



“Working towards
Unicef Child Friendly
Cities and Communities”

CHILD FRIENDLY
CITIES &
COMMUNITIES
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Unicef Child Friendly Cities and Communities





ABOUT CFC

- Child Friendly Cities & Communities is a Unicef UK programme that **works with councils to put children's rights into practice.**
- The programme aims to create cities and communities in the UK where all children – whether they are living in care, using a children's centre, or simply visiting their local library – have a meaningful say in, and truly benefit from, the local decisions, services and spaces that shape their lives.
- The programme is part of **Child Friendly Cities** – a global Unicef initiative that reaches **close to 30 million children in 40 countries.**



CHILD FRIENDLY
CITIES &
COMMUNITIES

unicef 
UNITED KINGDOM



**FOR EVERY CHILD
IN DANGER**

unicef
UNITED KINGDOM

UNCRC – Cluster of Participation Rights

Participation is a guiding principle of the UNCRC and is crucial in helping us to how to fully implement the UNCRC



- **Article 2. Non-Discrimination:** You should be supported to participate regardless of your identity, what you think or say, or your family background.
- **Article 3. Best Interests of the Child:** Your best interests must be the top priority in decisions about your life and you should be included in establishing them.
- **Article 4. Implementation. Making Rights real:** Governments must do all they can to promote and protect your rights and create the environments in which these rights can thrive.
- **Article 5. Family guidance as children develop:** Young children and those with additional support needs should be supported to participate, in line with their development and with the guidance of their parent or carers.

UNCRC – Cluster of Participation Rights

- **Article 12: Respect for children and young people’s views:** You should have a say in decisions that affect you.
- **Article 13: Freedom of Expression:** You should be able to say what you think in lots of different ways, unless it breaks the rights of others.
- **Article 14: Freedom of thought, belief and religion:** With help from parents or your family, you are free to have your own views.
- **Article 15. Freedom of association:** The right for you to organise, join groups and get together with peers.
- **Article 16. Privacy:** The right for protection of your privacy, family and home life, including protection from attacks on a child’s reputation.
- **Article 17. Access to information:** The right to access reliable information from a variety of sources in a way that you can understand.



THE CFC JOURNEY

RECOGNITION LASTS FOR 3 YEARS

An independent panel of experts assesses the council's progress and decides whether to recognise the city/community as a Unicef Child Friendly City or Community



DELIVERY 2-4 YEARS

The council works with the local community and children and young people to carry out the Action Plan



DEVELOPMENT

An Action Plan is drafted and approved showing how the council will achieve progress in those badges

