

PART A 1.1 Characteristics

Sec 21 SCAI - Foster Care Case Study

PART A: BACKGROUND

History of the Local Authority

| Past:   | 1930-75  | 1975-96  | 1996>   |
|---|--|--|---|
| a) Over the period from 1930 to date, please provide details of the predecessor authorities for the local authority are for which the authority is now responsible authority for the area, or any part thereof. | Argyllshire County Council   | Strathclyde Regional Council   | Argyll and Bute Council   |
| <p><i>All subsequent references to "local authority" mean the local authority and its statutory predecessors.</i><br/> <i>All references to "foster care" include boarding out with private families.</i></p>   |  |  |   |
| b) When and how did the local authority become involved in the provision of foster care for children in Scotland?   | Responsibility reflected legislative requirements  | Responsibility reflected legislative requirements  | Since the founding of Argyll and Bute Council in 1996, the Council have a statutory duty to ensure provision of services to looked after children including residential care. |
| c) How has the involvement of the local authority in the provision of foster care changed/developed over time?  | Involvement has evolved to reflect changing statutory responsibilities and national guidance | Involvement has evolved to reflect changing statutory responsibilities and national guidance | Involvement has evolved to reflect changing statutory responsibilities and national guidance  |

Part A 1.2 Funding of Foster Care

| Past: |  | 1930-75   | 1975-96   | 1996>   |
|-------|--|---|---|---|
| a)    | How are the local authority's operations and activities, so far as relating to the provision of foster care, funded?   | Local Government funding  | Local Government funding  | The operations and activities relating to the provision of foster care for children was/is funded by Argyll and Bute Council  |
| b)    | To what extent, if any, did the local authority provide funding to other organisations for the purpose of provision of foster care?  | There does not appear to have been any systematic use of other organisations  | In April 1976 the Social Work Committee of SRC approved recommendations of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) regarding supervision of children placed in other regions. Due to the lack of staff resources, it is noted that many authorities were unable at the present time to accept responsibility for supervision of SRC children. The Western Isles Council offered to do it for a fee of £100 a year. Same arrangements to be made with other receiving authorities when they are in a position to accept similar responsibilities. In 1985 a report on the Emergency Foster Care Scheme records that the Department currently spends £360,000 of the Fostering Budget on Special Fostering Placements with voluntary bodies. | There has been no systematic funding to other providers - occasionally some children have been placed with foster carer provided by approved external fostering agencies and for a brief period following the dissolution of SRC some Argyll children will have been cared for by previous SRC foster carers who became the responsibility of other Councils. |
| c)    | If funding was provided by the local authority to other organisations for the provision of foster care, to whom was it provided, when was it provided and what criteria were applicable to its provision?                        | There does not appear to have been any systematic use of other organisations  | The arrangements for supervision were that:<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the receiving authority should accept responsibility for the effective supervision of children received within their area</li> <li>• social workers from both care and receiving authorities should meet at least annually to review the progress of the child and continually plan for his/her long-term future; and should exchange quarterly reports to cover the development and wellbeing of the child and the changing circumstance of his/her own home situation,</li> </ul>   | Any external provision will have been commissioned from approved national providers on a case by case basis, use of external fostering placement was very rare and only occurred in exceptional circumstances. Detailed records of these agencies and commissioning arrangements have not been retained.  |
| d)    | To what extent was financial state support available to foster carers? How were foster carers made aware of that state support? How was that state support accessed by foster carers (e.g. directly or via the local authority?) | Foster carers received payments at rates approved by the Children's Committee | Advice given to Foster Carers about all financial options.  | All funding is provided by the Local Authority.   |

