



Champions Board Annual Report 2022/23

Scottish Borders Council
By: Cory Paterson



Scottish Borders
Champions Board
#ListenUp



we will
#KeepThePromise

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Champions Board Annual Report Overview

Language Disclaimer: Following a consultation with children and young people as part of the Independent Care Review, it was found that the way we talk about Care Experienced Young People can be stigmatizing, cold and depersonalising. Work has taken place across Scotland by young people to review the language of care, and recommendations have been made. We understand that language constantly evolves and therefore the language used within this report is based on the current recommendations at this time. Please refer to the glossary of terms for more information.

Key Speakers

Cory Paterson (Author)

Lead Young Person for the
Champions Board
Scottish Borders Council

Hannah Hawthorn

The Promise Implementation Officer
Scottish Borders Council

Louise Whitelock

Promise Delivery Partner
The Promise Scotland

Purpose

This report will outline the work that is being carried out to develop a Champions Board approach here in the Scottish Borders whilst also highlighting other work, projects and national policy drivers that support this and contribute to the overall approach. The report gives us the opportunity to feedback and reflect on the work undertaken over the past 12 months, and review our current progress. This document also includes next step plans that outline future developmental potential for the Board, and how we aim to achieve this over the next 6 to 12 months.

Take Away

After reading this report you should have a better understanding of the work that has been undertaken so far, who has been involved, why it is important, and some of our goals and plans moving forward.

Useful Information

This report has been created between November 2022 and January 2023. It contains the most recent information and data as possible.

Alternative Format: This report has been converted into different formats to make it more assessable including PowerPoint format as well as an easy read text only document. These are available on request by emailing champsboard@scotborders.gov.uk.



Introductions

Introduction: Cory



I started my role as the Lead Young Person for The Champions Board in July 2021, with the task of developing and support the running of a Champions Board here in the Scottish Borders. Since then I have taken on a range of different responsibilities within a number of different projects as my role has expanded. Being a care experienced young person myself, I understand how important it is for young people to have a voice and be heard. The decisions we all make as corporate parents can have a massive effect on these young people's lives which is why it is so important to get it right, and also understand the responsibility that brings.

The need for a Champions Board here in the Scottish Borders continues to be highlighted and with the publication of the Promise in February 2020 with its emphasis on 'Voice' as one of its five foundations, we are starting to see a fundamental shift in the way we involve young people in making decisions about their lives. The Champions Board is designed to provide a platform that is flexible, accessible and with young people at the forefront of any decision making. It gives a space for care-experienced young people to come together and voice their views on issues they may have encountered whilst being a looked after young person and also develop stronger relationships with their corporate parents. A focus on developing stronger relationships is key for any participation work so we continue to take time to explore how best we do this.

I look forward to seeing where the Champions Board goes in 2023 alongside the other projects I am involved in.

As well as developing the Champions Board I am fully committed to ensuring we create a positive space where young people feel safe and over time hope the Champions Board will feel like a family. I am committed to tackling the stigma that surrounds Care Experienced Young People.

Cory Paterson

MA Lead Young Person for The Champions Board

Introduction: Hannah



I started my role as the Scottish Borders Promise Implementation Officer at the end of August 2021. I have been working closely with Cory over the past sixteen months to develop a Champions Board approach in Scottish Borders. The Promise is the outcome of the Independent Care review, which centred on listening to care experienced children, young people, families and the workforce, and has made significant recommendations for change. My role involves working alongside multi-agency partners and children, young people and families to ensure we are collectively implementing the priorities of the Promise Plan 2021-24.

Listening to what matters to children, young people and their families needs to be at the heart of decision making in Scottish Borders. Developing a Champions Board is an evidence-based approach to listening to - and meaningfully involving- care experienced children and young people in helping us drive change. It has been a busy sixteen months with lots of learning, listening and reflection. (And that has just been with Cory teaching me how to use twitter!) I am so proud of all the young people who have joined us on the Champions Board journey so far. Their ideas, enthusiasm and commitment to coming along to sessions have really helped us ensure that this is a project for young people by young people.

We have also linked in with the Scottish Champions Board network and met with other Champions Boards over the last sixteen months. The support and advice from other Boards has been invaluable and we have really benefitted from them sharing their experiences of developing their projects. Our work locally has been supported by a small committed team of colleagues from children and families social work, Community Learning and Development, Douglas Ormston and the team at TD1 Youth Hub, and the management committee at the Focus Centre.

At the time of writing, ongoing funding for the Lead Young Person's post after March remains uncertain. This role has been at the heart of developing the Champions Board approach to date. I hope funding can be extended so that the important work Cory has led on can continue, and the ambitious and exciting plans for the development of the Champions Board for 2023 can be realised.

Hannah Hawthorn
Promise Implementation Officer

Statement of Purpose

To provide a platform for care-experienced young people to raise and discuss key issues that have affected them whilst being a looked after young person in the Scottish Borders, and to develop strong relationships with their corporate parents to ensure that together we can improve the care system by tackling and overcoming the issues discussed.



**“Scotland must listen to, and keep listening to, its children... Listening must influence decisions.”
The Promise, p30**



Underlying Principles of the Scottish Borders Champions Board

- **Accessibility:** We will ensure that the Champions Board is accessible to care-experienced children and young people across the region from a diverse range of backgrounds. We will reach out to young people whose voices are often overlooked and adapt to support each young person's individual needs. Recognising that groups are not for everyone, we will try and ensure all voices are represented by using other methods of engagement, e.g. 1-2-1s, surveys etc.
- **Valuing expertise:** when young people with care experience choose to join the Champions Board, their time and expertise should result in fair compensation for their contributions. This will reflect the value of the work they are involved in. We will also ensure that everyone who engages with our work will feel that their opinions matter, that their insights have been acknowledged and that their contributions have been important.
- **Mutual learning:** Young people and corporate parents taking part in Champions Board activities will experience mutual benefits from it; through re-establishing relationships and trust between young people and corporate parents, taking part in activities together, learning from each other's experiences and working together to implement changes for the benefit of care experienced young people across the region.
- **Trauma responsive:** we will bear in mind the challenges that many children and young people have encountered, and will ensure that we behave in a way that provides safety, trust and support, to anyone who comes into contact with us. We will remain open, honest and friendly, and will ensure that anyone taking part is treated with respect and feels valued. We will follow confidentiality protocols when meeting with young people on a 1-2-1 basis and make sure young people joining the Champions Board group are aware of this too. We will provide the necessary support before, during and after participation activities to ensure no excessive distress is caused. We will continue to offer access to opportunities to children and young people even when they have not been able to attend every time.
- **Transparency:** there will be no topic off-bounds for discussion within the Champions Board; however, we will be open and transparent at all times about what decisions may be out-with the control of the group and also their corporate parents. We will provide feedback to young people on what impact their views have had.



