

Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP



2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

Dear Members of the Scottish Parliament

As members of Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights), we warmly welcome the introduction of a Bill to incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into Scots law. We believe this is a significant moment in realising our shared vision of ensuring all children and young people growing up in Scotland have their human rights respected, protected and fulfilled.

Children, young people, their families and wider civil society have been working towards UNCRC incorporation for very many years. The journey began back in 1991 when the UK first ratified the UNCRC, placing a duty on Scotland to give effect to the UNCRC under international law. Over the following 29 years, there have been many more important milestones, including the creation of our world-leading Children's Parliament and Scottish Youth Parliament which have been leading calls for children's rights to be made binding in law. This campaign to secure children's rights in law has gathered widespread support across many sectors and professions including health, social work, education and the police. The introduction of the UNCRC Incorporation Bill to the Scottish Parliament will be one of the most significant steps forward on this journey so far.

We know from international experience that incorporation encourages a culture change in which children and young people are better valued and respected. In uncertain times like these, the importance of legal protections for children and young people's human rights is more evident than ever. Passing the Bill will be one of the most important things the Scottish Parliament can do to ensure children's rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled. It will provide a meaningful legacy to the Year of Young People 2018 and make sure that future generations benefit from the hard work and commitment of today's children and young people.

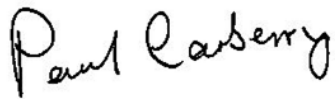
We look forward to your support in this important step towards Scotland becoming a world leader in protecting children and young people's rights. Please do get in touch if you have any questions about UNCRC incorporation or as the Bill progresses through the Scottish Parliament. In the meantime, we hope you will be keen to celebrate the introduction of the UNCRC Incorporation Bill with us!

With thanks and best wishes

Juliet Harris  
Director, Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights)



SallyAnn Kelly  
Chief Executive, Aberlour



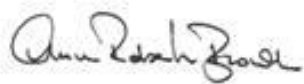
Paul Carberry,  
Action for Children's Director for Scotland



Alison Douglas  
Chief Executive, Alcohol Focus Scotland



Huw Sherrard FRSA  
Chair of Action for Local Youth Voice Empowerment UK, ALYVE UK



Anne Robertson Brown  
Executive Director, Angus Women's Aid





Beth Cadger  
Policy, Research and Editorial, Article 12 in Scotland



David Ferguson  
Assistant Director Policy and Influencing, Barnardo's Scotland



*Jean Gordon*

Jean Gordon  
Head of Operations, Befriend A Child

befriend a child



turn a frown upside down

Angus Maclean  
Quality Officer, Befriending Networks



Paul Traynor  
Policy and External Affairs Manager, Carers Trust Scotland





Claire Burns,  
(Acting) Director, Centre for Excellence for Children's Care and Protection



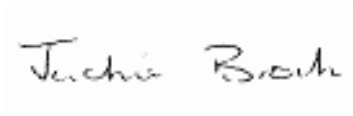
John Dickie  
Director, Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) in Scotland



Mary Glasgow  
CEO, Children 1<sup>st</sup>

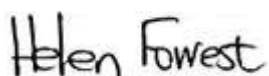


Fiona Dyer  
Deputy Director, Children and Young People's Centre for Justice

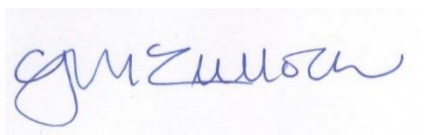


Jackie Brock  
Chief Executive, Children in Scotland





Children's Health Scotland  
Helen Forrest, Chief Executive



Cathy McCulloch  
Co-Director, Children's Parliament



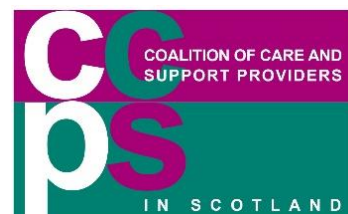
Neil Mathers  
Chief Executive, Children's University Scotland




Alison Reid  
Principal Solicitor, Clan Childlaw



Mark MacMillan  
Chair, Committee on Care and Support for Children and Young People,  
Coalition of Care and Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS)





Jan Savage  
Director of Campaigns and Membership, ENABLE Scotland



Jane Brumpton  
Chief Executive, Early Years Scotland



Cheryl Ward  
Group Chief Executive, Family Fund



Nancy Loucks OBE  
Chief Executive, Families Outside



Douglas Guest  
Acting Director, Homestart Scotland



Fraser Sutherland  
Chief Executive, Humanist Society Scotland



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Snowden".

Mhairi Snowden  
Coordinator, Human Rights Consortium Scotland



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Dorchester".

Martin Dorchester  
CEO, Includem



Jen Ang  
Partner/Director, JustRight Scotland



A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Virginia Radcliffe".

Virginia Radcliffe  
Artistic Director & CEO, Licketyspit



*Matt Forde*

Matt Forde  
National Head of Service  
National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children



*Clare Simpson*

Clare Simpson  
Manager, Parenting Across Scotland



Marguerite Hunter Blair  
CEO, Play Scotland



Elizabeth Allen  
Clerk, Quakers in Scotland



*W. Harrington*

Wendy Harrington  
Director, respectme





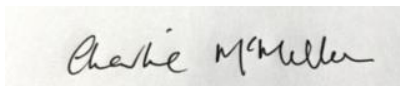


Colin Flinn  
CEO, Royal Caledonian Education Trust



Scotland's Armed Forces  
Children's Charity

Claire Telfer  
Head of Scotland, Save the Children



Charlie McMillian  
Chief Executive, Scottish Commission for Learning Disability



Shaben Begum  
Director, Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance



Jo Derrick  
CEO, Staf



Professor John Ravenscroft  
Head and Director, Scottish Sensory Centre





Dr Marsha Scott  
Chief Executive Officer, Scottish Women's Aid



Dinah Aitken  
Head of Outreach, Salvesen Mindroom Centre



Ian Maxwell  
National Manager, Shared Parenting Scotland



Rhona Matheson  
Chief Executive, Starcatchers



Jack Dudgeon MSYP  
Chair, Scottish Youth Parliament

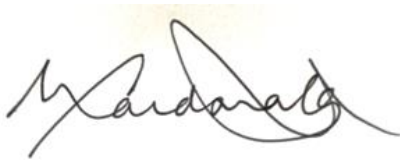




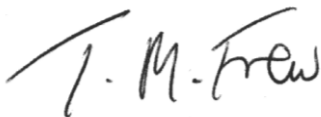
Lucinda Rivers  
Head of Unicef UK in Scotland



Sue Palmer  
Chair, Upstart Scotland



Claudia Macdonald  
Interim Chief Executive



Tim Frew  
Chief Executive, YouthLink

