



Child rights impact assessments

case no.2022

What is this case file about?

Adults should think about children's rights when making decisions. There's a special tool that can help adults do this. It's called a Child Rights Impact Assessment (or 'CRIA' for short).

This tool helps adults make sure their ideas, decisions and actions respect children's rights. It does this by asking adults a list of questions.

Why are child rights impact assessments important?

Adults in power often make decisions that affect children. The ideas adults have can make children's lives better or worse. A CRIA helps adults make changes to their idea. They can do this before their decision is final to make sure it doesn't cause children any harm.

Sometimes, decisions can affect children in different ways. For example, it might affect disabled children or refugee children more than it affects their friends. A CRIA can help adults find a way to change their idea so that every child's rights are respected.

What should adults do?

Adults should:

- Learn as much as they can about children's rights and how to do a CRIA well.
- Do CRIA early, so that there's lots of time to make changes.
- Keep thinking about children's rights - don't just do a CRIA and then forget about it.
- Involve children when doing a CRIA. They might think about things that adults miss.
- Share information about CRIAs in a way that all children can understand.

"We like the idea of a child-friendly version of CRWIAs, but the original should be easy to understand too. There should be other accessible formats of these"



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What's happening across Scotland?

The Scottish Government and lots of other organisations are thinking about how to respect children's rights when making decisions.

Have a look below to check out the evidence!

EVIDENCE #1

Children in Scotland and Families Outside

Some charities have started doing CRIAs to understand what they're doing well and what more they could do to protect children's rights. For example, Children in Scotland has made a start, alongside Families Outside which is a charity that helps children who have a parent in prison.

[Children in Scotland's work can be read here.](#)



EVIDENCE #3

Scottish Government

The Scottish Government wrote a big report to help adults know what a CRIA is and how to do one.

[Read the CRWIA Guidance for Scottish Government Officials here.](#)

What do you think?

We want to know what you think. This will help our next investigation!

- Do you have any ideas for how things should change?
- Are there any examples you want to share?

Let us know by emailing:

info@togetherscotland.org.uk

EVIDENCE #2

Scotland's Children's Commissioner

The Children's Commissioner did a big CRIA looking at how coronavirus rules had affected children's rights. It made a child-friendly version of its report so children could know what was happening.

[The Children's Commissioner's work can be found here.](#)



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Charity Reg No. SC029403
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