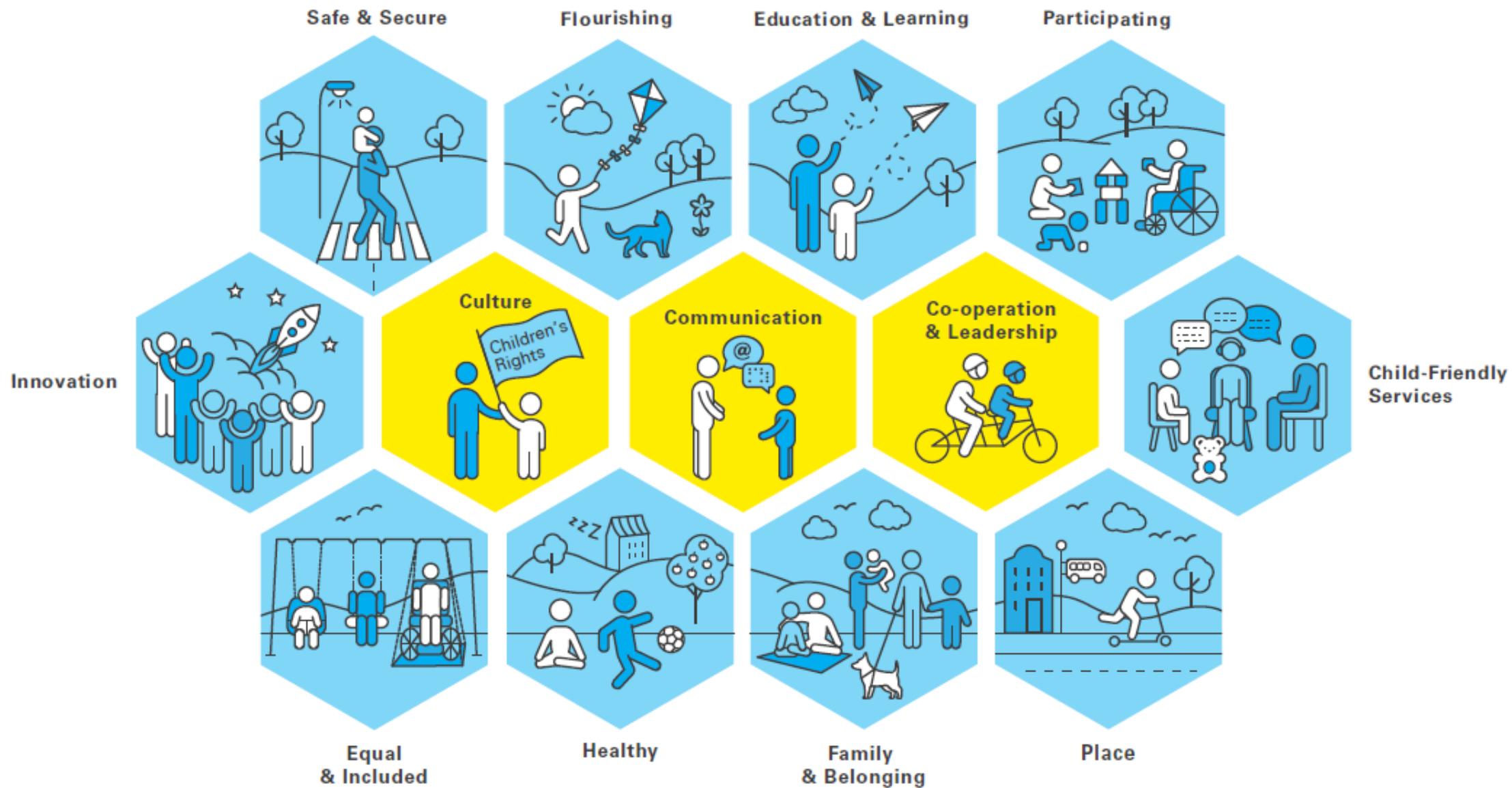


DISCOVERY

The council, community and children and young people come together to agree their priorities, known as 'badges'



THE BADGES



Progress in Derry/ Londonderry and Strabane



July 2018
Launch at Foyle Maritime

July 2019
Adult and Youth Steering Group trained by Unicef

Oct 2019 – Jan 2020
11 Organisations consulted through remote participation

March – August 2020
Online – co-design of outcomes based on consultation results

May 2021
Action Planning Briefing
Training of WHSCT staff

July 2018 – September 2020

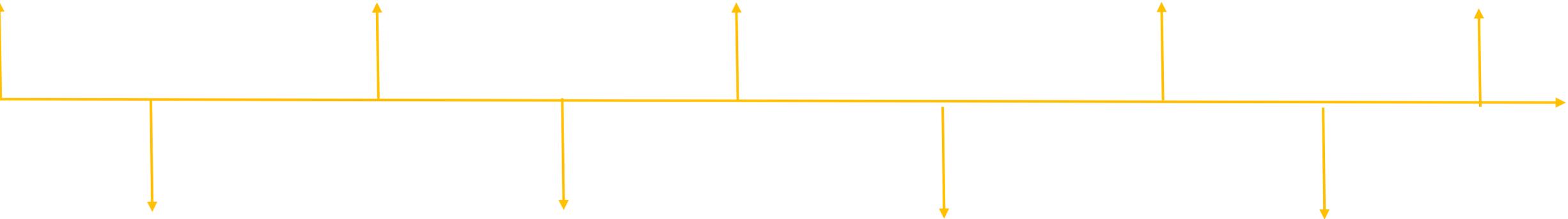
- 134 people trained in Intro to Child Rights in Practice
- 41 in Engagement and Participation

September 2019
1st formal meeting of steering groups – (ongoing bi-weekly)

February 2020
Community and Youth Discovery Days

Sept 2020 – April 2021

- Senior Management Briefings
- Training – Councillors, Professionals working with CYP, Youth Advisory Panel



Remote Consultation

- 11 organisations completed the Remote Consultation



Handwritten notes:

Breaking News!