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| e) | To what extent was financial support from the local authority available to foster carers?   | Records confirm that from 1950 foster carers received payments at rates approved by the Children's Committee. No relevant records of arrangements have been identified prior to 1950 | <p>Throughout the period SRC made available funding for foster carers.</p> <p>The foster care handbook, 1976 states that foster parents have the right to a weekly maintenance allowance for children in their care, and other financial help to minimise out of pocket expenses, the child's social worker to explain the procedure for receiving extra help where appropriate. This might be in the form of enhanced allowance for difficult children or in special circumstance. There are also discretionary payments which are paid on application. Allowances to which foster parents have a right include payment for school uniforms, extraordinary travelling expenses for attending a hospital, and allowances which help the child develop any special interests or talent.</p> <p>Other grants include Christmas; birthdays, holiday grant, also other costs; travel to hospital; provision of tools for work; playgroup fees, sports or youth club.</p> <p>Foster guidelines 1985/6 confirm details of allowances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• standard fostering allowances are all inclusive, and as well as maintenance, they include a sum for clothing, holidays, birthdays and Christmas expenditure</li> <li>• enhanced allowances, Director of Social Work has authority to pay up to double the weekly fostering allowance for children with special needs</li> <li>• discretionary allowances for special purchases, e.g. music lessons or instruments, dancing lessons, horse riding club uniforms (e.g. Girl guides)</li> </ul> | Throughout the period Argyll and Bute Council made available funding for foster carers. This was reviewed periodically and rates amended   |
| f) | If financial support was available, what was the source of those funds (i.e. from local central government?) What criteria did the local authority apply to the distribution of such funds? | Local Government Funds   | Local Government Funds  | Local Government Funds   |
| g) | How were foster carers made aware of any financial support available from the local authority? How was that financial support accessed by foster carers?                                    | Was overseen by Children's Officer   | Foster carers were made aware of financial support through: application/recruitment processes; publicity campaigns; foster care handbook. A leaflet on fostering allowances scheme was sent out at every change.  | Foster carers were made aware of financial support through: application/recruitment processes; publicity campaigns; foster care handbook. A leaflet on fostering allowances scheme was sent out at every change. |
| h) | What other sources of funding were available to foster carers in relation to the provision of care for children?  | not known  | The foster carer could access discretionary funding   | Fostering allowances covered all routine cost, on occasion, and in exceptional circumstances additional discretionary payments could be made   |
| i) | Was the funding adequate to properly care for the children?   | The Children's Committee approved payment rates and regularly reviewed these.  | The trend was to support recommendation for funding levels from COSLA   | Funding/allocated budgets are reviewed annually to ensure this is adequate to meet the needs of the children and young people and to reflect national recommended rates  |

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| j) | If not, why not? |  | The available historical records do not hold any evidence about lack of funding |
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| <b>Present:</b> |  | <b>1930-75</b>          | <b>1975-96</b>        | <b>1996&gt;</b> |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| k)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different? | rates changed over time | see subsequent period | no              |
| l)              | If so, please give details.  |                         |                       |                 |

Part A 1.3 Legal Status

(I) Local Authority

| Past: | 1930-75  | 1975-96  | 1996>                                       |  |
|-------|--|--|---|--|
| a)    | <p>What was the legal basis which authorised or enabled the local authority to become responsible for the provision of foster care for children in Scotland?</p> | <p>Children Act 1948 and preceding legislation</p> | <p>Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973</p> | <p>The legal basis that authorised the organisation to become responsible for the provision of residential care including foster care for children in Scotland is</p> <p>The Children Act 1958<br/>                     Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968<br/>                     Children (Scotland) Act 1995<br/>                     Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007<br/>                     Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011.<br/>                     Social Work (Scotland)<br/>                     Adoption (Scotland) Act 1978<br/>                     Foster Children (Scotland) Act 1984<br/>                     The Boarding Out and Fostering of Children (Scotland) 1985<br/>                     The Children (Scotland) Act 1995<br/>                     The Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996<br/>                     Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007<br/>                     Looked After (Scotland) Regulations 2009<br/>                     Guidance on the Looked After (Scotland) Regulations 2009 and the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007<br/>                     Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011.<br/>                     Children &amp; Young People (Scotland) Act 2014</p> |

