

Jersey input to UNCRC mid-term report

Issue	Progress	What needs to be done
Mental and Physical Health	<p>The Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel published their review of mental health services in Jersey last year. Key issues highlighted regarding children and young people include the need for appropriate places of safety and adequate arrangements for transition. In its recently published 'Proposed Government Plan 2020-23' the Government has committed in 2020 to begin implementation of a new care pathway for CAMHS, strengthen preventive approaches in schools and parish communities, and improve access to mental health services for those in need of crisis support. It is not clear what this crisis support means for children and young people.</p> <p>Currently at times of high demand, children and young people requiring in-patient care are still being placed, inappropriately, in adult facilities. These facilities have been identified by both the Scrutiny Panel and the Government as not fit for purpose.</p>	<p>The Government needs to stop placing children and young people in adult mental health facilities and provide suitable, age-appropriate facilities for children and young people who are requiring in-patient care for their mental health.</p> <p>A sustainable and long-term solution is required but whilst that is developed better arrangements need to be put in place in the interim which respects children's rights.</p>
Financial Security		
Supporting Families	<p>Add something here around restrictions to housing, medical care and income support based on length of time parents have lived here leading to families just about managing. Wealth hides poverty. 1 in 10 households are in severe material deprivation, however the economy is driven by international financial services. How does a Government begin to 'put children first?'</p>	<p>Bring forward legislative and policy changes to ensure all children can enjoy their rights.</p> <p>Articles 2, 6, 24, 27,</p>
Violence towards children	<p>The States Assembly have agreed in principle to remove the defence of reasonable chastisement under the Children (Jersey) Law 2002 in order to provide equal protection to children under the law.</p>	<p>The Government will now need to bring forward the necessary legislative changes.</p>
Online Safety		
Criminal Justice	<p>An independent Youth Justice Review has recently been undertaken in Jersey which covers use of secure accommodation, minimum age of criminal</p>	<p>The Government must take a collaborative, unified, non-silo approach to the review and its</p>

	<p>responsibility and a more restorative and welfare-based approach to youth justice. The Government is yet to publish its response.</p>	<p>recommendations and to rethink and design a justice system that is truly child friendly. Government officers of Justice and Home Affairs and Children, Young People, Education and Skills Departments have been asked to determine how these recommendations may best be implemented and to return to the Council of Ministers with a detailed plan of action by the Autumn 2019.</p>
Education	<p>Government have committed to improving educational outcomes as a part of the proposed Government Plan 2020-23, key actions include improving the Jersey Premium offer, updating the School Review Framework and developing more a more integrated early years offer. A 'Community Conversation' is due to commence which will seek views on key areas of focus for the reform of education law and policy in Jersey.</p> <p>Concerns remain regarding school behaviour policies and the use of formal exclusions in certain schools; and access to an inclusive, on-island education, for children with disabilities.</p>	<p>A full roll out of the school review framework, with school reports published, and additional resources for school requiring improvement is to be welcomed. Any review of quality and standards in education should support excellence for all pupils regardless of the school they attend, by providing high quality inspection and advice on policy.</p>
Machinery of Government	<p>The Government of Jersey has agreed to bring forward plans to incorporate the UNCRC indirectly, in a manner similar to the Welsh Government. A Children's Rights Impact Assessment will be introduced as part of this process. A new bill is anticipated for debate in 2020.</p>	<p>Incorporation will ensure that children's rights are woven into policy, law and decision making. Children will be empowered to know and understand their rights and, if necessary, defend them in court.</p>