Young people take a stand against suicide!

Budget increase for Aitnagelvin

Teen drinking figures plummet to all time low

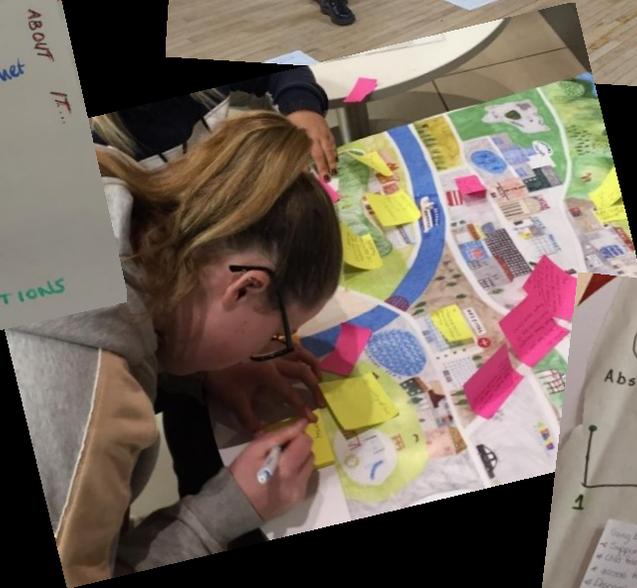
No need for Speed.

Sides of bridges raised

DERRY TEENS RECYCLE

FOYLESIDE RENOVATIONS

Vertical text on the right: All ABOUT IT...



Handwritten hashtags:

- # Save the turtles
- # youth contributes
- # youthwork works
- # mindrinc
- # suicideaware
- # cleanerfoyle
- # mentallyhealthy
- # youngpeople rule
- # youngmindsmatter
- # youthfuture



Unicef Discovery Days

- ✓ Youth Discovery Evening (33)
- ✓ Community and Youth Discovery Day (133)



Mandatory Badges



Communication: Across the City and District

- Information about child rights is shared with children, young people and adults in different ways
 - People know when important decisions affecting children, young people and families are being made.
1. The community has a better awareness of Child Rights locally and the situation for Children and Young People. They understand the actions being taken to make improvements, the role of the community and the power of adults, children and young people working together to achieve these.
 2. Children and young people see positive stories about their achievements celebrated in the media (like in newspapers, on TV, on the radio and social media). Communications staff and local media understand and value children's rights and know how to put them into practice.
 3. All children and young people including those with additional needs are able to access information they need about their rights and support that might make their lives easier, healthier, safer and happier.

Mandatory Badges



Cooperation and Leadership: Across the City and District

- People work together to make the city better for children and young people
 - Decisions are made involving children and young people.
1. All children and young people enjoy spaces and opportunities to have their voices heard and to influence change in their community. All adult decision makers value the importance of incorporating children's rights; they work together and have the skills to make this happen.
 2. All staff and leaders – no matter where they work - are skilled Child Rights Champions, and are able to use tools such as Child Rights Impact Assessments.
 3. There is greater collaboration and multi-agency cooperation between the Council/ Western Health and Social Care Trust, Education Authority, third sector and private sector on all issues relating to the rights of children and young people.



Mandatory Badges

Culture: Across the City and District

- People value and respect children and young people
- People know about and respect children's rights.