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| b)              | Did that legal basis require the local authority to meet, or fulfill, any legal and/or regulatory requirements in respect of children in its care? If so, please give details. | unable to identify from available records | Main legislation was - Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act 1973 | <p>In addition to the requirements of the legislation identified at 1.3a iv. Above, the organisation was required to meet the requirements of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access (Notice of Termination and of Refusal) (Forms) (Scotland) Order 1983;</li> <li>• Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 2009;</li> <li>• Aftercare (Eligible Needs) (Scotland) Order 2015;</li> <li>• Arrangements to Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996;</li> <li>• Boarding-out and Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1985;</li> <li>• Children (Reciprocal Enforcement of Prescribed Orders etc. (England and Wales and Northern Ireland) (Scotland) Regulations 1996;</li> <li>• Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 (Child Protection Emergency Measures) Regulations 2012;</li> <li>• Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 (Compulsory Supervision Orders etc.: Further Provision) Regulations 2013;</li> <li>• Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 (Implementation of Secure Accommodation Authorisation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013;</li> <li>• Children's Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011 (Movement Restriction Conditions) Regulations 2013;</li> <li>• Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 (Transfer of Children to Scotland – Effect of Orders made in England and Wales or Northern Ireland) Regulations 2013;</li> <li>• Emergency Child Protection Measures (Scotland) Regulations 1996;</li> <li>• Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996;</li> <li>• Refugees for Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996;</li> <li>• Residential Establishments – Child Care (Scotland) Regulations 1996;</li> <li>• Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009;</li> <li>• Secure Accommodation (Scotland) Regulations 1983;</li> <li>• Secure Accommodation (Scotland) regulations 1996;</li> <li>• Secure Accommodation (Scotland) Regulations 2013;</li> <li>• Social Work (Representations Procedure) (Scotland) Order 1990;</li> <li>• Social Work (Representations Establishments-Child Care) (Scotland) Regulations 1987;</li> <li>• Support &amp; Assistance of Young People Leaving Care (Scotland) Regulations 2003;</li> <li>• Children &amp; Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.</li> </ul> |
| c)              | Did the local authority have a legal duty of care to each child in its care?   | Yes                                       | Yes   | Yes  |
| <b>Present:</b> |  | <b>1930-75</b>                            | <b>1975-96</b>  | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
| d)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?   | See later periods                         | see later periods   | No with reference to the present position, the answers to the above questions remain the same.   |
| e)              | If so, please give details.  |   |   | N/A  |

(ii) Foster Carers

| Past:  | 1930-75                                   | 1975-96   | 1996>  |
|--|---|---|--|
| a) Did foster carers have a special legal, statutory or other status?  | unable to identify from available records |   | In this period, all foster carers needed to be recommended for Approval by the Fostering Panel; formally approved by the Agency Decision Maker, then registered as the local authority foster carers. Legal basis for caring for children came from previous legislation and The Children (Scotland) Act 1995, and associated Regulations and Guidance |
| b) If not, how did the local authority classify a foster carer?  | unable to identify from available records | <p>The ranges of permanent and temporary placements would differ across the time of the Inquiry.</p> <p>In Strathclyde fostering placements were divided into two main groups – temporary and permanent - but within each of these, there is a range of placements with families having different qualities and resources to offer to meet the needs of children in care.</p> <p>A temporary placement was one where the decision to foster was taken with the objective that the child will be cared for temporarily in a family setting, and when the placement is a definite plan either to return the child to his family or to an alternative the range of temporary placements included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency placement</li> <li>• Pre-adoption placement</li> <li>• Respite Holiday placement</li> <li>• Task-centred placement</li> </ul> <p>A permanent placement is one where the decision to place includes a definite plan that the child will remain in that placement until reaching independence, leaving care, or moving on to adoption by the foster parents, particularly if when placed, the child is under 12. The range of permanent placements will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fostering with family contact</li> <li>• Fostering without family contact</li> <li>• Fostering with view to adoption</li> <li>• Fostering by relatives</li> </ul> | not applicable   |
| c) What was the legal basis which authorised, or enabled, a foster carer to become responsible or caring for children?   | Children Act 1948                         | Main legislation was - Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act 1973   | See above  |
| d) Did that legal basis require a foster carer to meet, or fulfil, any legal and/or regulatory requirements in respect of children in his or her care? If so, please give details. | Children Act 1948                         | Main legislation was - Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act 1973   | By signing the Placement Agreement foster carers agree to comply with relevant legislation and regulations including Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009   |
| e) Did the foster carer have a legal duty of care to each child in his or her care?  | unable to identify from available records | exact arrangements may have varied dependant on legal status of an individual child and any legal orders pertaining to that child   | exact arrangements may have varied dependant on legal status of an individual child and any legal orders pertaining to that child  |