We continue to refer back to our five underlying principles to ensure that any decision we make or action we take in developing and running the Champions Board complies with these principles. We aim to deliver a platform that is mindful of young people's individual needs and will continue to learn and adapt.

The five underlying principles are represented in The Scottish Borders Champions Board logo that was designed with the young people who attended the Board in Spring 2022. Each finger represents one of the principles, with the outline of the Borders in the centre bringing it all together.

Champions Board Progress

In 2016 the Life Changes Trust allocated £2 Million of funding to create Champions Boards across Scotland. The Trust invested in 21 Boards as well as a national Network to support them. The Scottish Borders was not one of the 21 local authorities to apply for funding from the Trust, which is why development in Borders is a bit later than in other authorities. The benefits of this however, are that it has given us the opportunity to learn from the other more well-established Boards and adapt that learning for Scottish Borders' approach.

"The Champions Board approach is characterised by genuine relationships being formed between young people, staff, and Corporate Parents. Meals are cooked and eaten together. Trips are taken, songs are written, and employment support is offered. Corporate Parents get to know care experienced young people as individuals with unique needs and aspirations..."

Exert from The Life Changes Trust Champions Boards Learning and Impact Report

Champions Board: Galashiels

The Scottish Borders Champions Board has been based in Galashiels since December 2021. This location was picked based on its centrality and expansive infrastructure, for example The Galashiels transport interchange that links buses to all Border towns. This made Galashiels an ideal starting point for the Board. A venue for the Board was located and plans were put in place to start running a weekly session from a room in TD1 Youth Hub. This would serve as our venue until our move to The Galashiels Focus Centre in May 2022. The young people were fully involved in decisions about this move and also about the frequency of the group sessions.

The group was established for young people aged between 14 to 21 years old in foster care, residential care or supported/independent living. We had four young people attending regularly over the course of the weekly sessions until Summer 2022. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we had risk assessments in place to allow us to meet in person and despite having to socially distance and wear face masks the young people still attended. (As restrictions eased we relaxed these rules accordingly.)

During the running of the group we discussed many topics, including: The Promise, UNCRC and Corporate Parenting. We found that the young people did not know a lot about these themes despite them playing a big part in the way decisions are made that impact their lives. We saw the weekly sessions become a real support network for the young people, and over time as relationships were built with staff and other Champs, the young people became more confident.

In October 2022 the decision was made to stop running the weekly Wednesday sessions due to a reduction in group attendance. The cause of this was due to various reasons such as; changes in living circumstances, and education/work commitments. As a result we have had to re-evaluate the running of the Champions Board and have come up with a new plan that looks to boost The Champions Board reach and make it more accessible to more Young People across the Scottish Borders. We continue to support some members on a one to one basis.



After Building some key relationships with the young people and exploring the topics listed, we started our first project; Make The Champions Board Our Own.

During the project the young people really shaped how they wanted the Board to run as well as creating a logo and a slogan #ListenUp.



Logo Designed By The Young People
on The Scottish Borders Champions Board

Future Development/Next Steps

2023 Proposal

The plan below outlines a range of possible developments and next step for continuing to embed a Champions Board approach here in the Scottish Borders. However due to uncertainty around staffing at the time of writing this report we cannot guarantee that there will be the staff needed to meet the demand.

After running The Champions Board and getting feedback from young people and staff, we have begun to look at next steps for the Board and how we aim to achieve these in 2023. One of our main goals for 2023 is making the Champions Board more accessible to a wider range of care experienced children and young people across the Scottish Borders. Given the rurality of the region we are aware that social isolation is a big issue. Creating opportunities for young people to come together, socialise and have a voice around the things that are important to them is a top priority within the developments proposed throughout this report. Highlighted by the feedback (see page 20)

Champions Connect

Champions Connect is an exciting new group which will provide a platform for care experienced young people supported by the local authority, who live outside the Scottish Borders. The aim of this group is to ensure these young people have a space to voice their views, can be kept up-to-date with the work of the Champions Board and is another way of keeping in touch with the Scottish Borders.

Key Points

- Group to be held online via MS Teams once a month
- For young people aged 16 and over
- Sessions to run for 30 to 40 minutes with a drop-in policy (come for however long you can/want)
- Monthly activity box will be sent out containing useful things plus some goodies
- Sessions to be held slightly later to accommodate young people's jobs/college/uni commitments

*Like with The Champions Board, this may change when young people get involved and shape what they want the group to look like.



On 5th February
2020, a promise
was made to
Scotland's
infants, children,
young people,
adults and
families.