1. Children and young people consistently enjoy interaction with staff and people within their community who know and understand how to use Child Rights to Improve their work.
2. Children and young people don't feel judged or stereotyped because of who they are, where they live, what they look like or anything else connected to their identity; their rights are understood and respected by all in society and publicly championed by all leaders.
3. Children and Young People feel welcome and respected in everyday interaction, communication and conversation (i.e. talk, acts, words and gestures) with adults and their peers.

Optional Badges

Healthy: Children and young people:

- have good physical, mental and emotional health
- are supported if they have any additional needs
- Know how to stay healthy.



1. All children have access to quality, evidence-based CYP-friendly and rights respecting health services when they need it.
2. Children and young people are aware of how to protect their mental health, with wider promotion, availability and access to services. They have safe places to go when they need support and know who to talk to when they are feeling sad, worried or anxious.
3. Children and young people are aware of the impact that alcohol and drugs has on their physical, mental and emotional health. They can access age appropriate services to support a healthy awareness of alcohol and drugs.

Optional Badges



Equal and Included: All children and young people, regardless of their background, culture, ability or anything else

- Feel welcome in the city and district
 - have the same opportunities to grow, learn, explore and have fun
 - are protected from discrimination.
1. Children and young people experience policies, services and programmes free from direct and indirect discrimination. CYP feel important, respected and valued, no matter who they are or where they are from.
 2. All children and young people have access to appropriate play spaces which are inclusive for everyone of all ages and abilities.
 3. When the rights of children and young people are not respected, they are able to make a complaint and for that complaint to be taken seriously and acted upon.

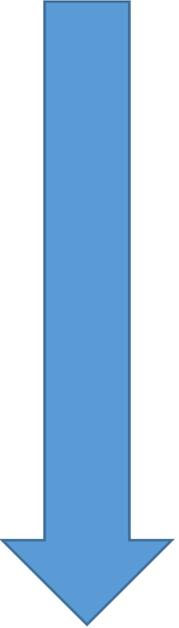
Optional Badges



Education and Learning: Children and young people

- are able to learn about the world around them in a safe, welcoming and respectful place (This includes children and young people who aren't able to attend school).
1. Children with all abilities/support needs experience holistic education, that prepares them for life and addresses the issues of their time, this includes enjoying the space and time to play and continuous access to a range of learning activities within and outside of school.
 2. Children and Young People shape decisions made within their school or other learning spaces to ensure their wellbeing.
 3. All members of the educational community actively promote and support holistic health and wellbeing, creating an environment where children feel accepted and free to be themselves and express themselves.



Next Steps/ Milestones		
June	Strengthen governance group arrangements – Youth Participation Board/ Working Groups	<p>Ongoing participation and engagement with children and young people to further inform the activities and outputs within the CFC action plan.</p> 
July and August	23 rd July - workshop with adult steering group Ongoing opportunity for governance group members drafting the action plan to access support from CFC team: 1:1 / group support / online and phone calls.	
September	20 th - D&S submit first draft of action plan to CFC team 29 th - CFC team provide feedback	
October	18 th – D&S submit final draft of action plan	
November	9 th – Action plan review meeting	
December	Final CFC action plan submitted to committee The Delivery phase will formally start from the point of the action plan being ratified by council (audit and baseline activity can take place between the final action plan and committee / full council approval.	
January 2022	Action plan ratified at full council	

Concluding Comments

- A child rights based approach is based on the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) - 42 Rights
- 7 Principals of a Child Rights base approach: Participation, Dignity, Best Interest, Life Survival and Development, Non Discrimination, Transparency and Accountability, Interdependence and Indivisibility
- Cannot have Child Rights based approach without participation – Cluster of Participation Rights (voices should hap be included before ideas are formed – ask first)
- Badges: Healthy, Equal and Included, Education and Learning, Communication, Culture, Cooperation and Learning
- Development of cross organisational and departmental action plan (2-3 years)
- Youth Participation Board led by EA will commence on 7th July 2021 (operational working groups will sit below to form the action plan)
- Accountable people/ leads should be identified for each badge/ outcome
- Workshop – July/ 1:1 and small group support Aug & Sept/ first draft action plan by Sept / final draft Nov.