| <b>Present:</b> |  | <b>1930-75</b>                         | <b>1975-96</b>        | <b>1996&gt;</b> |
|-----------------|--|--|-----------------------|-----------------|
| f)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different? | Legislation has changed over the years | see subsequent period | no              |
| g)              | If so, please give details.  |  |                       |                 |



**Part A 1.4 Legal Responsibility**

**(I) Local Authority**

| Past:    |  | 1930-75                                  | 1975-96  | 1996>  |
|----------|--|--|--|--|
| a)       | Did the local authority have any legal responsibility for the children in its care?  | Yes                                      | Yes  | Yes  |
| b)       | If so, what was the nature and extent of that legal responsibility?  | As prescribed in legislation             | Legal responsibilities are those laid out in the relevant statutes and regulations that pertained at the time: per answers to questions 1.3(a)4&5  | Legal responsibilities are laid out in the relevant statutes and regulations that pertained at the time: see answers to questions 1.3 (a) iv & v.  |
| c)       | Did any other person or organisation have any legal responsibility for the children while they were in the local authority's care? | Unable to confirm from available records | People with parental responsibilities and rights (hereafter referred to as 'parents'), continued to have some legal responsibility for their children while they were in the care of the organisation.   | People with parental responsibilities and rights (hereafter referred to as 'parents', although not always parents in the ordinary sense of the word) continued to have some legal responsibility for their children while they were in the care of the organisation unless those parental rights and responsibilities had been removed by a court order.   |
| d)       | If so, what was the nature and extent of that legal responsibility?  | Unable to confirm from available records | <p>If a child was being accommodated by the local authority under voluntary measures, parents retained full parental responsibilities and rights.</p> <p>If a child was accommodated subject to a supervision order or a child protection order, parents retained their responsibilities and rights, but could not exercise their rights, except within the terms of the relevant order.</p> <p>Where a child was accommodated in terms of a parental rights order, all parental responsibilities and rights would be removed from the parents and transferred to the organisation</p> | Nature and extent of legal responsibility will have varied dependent on the legal status of the individual child or young person. If for example a child was being accommodated by the local authority under voluntary measures, parents retained full parental responsibilities and rights. If a child was accommodated subject to a supervision order or a child protection order, parents retained their responsibilities and rights, but could not exercise their rights, except within the terms of the relevant order. Where a child was accommodated in terms of a parental rights order/permanence order, all parental responsibilities and rights would be removed from the parents and transferred to the organisation with exception of their right to consent to adoption. |
| e)       | If the local authority has no legal responsibility for children in its care where or with whom did legal responsibility lie?       | Not Applicable                           | Not Applicable   | Not Applicable   |
| Present: |  | 1930-75                                  | 1975-96  | 1996>  |
| f)       | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?                                   | see subsequent periods                   | Yes there were a number of significant changes with the implementation of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995   | No   |

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| g) | If so, please give details. |  |  | Supervision orders have now been replaced by compulsory supervision orders, but have a similar effect to that described. Parental rights orders have been replaced by permanence orders. These transfer the responsibility and right of the parent to have the child living with them to the organisation. The remaining parental responsibilities and rights may be removed from the parents and given to the organisation and/or another individual, or remain with some or all of the parents, in accordance with the decision of the Court. |
|----|-----------------------------|--|--|---|