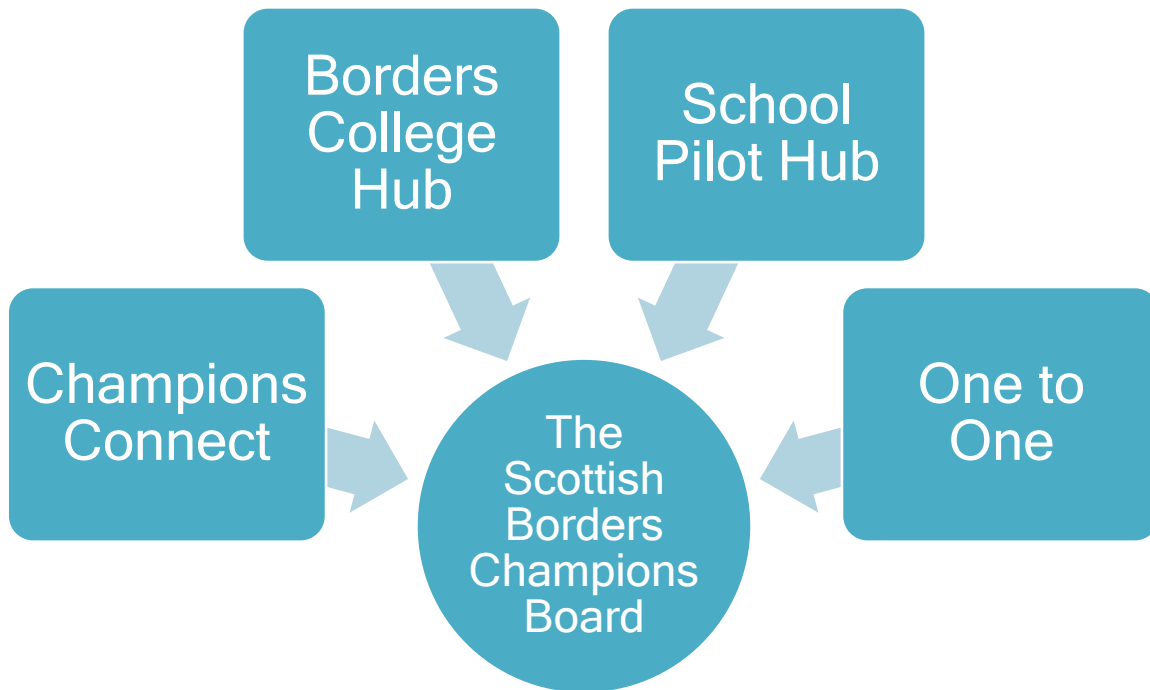
By 2030, it must be kept.



*For more information see page 15

Future Development/Next Steps

Restructuring the Champions Board will be important to ensure sustainability over time. To date we have run a single group once a week in Galashiels. This worked well to begin with and has been a good starting point, allowing us to build relationships with some - young people. The disadvantage of running a single group at one location is that it cannot be accessible to a large number of young people as travel across the Borders on a weekly basis would be too much or off putting. We also found that young people came to the group for different reasons. Some came to socialise and others were more interested in the participation aspect e.g. surveys, group work, developing leadership skills and widening their understanding around certain topics. We tried to balance both aspects as much as we could but recognise that there may be a more effective way of doing this.



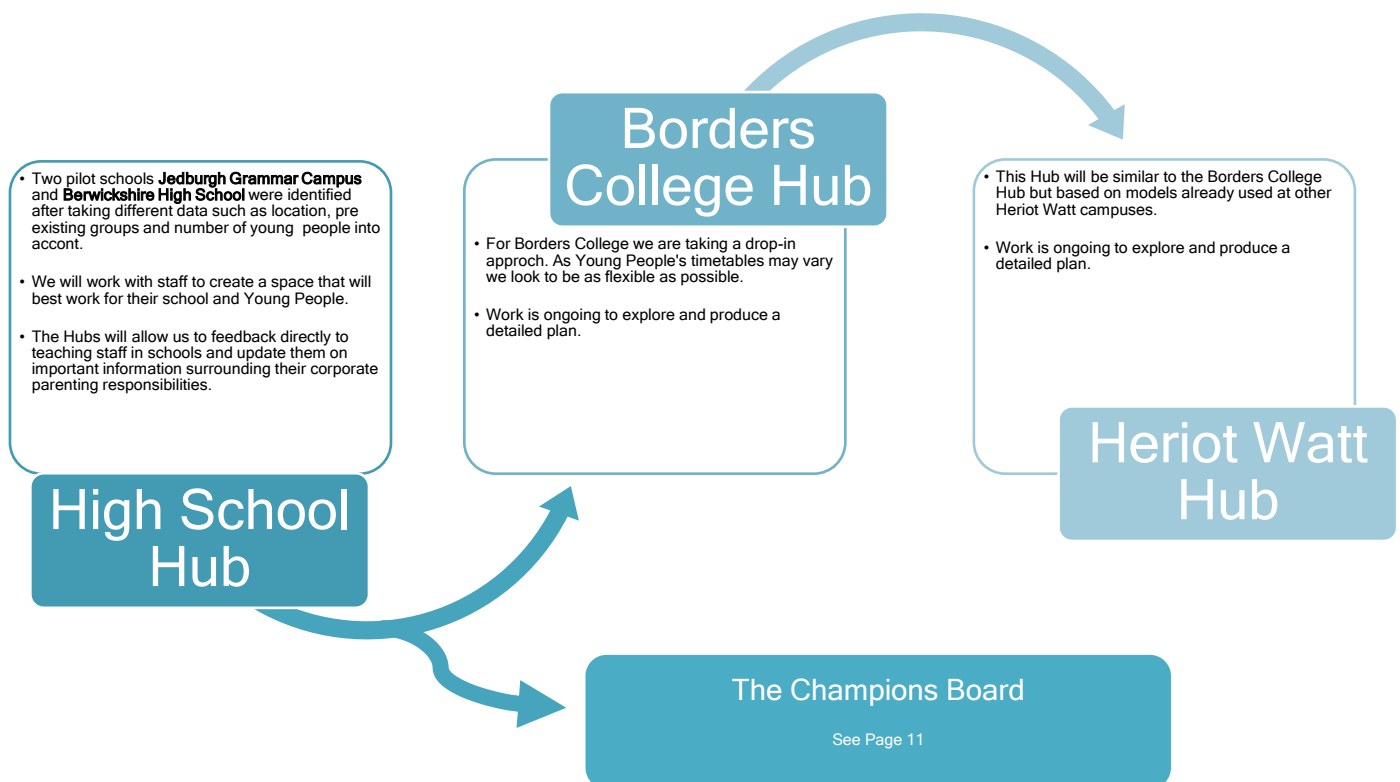
The plan we would look to develop and implement in 2023 would be similar to the one shown in the diagram above. We would have one centralised Champions Board that would meet on a monthly basis to focus on participation work. This would be targeted at young people who want to be involved with more formal participation work. This would be a structured forum where there would be a chairperson, minute taker etc. in line with the Champions Board approach in other areas.

