



CHILDREN 1ST



WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
For Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

What is Kinship Care?

- Relative or close family friend
- Complex and challenging needs
- Formal and informal
- Estimated 4,000 formal and 16,000 informal kinship carers in Scotland
- Access to services and supports
- Children and Young People Bill, Scottish Government Financial Review of Kinship Care





WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
For Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

National Kinship Care Service

Information, Advice and Support Service

- The Kinship Care Helpline – ParentLine Scotland
- Policy activity
- Outreach and engagement
- Workshops





WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
For Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

Partnership Working

- Scottish Government
- Mentor UK
- Citizens Advice Scotland
- Education Scotland
- NHS Scotland
- ADSW
- Kinship Carers





WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
For Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

What Our Work Tells Us

Kinship carers tell us they need:

- Respite from caring
- Emotional support
- Advice, information and support around caring for children
- Access to free school meals/clothing grants to ease financial pressure
- Access to leisure facilities
- Advocacy to navigate through legal, health, housing or education systems
- Advice and support around dealing with contact arrangements for the children
- For the older grandparents in particular, knowing what will happen to the child/children should they become ill or pass away





WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
For Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

What Our Work Tells Us

For the children, kinship carers tell us they need:

- Counselling/therapeutic services and supports
- Extra support at school
- Help with managing relationships with their parents
- Peer support from other children living in kinship care
- Access to mental health services
- Help to understand and manage their relationship with their parents
- Help to understand the impacts and effects of drug and alcohol misuse.





WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
For Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

What Our Work Tells Us

1	Welfare Rights	144
2	Legal	68
3	Relationships with others	67
4	Information about CHILDREN 1 ST /PLS	68
5	Contact/Residence	62
6	Family Relationships	56
7	Substance Misuse	53
8	Behaviour/Discipline	33
9	Poverty/Unemployment/Housing	28
10	Bereavement and Loss	25

During 2012/13, 532 contacts were made from kinship carers to the Kinship Care Helpline—this is made up of 498 calls and 34 emails.

The top 10 issues raised by kinship carers are listed here. This gives an indication of the complex range of needs amongst this group of people.





WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
for Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

What Next?

- Building capacity of families and groups in their communities
- Children and Young People Bill
- Financial Review of Kinship Care
- 'Managing Your Money'





WE LISTEN, WE SUPPORT,
WE TAKE ACTION
for Scotland's vulnerable
children and families

ParentLine Scotland

T: 08000 28 22 33

E: parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk





CHILDREN 1ST