**(ii) Foster Carers**

| <b>Past:</b>    |  | <b>1930-75</b>                               | <b>1975-96</b> | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
|-----------------|--|--|----------------|--|
| a)              | Did the foster carer have any separate legal responsibility (separate from the local authority) for children in his or her care? | Not Known                                    | No             | Foster carers did not usually have separate Legal responsibility (separate from the organisation) for children in their care. exception would be where a Permanence Order gives the foster carers direct responsibility via ancillary provision to the Order |
| b)              | If so, what was the nature of that responsibility?   | Not Known                                    |                | N/A see above  |
| <b>Present:</b> |  | <b>1930-75</b>                               | <b>1975-96</b> | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
| c)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to either of the above questions different?                              | Responsibilities will have changed over time |                | no   |
| d)              | If so, please give details.  |  |                |  |

Part A 1.5 Ethos

| Past:    |   | 1930-75   | 1975-96   | 1996>  |
|----------|---|---|---|--|
| a)       | What did the local authority see as its function, ethos and/or objective in terms of the foster care service it provided for children?  | No explicit record of this identified. Records from 1950 indicate that The Children's Committee was aware of and implemented legislation and relevant government guidance with regard to their care of children. No relevant records have been identified prior to 1950 | Provision of an effective fostering service was a key service priority for SRC in meetings the needs of children in care  | The function, ethos and mission of the organisation in executing its duties and responsibilities to children and young people in care is to ensure they receive safe, nurturing and inclusive care that enables them to achieve the best outcomes possible.  |
| b)       | What did the local authority see as the foster carer's function, ethos and/or objective in terms of the service that the foster carer provided to children placed with him or her?                                    | No explicit record of this identified   | Provision of an effective fostering service was a key service priority for SRC in meetings the needs of children in care. This was detailed in various strategic documents. | The organisation has a clear expectation that the fostering service's function, ethos and/or mission in its duties and responsibilities to children and young people was to ensure they receive safe, nurturing and inclusive care that enabled them to achieve the best outcomes possible. see above  |
| c)       | Were there changes over time in terms of what the local authority saw as its function, ethos and/or objective in terms of the foster care service it provided for children?   | yes   | Provision of an effective fostering service was a key service priority for SRC in meetings the needs of children in care.   | Yes<br>Over time, the expectations of the foster carers in terms of delivery of the care plan has become higher. There is also an increased focus on involvement with birth families.  |
| d)       | If so, what were the changes and when and why did they come into effect?  | Changing national guidance and practice, changes on legislation.  | Various changes developed over time in response to changing legislation, guidance and national best practice.   | The changes has taken place in response to new and developing legislation, guidance, regulations and the introduction of National Care Standards and in response to inspection. Changes were introduced to improve outcomes for children, in line with developing evidence based research  |
| e)       | Were the changes over time in terms of what the local authority saw as the foster carer's function, ethos and/or objective in terms of the service that the foster carer provided to children placed with him or her? | yes   | Main changes are reflected in fostering procedures 1976 and updated in 1986   | Not withstanding the above there was no fundamental change to the service's core function, ethos and/or mission<br>Changes came about in line with ongoing national guidance and practice  |
| f)       | If so, what were the changes and when and why did they come into effect?  | Changing national guidance and practice, changes on legislation.  | Changing national guidance and practice, changes on legislation.  | Changes have been in respect of how the function, ethos and/or mission has been delivered for example the involvement of children and their families in planning for their care, setting appropriate review timescales, making decisions in all aspects of the child's life and ensuring that we uphold the individual rights of the child, amongst other. see above |
| Present: |   | 1930-75   | 1975-96   | 1996>  |
| c)       | With reference to the present position, are the answers to either of the above questions different?   |   | fostering services provided by Argyll and Bute Council from 1996  | No   |
| d)       | If so, please give details.   |   | Glasgow City Council cannot comment on current arrangements.  | N/A  |