The other groups shown in the diagram would act as feeder groups into the monthly centralised Champions Board. These groups will allow us to focus on other key aspects that are important to running and sustaining a Champions Board such as relationship building and supporting individual needs.

School Pilot

Purpose

The Schools Pilot project looks at setting up Champions Board hubs at various education facilities within the local authority. With accessibility being one of the underlying principles of the Scottish Borders Champions Board, being able to reach out to young people in different parts of the Borders is key. Setting up these hubs in schools will allow us to meet and get to know young people in their own communities, rather than them having to travel to us.



Goals

We also look to create stability and consistency for the young people by offering the hub at Borders College and Heriot Watt University, meaning as they continue their academic journey the Champions Board can remain a supportive network. This ties into the relationship-based practice approach we incorporate within our work. We understand that school often plays a big part in a young person's life and losing all those connections at once when leaving school can have a big impact.

The Promise



In October 2016, after meeting with and listening to care experienced children and young people, Scotland's First Minister announced "an independent, root and branch review of the care system" to look at "the underpinning legislation, practices, culture and ethos".



My name is Louise Whitelock and I am one of 8 Promise Delivery Partners that sit within the support team at The Promise Scotland; each Promise Delivery Partner offers support alongside local authority areas, local planning partnership groups and individual organisations. As the Promise Delivery Partner for the Scottish Borders I am currently working alongside those overseeing the

implementation of The Promise and building relationships that support change throughout the local authority and its partners. In my role in the Scottish Borders I have been working alongside Hannah Hawthorn, The Promise Implementation Officer and Cory Paterson, Lead Young Person Champions Board. The work I have been supporting with Hannah and Cory includes planning, designing and co-delivering workshops for both foster carers and professionals with the aim for this work to inform a wider group effort to deliver the Scottish Borders 2023 Fostering Conference under a Promise lens. I have also been offering other more general support and co-production of Promise related information to support the workforce in their work with care experienced children, young people and families.

Louise Whitelock
Promise Delivery Partner

The Independent Care Review began its work in February 2017 and by November of the same year it was agreed that the Care Review would take up to three years to conclude. The conclusion of the Independent Care Review resulted in the Promise. On Wednesday 5 February 2020, the Independent Care Review published seven reports. The Promise laid out five foundations and over 80 calls to action; the five foundations that underpin the Promise are - voice, family, care, people and scaffolding.

On the same day, in The Scottish Parliament, Nicola Sturgeon pledged to #KeepThePromise - a commitment that received the support of all political parties. The ambition of the Promise - that all of Scotland's children and young people grow up loved, safe, and respected so that they realise their full potential - is a reflection of everything the care review heard.

For Scotland to truly be the best place in the world for children to grow up, it has been recognised that a fundamental shift is required in how decisions are made about children and families.

The Promise 21 - 24

Five Priority Areas

A good childhood



Whole family support



Planning



Supporting the workforce



Building capacity



Actions

- Support
- A right to an education
- Relationships
- Brothers and Sisters
- Youth Justice
- Advocacy
- Moving on
- Physical Intervention



- Family Support
- Peer and Community Support
- Service Integration
- Family Therapies



- Planning
- Investment
- Information sharing



- Workforce Values
- Trauma-informed
- Relationships
- Workforce support



- Legislation
- Children's Hearing System
- Inspection and Regulation
- Policy Coherence
- Data Mapping and Collection
- Governance Structures



The Fundamentals



What matters to children and families



Listening



Poverty



Children's Rights



Language

The Promise

As Hannah outlined in the introduction, the development of a Champions Board Approach is a core part of Promise developments in Scottish Borders. 'Voice' is one of the five foundations of the Promise, and 'Listening' and 'What Matters to Children and Families' are two of the fundamentals underpinning all work within the Plan 21-24.

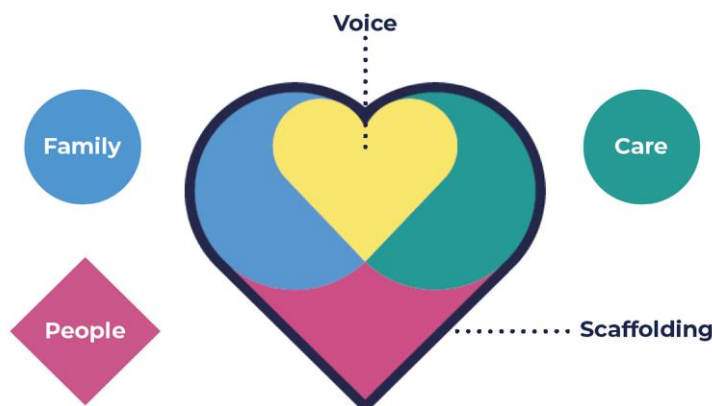
In Scottish Borders we believe these two fundamentals are inextricably linked and therefore must be considered together. In the Summer of 2021 Scottish Borders Council created the modern apprentice Lead Young Person role to develop and embed a Champions Board Approach in Scottish Borders. At this time the Council also secured Corra Foundation funding to create a twelve month Promise Implementation Officer post. The Promise Implementation Officer post has now been made permanent.

Another example of Scottish Borders' commitment to ensuring care experienced children and young people have a voice has been through the introduction in Summer 2021 of the web-based communication app, Mind of My Own (MOMO). This is an app which ensures that children and young people who are receiving a service have the right and ability to express their views independently of a practitioner and/or parent/Guardian.

