

## PEN PICTURE: National Third Sector Project



## Supporting the Third Sector Project

Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) is at the heart of ensuring that all children get the most from their education and learning, particularly those children and young people who are vulnerable, excluded and who need additional support and help. To ensure that GIRFEC works in practice it is vital that all agencies involved with children and young people work well together. This includes the many third sector organisations supporting children and their families, and providing services across Scotland in our most disadvantaged communities.

The National Third Sector GIRFEC (NTSG) project supported Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs), Third Sector Interfaces and the wider third sector to strengthen their role in implementing GIRFEC in localities. A crucial part of this involves embedding the role of the community and third sector in community planning.

Building on the success of the NTSG Project, the Supporting the Third Sector Project continues its commitment to support the Third Sector to be a strong partner in Children's Services Planning, as in Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. The project is hosted by Children in Scotland.

### **What is the project trying to achieve?**

Our ambition is that the Third Sector is fully integrated with Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) and contributes to the strategic planning of local children and family services as equal partners. This means:

- Increased local third sector engagement in planning, development and budgeting of services
- Strengthened local support structures and clear paths for effective engagement with third sector locally
- Local and community-based third sector voices are amplified within national policy development
- Stronger impact of the third sector across all areas of national and local policy development as a result of increased capacity and capability of Third Sector Interfaces.

### **How are we going to achieve these aims?**

Key aspects of the project includes:

- Building capacity of the workforce
- Facilitating the national TSI Children's Services Network
- Keeping organisations informed of relevant policies and legislations
- Providing tailored support to local Children's Services Forums
- Co-ordinating opportunities for third sector and statutory partners to network, develop collaborative working and influence policies
- Supporting local third sector organisations and grassroots community groups to have a voice at national level.

More information on the project website, or contact the Supporting the Third Sector team:  
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