.

You can access that here, under "Emerging Learning": <https://bit.ly/34w4HsM>

North Strathclyde have worked to consider what health data is valuable to collect and analyse to assist their understanding of the health needs of children involved in joint investigative interviews and of the role of health services.

You can access that here, under "Emerging Learning": <https://bit.ly/34w4HsM>

★ Our very first blog post is now available! Lorrette Nicol reflects on her long involvement in joint investigative interviewing developments in Scotland here: <https://bit.ly/34w4HsM> ★

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