Work is ongoing to review how best to embed the app and promote its use with young people and professionals going forwards. We have regular meetings with our account manager to review the data and trends.

Work is being undertaken across all the five priority areas under the Plan 21-24 in Scottish Borders. Particular areas of focus to date have included:

- Language and framing, with inputs from Each and Every Child about their Framing toolkit and the creation of a Scottish Borders 'Reframing Our Language' guide;
- Supporting the workforce locally through training and awareness raising about the Promise and Corporate Parenting in partnership with Who Cares? Scotland.
- Revisiting the need for an independent advocacy service for children, young people and families with plans to commission a new service in 2023.
- Working with partners to review and develop the Children's Strategic Partnership Governance Structure ensuring the Promise is the umbrella policy driver for Children's Services.
- Work around Brothers and Sisters through the development of a new project delivered by Children 1st and funded by the Corra Foundation.
- Developing collaborative strategic approaches via a Steering Group for trauma-informed practice.



All this work will continue to be developed in 2023 and an additional key piece of work will involve transformational change to early intervention services, supported by the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund.

Department Links/Partnerships

As part of my role as Lead Young Person and in order to support the overall development of The Champions Board, I link in with different teams in the Council, the NHS and third sector organisations. We identify where we can work together, and how they can link with the Board. A lot of this work is done through the Corporate Parenting Operations Group (see page 24), as well as Champions Board Planning Meetings.



It is important that we work together to deliver the best possible services and to ensure work is not repeated or contradicting the steps we have already put in place. This is extremely important when it comes to the use of language and framing as this can become confusing when different people are using different terms to talk about the same thing.

Community Learning & Development

Currently I am employed by SBC and work within the CLD department. I have regular support and supervision with my line manager and attend CLDs weekly team meeting. Through this I link with all the Community Learning and Development youth workers that are based in schools across the Scottish Borders.

I am working with Pam Rigby and Hannah Hawthorn to link with Borders Additional Needs Group and create a project on children's rights with the young people they support.

Transitions Teams

The Champions Board has worked with the Transitions Team to plan and deliver trips for the young people they work with. More work with the transitions team is planned for 2023. We hope that some of the young people taking part in these activities will link in with The Champions Board in the near future.

Family Placement Team

Currently we are working with The Family Placement Team on the fostering conference that will be held in April of this year, and more information will be available soon. We have also been running a series of Promise workshops for foster carers and the team to provide information and answer any questions.

As well as this work I have been linking in with a group of young people in foster care aged 16 and under. This group is usually attended by a younger age range of young people.

I have also helped with the quarterly newsletter that gets send to young people in foster care and attend meetings regarding Mind of My Own (MOMO) an app for young people can send feedback to their social worker.

Time Line

This time line details the plan and current time scale we are working towards.



*This time line show the current direction The Champions Board is moving towards, however is subject to change based on the coming months.

Feedback

Feedback is very important to us and we try to gather as much as possible from the young people we work with. The Champions Board is designed for young people, by young people so it is necessary for us to listen to their thoughts and views, then act and adapt accordingly. Throughout the running of The Board we asked the young people to fill out regular feedback questionnaires, as well as having a suggestions box that the young people could write comments/requests in at the end of every session.

We also want to highlight that the way we measure success so far has not been about numbers and figures, instead we have focused on qualitative achievements made by the young people, which they themselves have found meaningful. This includes looking at individual goals that have a big impact on the young people's day to day health and wellbeing.

For one young person being accepted onto a course of their choice is a success and for another young person speaking in front of a group for the first time can be equally significant. **Keeping this in mind below you will see some statements from two of the young people who have and continue to be involved in the Champions Board:**

"The best thing has been socialising with people and getting to know new people. I have learned to come more out of my comfort zone and try new things. Over the past year it has given me something to do and improved my people skills even more. It has led me to want to do more things within the Champions Board and stopped me from being isolated in my flat. I am hoping for the Champions Board to expand in 2023 and for new people to come along."

"The Champions Board is very important for young people for building confidence. I would like to meet more of my corporate parents in 2023."