**Part A 1.6 Numbers**

**(I) Local Authority**

| Past:   | 1930-75   | 1975-96   | 1996>   |
|---|---|---|---|
| a) How many children did the local authority accommodate at a time in foster care and in how many placements  | numbers varied throughout this period; June 1950 - 84 boarded out, Sept 1958 -96 in care and 55 boarded out. Dec 1957-93 in care and 61 boarded out. June 1961 -73 in care and 38 boarded out. March 1967 - 72 in care 36 boarded out. No relevant records have been identified prior to 1950 | Glasgow City Archive have not provided us with this information they may be able to provide the inquiry with information of children in care during this period to Strathclyde Regional Council | The number of children accommodated in foster care has fluctuated throughout the years, as has the number of approved foster carers, and their capacity. Currently we have 33 fostering households offering up to 45 placements.  |
| b) How many foster carers were approved/registered by the local authority at any give time? How many placement for children did this represent? How many placements were in use at any given time?  | Number of carers unclear from available records   | Glasgow City Archive have not provided us with that information they may be able to provide the inquiry with information on numbers of Strathclyde Regional Council Carers during this period.  | Statistical records of the number of accommodated children are incomplete and indicate at least 528, accommodated away from their home since 1996. In 2000 records confirm that at that time there were 21 children living in Council homes, 21 in external residential provision / schools, 23 in foster care, one in secure accommodation and 10 disabled children accessing residential respite in external provision. By Oct 2013 this was Foster Carers purchased by Local Authority 1<br>LA Children's Home 10, Other Residential 17, Residential School 8, With Foster Carers provided by Local Authority 53, With Friends/Relatives 57<br>With Prospective Adopters 2 |
| c) if foster carers were approved/registered by the local authority as providing only specific types of care - e.g. respite care, short-term foster care, long-term foster care - please provide details of the categories and the numbers of placements in each. | unable to identify from available records   | see above   | From 1996 to around 2015, categories of fostering were Emergency; respite; short term and permanent. Since around 2015, categories changed to emergency; short break; interim; long term and permanent fostering. As most foster carers provide for more than one category at a time based on individual assessments.   |
| d) Please provide details of any material changes in numbers of children, placements of foster carers, and the reasons for those changes?   | unable to identify from available records   | see above   | Only significant change during this period was new guidance issued by the Scottish Government in recent years, limiting fostering households to a maximum of 3 children, unless siblings or justifiable reason to go over this number.  |
| e) How many children in total were accommodated by the local authority (whether in foster care or otherwise)?   | Sept 1958 96 in care and 55 boarded out. Dec 1957; 93 in care and 61 boarded out. June 1961 73 in care and 38 boarded out. March 1967 72 in care 36 boarded out. Number of carers unclear   | see above   | Numbers of looked after and accommodated children in Argyll and Bute fluctuates and has been steadily decreasing. For example in 2010 there were between 140 and 155 at any one time and by 2014 this had dropped to between 110 and 120 at any one time  |

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| f) | In general terms, was the main service provided by the local authority the provision of residential care for children in establishments, or was it the provision of foster care? | As figures in (c) above | Strathclyde Regional Council/Glasgow City Council provided both Residential Care and Foster Care. Over the period of inquiry the balance of provision moved from Residential Care to Foster Care | The organisation continues to provide both residential and foster care and has sought to increase the proportion of looked after children in Foster care. Balance of care for LAAG is currently 36% foster care, 39% Kinship arrangement, 25% Residential (both internal and externally commissioned). see figures above |
|----|--|-------------------------|--|--|

| Present: | 1930-75  | 1975-96                | 1996>  |
|----------|--|------------------------|--|
| g)       | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different? | see subsequent periods | Balance of care has moved from residential to foster care and kinship  |
| h)       | If so, please give details.  |                        | Kinship, Foster Care, Residential Care and Secure  |
|          |  |                        | Yes, we have fewer children accommodated in residential child care setting and are able to say with accuracy the number of children accommodated, as well as track their journey through each and all care placements.<br>Although the number of Looked After children in Argyll and Bute fluctuates, the number in residential care is comparatively low. |

