



## Welcome back!

Welcome to the third edition of Rail Mail! What's been happening:

- We are recruiting for the next stage of our State of Children's Rights Report 2024!
- Together launched our Strategic Plan 2024-2032!
- Together celebrated the countdown to UNCRC incorporation at the Scottish Parliament,
- Scottish Government has released their response to the UN Concluding Observations.



## We are recruiting for the next stage of our State of Children's Rights Report 2024!

Do you work with babies, children or young people who would like to share their experiences of their human rights? Since February 2024, we have been working closely with five organisations as part of a 'Development Phase' engaging with babies, children and young people and providing feedback on our draft facilitator and child-friendly resources, which will be used to support this next phase.

We are now looking to recruit 12 organisations for the 'Engagement Phase', to engage babies, children and young people and share their stories and experiences of their rights to inform our State of Children's Rights report. The Engagement Phase will run from late April- 16th July 2024. The deadline for applications is 12:00 noon on Tuesday 16th April 2024.

Have some questions about the report and recruitment? We are holding a Q&A Drop-in Sessions on Tuesday 9th April @ 1pm, [sign up to attend and find out more here](#).

## Launch of Together's Strategic Plan 2024-2032!

Our strategic plan is a declaration of our commitment and a plan for action. Our three strategic priorities reflect a holistic approach to achieving our vision, focusing on proactive measures, responsive actions, and building the strength of the children's rights community to ensure the rights of every baby, child and young person in Scotland.

With a 'to do' list from the UN Committee and the power of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024, Together commits to work tirelessly to ensure that rights are not only recognised in law but become a lived reality for all babies, children and young people in Scotland - that Scotland becomes a place where all babies, children and young people can grow up in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.

[You can find our Strategic Plan here.](#)

### Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) Strategic Plan 2024-32: Visual summary

#### Vision

Scotland becomes a place where every baby, child and young person grows up in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.

#### Mission

Working with our membership, we act to ensure that all babies, children and young people growing up in Scotland have all

#### Our priorities

Our three strategic priorities reflect a holistic approach to achieving our mission, focusing on proactive measures, responsive actions, and building the strength of the children's rights community. The third priority is about creating the environment in which the first two priorities can be achieved.



#### Priority 1: Getting children's rights right

Leading systemic and cultural change through:

Strategic influencing – embedding children's human rights.

Capacity building – training our membership, bringing

## Together counts down to UNCRC incorporation with celebration at the Scottish Parliament!

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our event in the Scottish Parliament last week to celebrate the countdown to the UNCRC becoming part of Scots law and for all your support over the last 25 years!

On the day we heard from children and young people and members of Team Scotland UN who gave evidence to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child which resulted in the Concluding Observations (or, Scotland's 'to-do list'). We also heard from Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Ann Skelton, Natalie Don MSP Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping the Promise, and Martin Whitfield MSP who all showed their excitement for Scotland's to-do list to get children's #RightsOnTrack!

We all played games inspired by our new Strategic Goals like Rights Jenga, the Rights Detectives' Spider Races, making pledges on the Rights Express Train and more!

[Read more about the event here!](#)

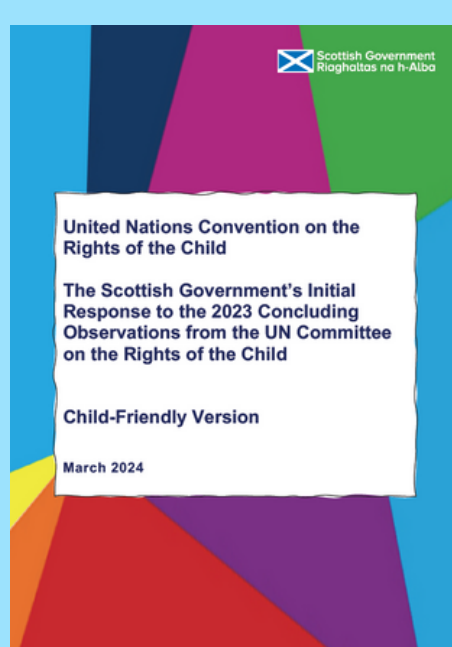


## Scottish Government has released its response to the Concluding Observations

Scottish Government has responded directly to children and young people about the UN Committee's recommendations for Scotland and the UK in a child-friendly summary. In the response, the Scottish Government addresses each recommendation, listing its progress since the recommendations were made in 2023 and its next steps towards implementation. Together welcomes the Scottish Government's efforts to keep children and young people informed, empowering them to oversee and scrutinise progress.

[A summary of the Concluding Observations and key issues can be found here along with our child-friendly version.](#)

[You can find the Scottish Governments response to the UN Concluding Observations and their child-friendly version here.](#)



## We need your help!

To properly monitor what's happening to keep children's #RightsOnTrack we need everyone on board - help us to spread this campaign across Scotland and tell children and young people and duty bearers that monitoring starts now!

We ask you to please:

- Apply now: if you are interested in supporting babies, children and young people to share their stories for our next State of Children's Rights Report then please [apply for the next phase here](#).
- Spread the word: please share the #RightsOnTrack campaign and our [sign-up link](#) to anyone you think might be interested. Feel free to share on twitter and social media and don't forget to use #RightsOnTrack tag!
- Stay tuned for our next update as we continue our journey towards a Scotland where children's rights are fully protected, respected and fulfilled!