Champions Board Member, Age 20

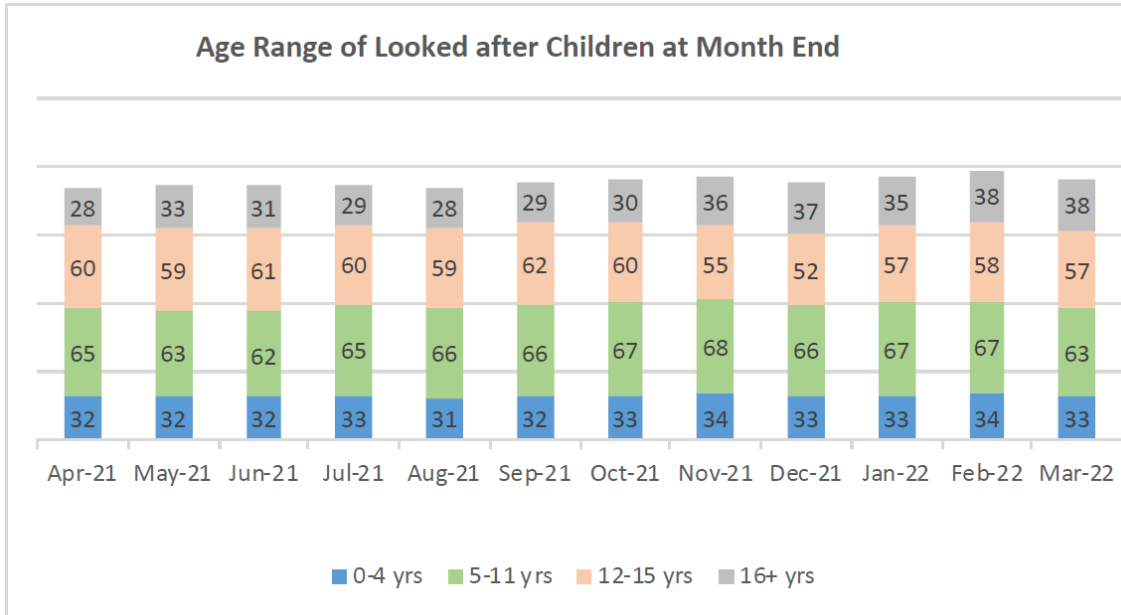
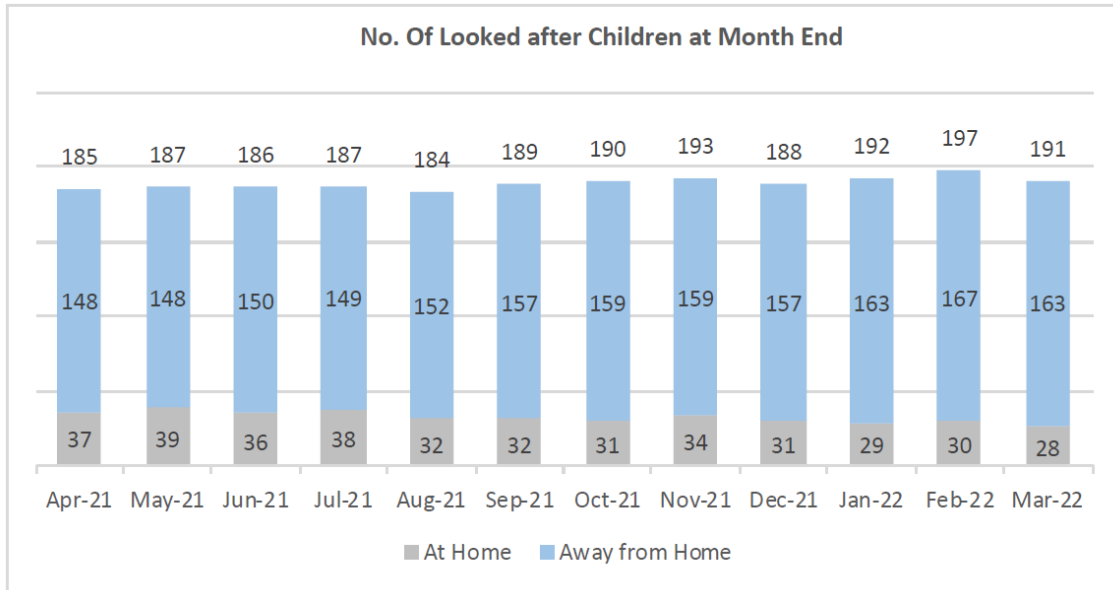
"The best thing about coming to Champs has felt like being involved with something for once. I have tried keeping involved even when I haven't been able to come because of babysitting and work. I have always been a more independent person doing things on my own and working in a team has been new for me and I have learnt new skills. I was a little bit nervous coming along for the first time, but I tried to push that away. I am confident now making contact with the Champs and staff."

"I think it's important to let other young people know about Champs and that it can help you."

Champions Board Member, Age 16

Data/Statistics

The following comparative data details the number of looked after children and placement types between April 2021- Mar 2022.



Social Media

Over the coming months as The Board develops we want to explore utilising more social media platforms to expand our engagement with young people and their families to promote the work we are doing and encourage them to get involved. Social media is a great way to link in with not only young people but other professionals locally and nationally.

- Having an understanding of the unique properties of each social media platform is essential to ensuring we are utilising it to its fullest potential.
- Currently The Scottish Borders Champions Board is on Twitter. We are hoping to have cross platform diversity in the near future, by expanding to Instagram and Facebook and looking at other social media platforms young people are using such as tiktok.

The Champs came up with the hashtag #ListenUp which represents the message they want to share with their corporate parents and the wider community.