## Part A 1.7 Children's Background/Experience

| Past:  | 1930-75   | 1975-96   | 1996>  |
|--|---|---|--|
| a) Did the children placed in foster care generally have a shared background and/or shared experiences?  | Records of the Children's Officer from 1950 indicate that children had a range of backgrounds and circumstances | The available historical records indicate that SRC accommodated children with a range of backgrounds. No relevant records have been identified prior to 1950  | Children were placed in Foster Care for a variety of reasons, all children will have had individualised backgrounds and experience prior to accommodation.   |
| b) Were children admitted into the care of the local authority, or were they admitted into the care of particular foster cares?  | Care of the Council   | The available historical records indicate that the children were generally admitted into the care of the organisation and were thereafter assessed individually and decisions were made about which establishment best met needs of the child.    | Children and young people were admitted into foster care through different routes, some will have been placed with foster carers as a condition of an order others (e.g. s25) placed by the local authority  |
| c) Who placed children with the local authority?   | Children received into care by the Council  | Children were received into the care of SRC and placed with foster carers through the various legislative routes in place at the time   | Most children were/are placed with the organisation from home with parental consent or via an order from the children's hearing system. Other specified legal routes may have applied to other children from time to time and young people over 16yrs will have signed their own S25 consent to admission. |
| d) From 15 April 1971 (the date on which the Children's Hearing system was introduced), did the local authority receive children mainly through the Children's Hearing system? | Not applicable for this period  | Yes   | As above there will have been a mix of routes most commonly children were/are placed within the organisation via the children's hearing system or with parental consent.   |
| e) If not, generally how did children come to be admitted into the care of the local authority?  | Not applicable for this period  | From 15 <sup>th</sup> April 1971 children were primarily placed in care through the Children's Hearing System   | as above   |
| f) How long did children typically remain in the care of the local authority?  | Unable to identify from available records   | According to available historical records this information is not generally available but the Social Work Committee Officer/Member Group on Child Care (1978) reports that estimates suggest that one half had been in care for more than 3 years | Lengths of stay will have varied from a single night emergency stay to a number of years, there is no detailed data available without scrutinising the records of all children in care   |
| g) In respect of children who were admitted into the care of the local authority, who made the decision as to whether they should be placed in foster care?                    | Decision appears to have been made by Children's Officer endorsed by Children's Committee                       | Officers of SRC unless residence specified in a legal order   | Officers of the Council unless residence specified in a legal order  |
| h) If the decision was made by the local authority, what criteria were applied?  | Unable to identify from available records   | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | Assessment of needs of the child and of the most appropriate available placement   |
| i) Were children moved between different foster care placements?   | Occasionally  | Yes   | We try to avoid moving children but this did/does happen in response to individual needs and circumstances, the carers ability to meet those needs and the wider needs of the other children in placement.   |

