

Contents

1. What's New?
2. Learning into Action (LiA) Network
3. Evaluation news
4. Collaborative Partnerships
5. Policy connections
6. Getting in touch



1. What's New?

Summer engagement update

We have enjoyed speaking to many of you over the past couple of months, and hope that you found these meetings equally useful. If you would still like to arrange an informal conversation with your WFWF lead, please get in touch at: wholefamilywellbeing@gov.scot. We would be happy to meet at a time that is suitable for you.

National Self-Assessment Toolkit for Change

Thank you to those of you who took the time to complete the survey on the effectiveness of the *Supporting Families: A National Self-Assessment Toolkit for Change*, we really appreciate your comments. The survey closed on 31 August and we are currently analysing the responses. We will update the Toolkit based on your feedback, and will share it with you soon.

2. LiA Network



LiA Network Knowledge Hub

[The Knowledge Hub](#) (KHub) platform is now live with membership from across local areas. We would encourage you to explore the resources available on the platform and make connections across different areas to share practice in implementing the WFWF programme.

If you've not already joined the KHub group, you can do so by inputting 'Learning into Action (LiA) Network: Whole Family Wellbeing Funding (WFWF)' into the search bar. If you don't currently have a KHub profile, you can sign up to one [here](#) in a few simple steps. If you experience any issues with signing up, please contact Ariane Beaver, the Learning into Action Project Manager at:

ariane.beaver@improvementservice.org.uk.

'Sharing Stories' - LiA Network session

Thank you to everyone who took part in the LiA Network discussions on 31 August, which focused on 'Sharing Stories'. The session was developed in response to feedback from Network members for more time in smaller groups, and to provide space to build relationships and promote effective, meaningful collaborative practice.

Members had the opportunity to discuss 4 key themes: early intervention & prevention; whole system change; co-design with peers, children, young people and families; and creating a collaborative and co-production approach to whole family support.

The session sparked many interesting conversations and connections, and we would encourage you to continue to engage with other Children's Services Planning Partnerships (CSPPs) via our KHub platform. Slides from the session are available in the [KHub Library](#).

LiA Network Development Group

Since its launch last November, our ambition for the LiA Network is that it is co-designed and co-produced with CSPPs to best support the learning needs of local areas. We are continuing to develop the learning offer of the Network in response to ongoing member feedback.

We have also set up a LiA Network development group with members from CSPPs to help us shape future sessions. The group met on 21 August for the first time to discuss the purpose, role and aims of the group. Following further consultation with members, the outputs of this group (including a calendar of upcoming sessions - details below) will be shared with the wider Network. If you are interested in joining the development group, please contact Ariane at: ariane.beaver@improvementservice.org.uk.

Calendar of upcoming learning opportunities

In response to LiA Network surveys, we have been developing a calendar of upcoming Network activity. Future opportunities will include 'Link & Learn' sessions for focussed presentations and discussions on key themes, as well as 'Monthly Mingles' which will provide informal, open spaces for members to share their experiences, connect with each other and build relationships across CSPPs. Invitations for the upcoming sessions have been issued, and details are provided below. The full calendar will be shared on the KHub soon.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

LiA Network - Monthly Mingle - 21 September (2-3pm) – session for CSPPs and partners only
Contact: wholefamilywellbeing@gov.scot

LiA Network – Link & Learn - 10 October (2-3:30pm) - theme & details TBC
Contact: wholefamilywellbeing@gov.scot

CYPIC National Conference 2023 – 28 November - Glasgow SECC.

There will be a breakout session focused on preventative Family Support. Invitations to follow, and full details will be available soon via [KHub](#) and [CYPIC website](#).

Strategic Leads Network Meeting – 2-4pm – 5 December.
Contact: ChildrensServicesPlanning@gov.scot

3. Evaluation news

Year 1 Evaluation update

Wave 2 interviews with practitioners, children, young people and families, and strategic leads in the six case study CSPPs have now concluded. Thank you to all who offered their time to support IFF's evaluation.

The findings from the interviews, along with the evidence from the completed CSP annual reports and WFWF progress templates will be used to inform a full evaluation report of Year 1. This report will be available early 2024. Emerging findings will be shared via the Strategic Leads Network and Learning into Action Network in due course.

Year 2 Evaluation update

The Year 2 WFWF evaluation tender closed on 22 August, and the submitted tenders are now being

assessed. We will provide you with an update in due course.

CSPP plans for Year 2 WFWF

In October last year, CSPPs were asked to submit Initial Plans templates for WFWF. These were used to provide us with an outline of plans for Year 1 of the funding. This is not the requirement of CSPPs this year, as any WFWF plans should be detailed in your Children's Services Plans for 2023-26.

4. Collaborative Partnerships

East Ayrshire

Alongside collective leadership work in East Ayrshire to support the governance and vision around this work, the Programme Team are investing time to develop a plan for focused improvement work in one community, as well as understand what good practice is already happening across the 6 locality areas in East Ayrshire.