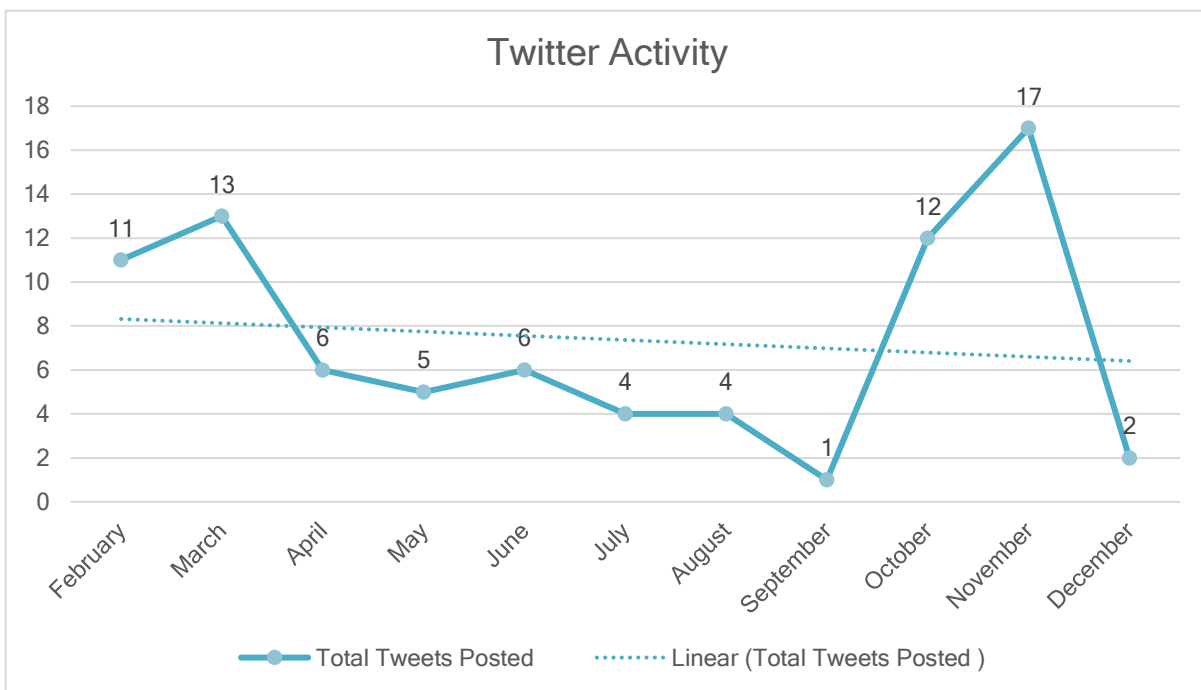
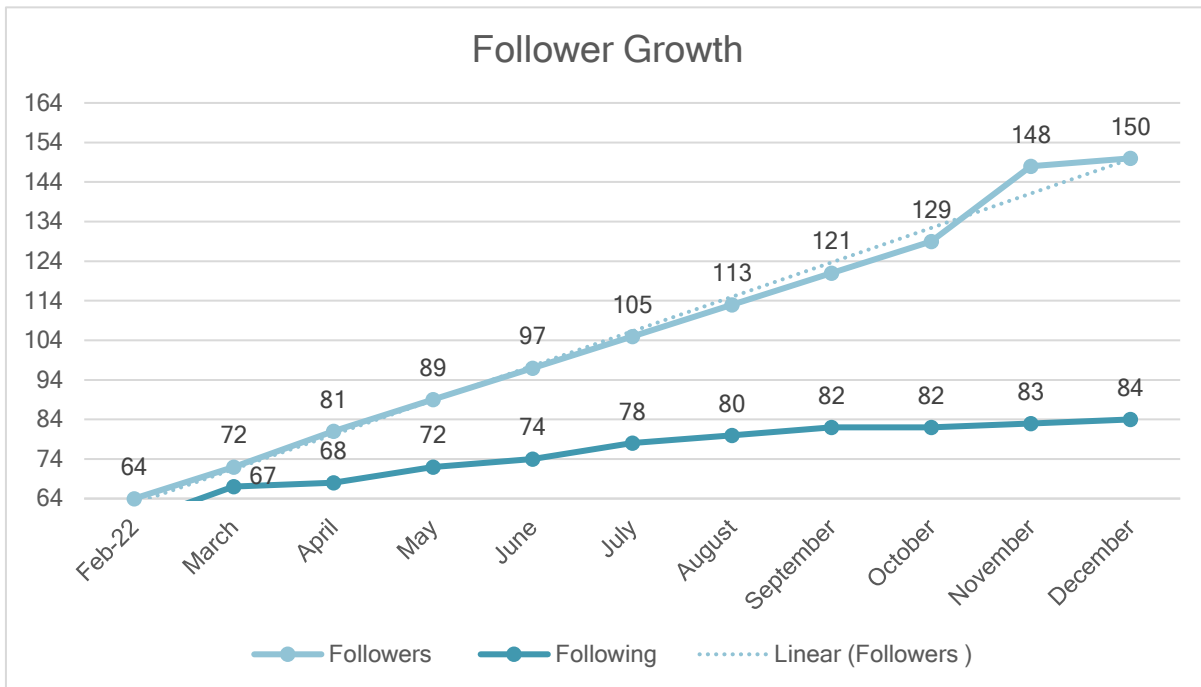
In 2023 we look to become more active on social media and set clear targets to meet. Running and maintaining profiles on social media platforms is time consuming as there are many aspects to take into account. From producing and sharing content, to keeping up-to-date with content shared by others- it is a lot to manage.

In order to keep things current, we need to ensure we are developing at the same rate so as to not fall behind and miss out on important opportunities using social media can create. We also need to be aware of our target audience and the message we want to convey. Our main objective currently is to update users on the work The Champions Board has been doing.



Social Media

Since the last report was published in April 2022 the Champions Board twitter page has seen a steady growth pattern.



@ChampsBoardSB



Corporate Parenting Group

Responsible parents fulfil all those activities associated with bringing up children. These include providing for their basic needs, planning for the future, being a resource to turn to, providing positive experiences, hopes and dreams and acting as advocate and mentor. Their legal responsibilities include taking decisions on where children live, what education they receive and when medical treatment is required. As a corporate parent we need to know that we are making the same decisions for looked after children as we would make for our own children.

Corporate parenting is defined in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and places a number of duties on public sector organisations to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of looked after children, young people and care leavers. The term refers to an organisation's performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and secure the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development is promoted, from infancy through to adulthood.

Statutory duties and responsibilities on corporate parents (Section 58). These include:

- To be alert to matters which, or which might, adversely affect the wellbeing of looked after children and young people (and those in Continuing Care and Aftercare)
- To assess the needs of those looked after children and young people for services and support it provides
- To promote the interests of looked after children and young people
- To seek to provide looked after children and young people with opportunities to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing
- Working collaboratively: corporate parents must, in so far as reasonably practicable, collaborate with each other when exercising their corporate parenting responsibilities where they consider that doing so would safeguard or promote the wellbeing of children or young people to whom this Part applies (Section 60).

Other key aspects of corporate parenting duties include the duty to plan and report to the Scottish Government on how corporate parents exercise their responsibilities. The list of who is a corporate parent was expanded under the Act. The Act names 26 public bodies but all 32 local authorities, 14 NHS Scotland Health Boards and 7 National Special Health Boards. All colleges and universities in Scotland are corporate parents in terms of the Act.



Corporate Parenting Group



Corporate Parenting Group

Governance of Corporate Parenting in the Scottish Borders during 2021-22 has continued to be managed through the multi-agency Children and Young People's Leadership Group (chaired and co-ordinated by Scottish Borders Council), which in turn reports to the Community Planning Partnership.

The current governance structure is under review to ensure that it enables strategic leadership, monitoring and development of corporate parenting and The Promise in Scottish Borders. In Scottish Borders we are committed to ensuring that strategic planning is joined up to prevent duplication of work streams, and to ensure a more accountable and streamlined approach to children's services design, development and commissioning.

Guided by the Leadership Group, the Corporate Parenting Operations Group has a key role within the Children's Services planning structure. It ensures that the particular needs of looked after children remain central to the work of other planning groups, including those developing services which work directly with looked after children, those which work with young people in Continuing Care or Aftercare, or those aiming to prevent children and young people becoming looked after. Membership of the group has developed and expanded since the list of Corporate Parents was extended in April 2015.

The Scottish Borders Corporate Parenting Strategy 2021-24 identified the Promise and the Plan 21-24 as providing a clear strategic direction for the development of corporate parenting in the Scottish Borders, and therefore the headings of the priority areas and fundamentals were used for reporting on Scottish Borders' progress with corporate parenting work in 2021-22. (please see references)



Final Remarks



Thank you for taking the time to read our report. We are very excited about the next stages of development for the Champions Board.

If you are interested in finding out more about our work, or are currently working with a young person who you think might be interested in getting involved with the Champions Board please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the contact details below.

A special thank you to the young people who provided feedback statements for the report. We have enjoyed spending time developing The Board with you and look forward to continuing the work.

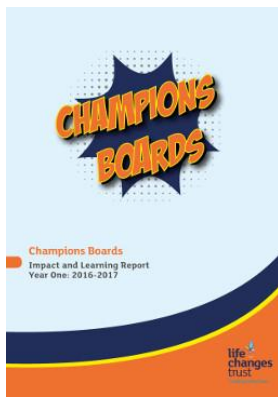
Glossary/reference list

We will try not to use....	We will try to use
Abscond	Run away, go missing, not coming home on time, walked out
Birth or Biological Parents / Natural Parents	First family, First mummy or daddy, Parents, family, mum & dad, tummy mummy
Care Leaver	Care experienced adult
Case/Case Support/Case allocation	Children, young people and families, I support [x] young people, I am lead worker for [x]
Challenging behaviour	In distress, reacting to a situation, unmet need, upset, having trouble coping
Chaotic	There are risks to... There are a lack of protective factors
Child's Plan	Your plan, Next Steps, My plan
Contact	Family time, your plans to see or keeping in touch with family, seeing or meeting up with my/ your Dad/Mum/Grandma/Sister/ Brother etc.
Continuing Care	Stay put, remain, plan for after you are 18
Defiant	Strong-willed, confident in their choices/opinions
Difficult to place	Can't find a home good enough for them; failed by the system
Drop out	Early school leaver
Drug running/involved in a gang	the child/young person is being criminally exploited to distribute drugs; part of a friend group who have been doing illegal things such as...
Dysregulated	Describing context, behaviours and emotions, e.g. Distressed response to [context]
Education	School or college
Foster Carers	We will ask you what you call them – might be; my family, Foster Mum, Foster Dad, People who care about me, my new family, or just their names
Hard to reach	Not approached enough
Holistic health	Overall health, health in general
Intervention	Support, elements of a better life
Incident	Describe the context and behaviours
Issue	Challenges, barriers, things you're not happy about, difficult situation, something they want to change, goals they want to set
Kinship Carers	We will ask you what they should be called – might be; my family, gran, granddad, auntie etc. or use their names
LAC/LAAC	Young people, care experienced young people, use their name, LA should say 'our children'
LAC Review / LAAC Review	Your meeting, your planning meeting, your review, a looked after child review, (Child or young person's name) review
LAC Visit / Statutory Visit	Home Visit, Visit to see you, social work visit
Leaving Care	Moving on, moving house, becoming independent
Making choices (drug/alcohol related)	Unhelpful coping mechanisms, risky coping mechanisms, seeking something, in survival mode
Minutes	Notes, written notes of what was said today, what we agreed today, what was decided today
Moving Placements	Moving to a new house, a new chapter or fresh start
Non-compliant/non-engaging/Hard to reach	We have not been able to engage yet; Services have not yet found the best way to build relationships with them; Support was offered that did not meet the needs of the young person at the time; We need to find a way to build trust; they are not in a place just now to seek support Not ready- <i>look at organisation and family approach here</i>
Offenders, young offenders	Young people in conflict with the law- <i>this term reorients our thinking, to consider the young person's relationship to organisations like the police, and how this may have been damaged.</i>
Pathway Plan	Your future planning; moving on plan; your plans for the future
Peers	Your friends, people your age
Placement	Your home/ your house / where you live
Placement Breakdown / Placement Breakdown Meeting	Things didn't work out with your previous carers, things became a bit difficult and you had to move
Placing themselves at risk	Seeking reassurance elsewhere
Promiscuous	Seeking reassurance/comfort elsewhere
Putting themselves in danger	Seeking reassurance elsewhere
Residents	young people
Respite	Short breaks, short stay, sleepover

Rehab / rehabilitation	Going back to live with your family; Going back home, back to mums/dads/ gran's etc.
Reviewing Officer / Chair	Person who meets with everyone occasionally to make sure you have everything you need to be well cared for
Sanctions	consequences
Siblings	Your brothers or sisters (but sibling may be a good non-gender word), or use their names, important people in your life
Unit	house
Verbally aggressive	They react to [some situations] by shouting and using swear words. They used personal insults including 'xyz' e.g. <i>Lewis started to shout close to my face and clenched his fists. I was unsure why he reacted in this way, his keyworker will explore different ways that we can approach this.</i>
Views	What's important to you, how are you feeling, how do you see things, what you think, what would you like to see happening?
Vulnerable	Unsafe at points With vulnerabilities- <i>this term acknowledges risk but allows that the person is more than the vulnerabilities that they may have.</i>

This glossary comes from the new Scottish Borders Reframing Our Language Guide. We extend our thanks to The Scottish Borders Council Service Development Group for foster carers, children and young people from Edinburgh City, North Lanarkshire and those working with Includem whose work helped shape our new guide.

To obtain a copy of the full guide, please contact Hannah on: hannah.hawthorn@scotborders.gov.uk



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