Spotlight on East Lothian

We're pleased to provide an update from colleagues in East Lothian this month:

"We now have a name for our developing team - 'Families Together East Lothian'. We have developed a 'Meet the Team' resource as one of the ways to introduce ourselves to our wider partners and communities in East Lothian as we continue to grow – both in the practitioner and change team. We are refining our vision to support ourselves and wider partners with further clarity around the work. A big part of this phase is continuing to focus on building trusting relationships within the team, with our partners, families and the wider communities. We are finding the [Holistic Family Support Route Map and National Principles](#) a useful resource to help us think and talk about our own work and those of our partners through the different aspects of:

- Children and families at the centre – The Scottish Community Development Centre hosted an

event for the team and our partners to start to explore our shared understanding of engagement, participation and co-production, reflect on what is already working well and think about the next phase of developing the engagement and participation work in East Lothian together.

- Availability and access – The East Lothian family support and tenancy teams are exploring and will be testing out ways to better support families in terms of ease of access for tenancy support and building relationships that enable reduced siloed working. Housing officers are also connected, so they can make direct requests for family support access where needed.

- Whole system approach – There is ongoing work to understand the commissioning and procurement processes with the Local Authority, the Third Sector and NHS partners, exploring what currently happens, where it's working well and areas for improvement.

- Workforce and culture – as a team we have recently completed our self-audit for Trauma Informed Practice and will be working with the leading officer to develop our knowledge and skills. We are also developing our knowledge and confidence of different change methods – Quality Improvement and Active Implementation Science – to help provide focus and method to our work; supporting collaboration; using different tools to help self-reflection and capture our learning. As part of this we are developing meaningful ways to share our learning".

5. Policy connections

Independent evaluation of mental health and wellbeing community supports and services for 5–24-year olds, their parents and carers

Through the [Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Supports and Services Framework](#), the Scottish Government has provided local authorities with £15 million per annum in 2021/22 and 2022/23 to fund community-based mental health services for children, young people and their families. A further £15 million is being provided to fund the continuation of these

supports in 2023/24. The services are focused on prevention and early intervention, and include supports for positive mental health and wellbeing as well as emotional distress. We encourage CSPPs to consider how this fund and others might be connected at local level with WFWF. We welcome any feedback about the opportunities and/or challenges this may present in relation to delivering shared and aligned transformational outcomes.

In early 2022, the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) was commissioned by the Scottish Government to undertake a youth-led, independent evaluation of the community services provided by local authorities under the Framework. The work finished in November 2022 and SYP has recently published the [report](#) of its evaluation. For more information, please contact Peter.Innes@gov.scot

Publication of the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 – Updated 2023

The Scottish Government has now published the [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 - updated 2023](#). The guidance sets out responsibilities and expectations of everyone who works with children, young people and their families in Scotland and describes how agencies should work together to protect children from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.

Children’s Services Reform Research

The Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection (CELCIS) is carrying out independent research to help inform future decisions to be made on the introduction and shape of a new National Care Service. The third interim report from this research was published on 31 August 2023 on the [CELCIS website](#).

The National Care Service National Forum 2023

This year’s National Care Service forum is on Monday 30 October at the [Glasgow Science Centre](#). This event is a chance for or stakeholders, people who access social care support, the social care workforce, carers and unpaid carers and other organisations to come together and talk about the progress of the National

Care Service and what needs to happen next. For more information about the event and how to sign up please visit: gov.scot/ncs; you can also [take part online](#).

CYPIC National Conference 2023

Invitations will soon be issued for the annual CYPIC conference on Tuesday 28 November at Glasgow SECC. We look forward to seeing many of you at the WFWF breakout session which will focus on preventative Family Support. Full details will be available soon via the [KHub](#) and [CYPIC website](#).

6. Getting in touch

We are always open to feedback to ensure our communication is relevant and up to date. If you have any comments about the frequency and/or content of the newsletter, or any suggestions for different methods of communication from ourselves, or any queries about any aspect of WFWF, please get in touch with the team at: wholefamilywellbeing@gov.scot. The Scottish Government team contact for each CSPP is in the table below.

Sarah Waldron	East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire
Jolanta Lisicka	Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Falkirk, Inverclyde, Stirling
Sarah Bruce	Dumfries and Galloway, Fife, Scottish Borders, Na h-Eileanan Siar
Jaime Neal	East Dunbartonshire, North Ayrshire, Orkney, Shetland, South Ayrshire, West Dunbartonshire
Linda Johnstone	Argyll and Bute, Highland, Moray, Midlothian, Clackmannanshire
Mary Sloan	West Lothian, Edinburgh City, Tayside
Gavin Russell	East Lothian, East Ayrshire, Glasgow City