|    |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|---|
| j) | If so, in what circumstances?   | needs and circumstances of the child or carer                                 | Any move of placement would be determined by the child's individual circumstances, care plans or decision of the Children's Hearing System or the Courts  | This will have varied dependent on individual needs and circumstances and the ability of the service to meet them   |
| k) | Generally did children typically stay in one, or more than one, foster care placements?   | Unable to identify from available records                                     | Any move of placement would be determined by individual circumstances and care plans or the Children's Hearing System or the Courts   | It is always been the services intent to keep the number of moves of placement to a minimum but many do experience at least one change of carer as different children's circumstances mean this is not possible, some children return home, some move from short term or emergency carers to longer term carers others from foster care to Adoptive carers or family/kinship carers.  |
| l) | What was the process for review of children's continued residence in foster care, in terms of whether they continued to require to be (a) in foster care and/or (b) in that particular placement? | Overseen by Children's Officer and reported quarterly to Children's Committee | Continued residence determined by Looked After Reviews as set out by the regulations and guidance and/or decisions of the Children's Hearing or Court   | Organisation has adhered to the statutory reviewing requirement and national guidance of reviewing children in care. These children subject to supervision orders will have had additional review hearings. From 2013 this has been overseen by a care assessment and reviewing service   |
| m) | When children left foster care, what was the process for discharge?   | Unable to identify from available records                                     | Discharge process was determined by individual Care Plan, Children's Hearing System or the Court System   | There has been no standard approach, this will have varied - dependent on the needs and circumstances of the child or young person and their onward destination   |
| n) | What support was offered to children when they left foster care?  | unable to identify from available records                                     | Support would vary and be determined by individual circumstances. Examples of Support would include Leaving Care Services, Housing, Education and Employment services.  | Prior to the Support and Assistance of Young People Leaving Care (Scotland) Regulations 2003 most young people will have had a through care plan started around their 15th birthday, this will have outlined arrangement for leaving care. Aftercare support will have included a leaving care grant offers of advice and guidance up to the age of 19 yrs. From 2004 support was consistent with the regulations with financial support and the appointment of a pathway co coordinator and pathway assessment/plan. A dedicated specialist After Care team was established in 2013 to ensure all care leavers had access to a pathway co coordinator and necessary financial and practical assistance |
| o) | What information was sought by the local authority about what children leaving foster care planned to go on to do?  | Unable to identify from available records                                     | Information has not been identified by Glasgow City Archive for the 1976-96 period  | Recording of destination data will have followed national guidance or reporting requirements. Limited data is available prior to 2004   |
| p) | Was such information retained and updated?  | some information may be available in individual child records                 | Retention of information was dependent by the quality of case recording for individual children within the Local Authority  | We can find no documented evidence that this information historically was retained and updated. As previously stated this information may well be contained within individual case records/files. Current practice ensures that all information with regards to looked after young people is retained and updated.  |
| q) | What was provided in terms of after-care for children/young people once they left foster care?  | unable to identify from available records                                     | Strathclyde Regional Council and predecessor authorities retained statutory responsibility for children leaving foster care. These changed over time in line with regulations, policy and practice. The nature of the after-care would be specific to the individual child's personal requirement | Other than by review of all individual records we are unable to say with any certainty how this was dealt with prior to 2013 when we established a dedicated after care service. This has helped ensure all care leavers with a statutory entitlement to support and have a personal pathway assessment and plan detailing individual needs, aspirations and supports. These varied according to the needs and circumstances and wishes of the young person.  |

| Present: |  | 1930-75                | 1975-96                | 1996>   |
|----------|--|------------------------|------------------------|---|
| r)       | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different? | see subsequent periods | see subsequent periods | The service is compliant with after care legislation and best practice guidance. This continues to evolve |
| s)       | If so, please give details.  |                        |                        | As detailed above.  |



**Part A 1.8 Local Authority Staff and Foster Carers****(I) Local Authority**

| <b>Past:</b>    |   | <b>1930-75</b>  | <b>1975-96</b>  | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|--|
| a)              | How many people were employed by the local authority who had some responsibility for foster care services for children?                 | Unable to identify from available records                           | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | This number has been variable over the years but currently there are 6 members of the family placement team and 1 practice lead  |
| b)              | How many people were employed by the local authority at any one time who has some responsibility for foster care services for children? | Unable to identify from available records                           | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | see above  |
| c)              | What roles and responsibilities did such staff have? Please specify in which roles staff met with children and foster carers.           | Unable to identify from available records                           | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | Staff have responsibility for recruiting, assessing, taking to Approval and supervising carers post approval. Also training and reviewing foster carers. They keep records of activity and offer guidance and advice to colleagues regarding fostering.  |
| d)              | In relation to each role, what experience/qualifications did such staff have?   | unable to identify from available records                           | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | Qualified social workers   |
| e)              | When were fostering panels set up? What was their purpose and remit?  | No record of Fostering Panels being in existence during this period | In 1986/7 Strathclyde Region established Foster Panels in response to the Boarding-out and Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1985  | Fostering panels were already in situ by 1996. Their role is to recommend approval, review and deregister of foster carers to the Agency Decision Maker, as required. They also recommend approval of children's plans for permanence and recommend matches with carers. They can also be asked for advice pre panel presentation. |
| f)              | How were fostering panels constituted? What skills and experience were the members required to have?                                    | No record of Fostering Panels being in existence during this period | Initially each Panel consisted of 4 Elected Members of the Social Work Committee, one of whom must be Chairman, a Medical Adviser, an Educational Psychologist, and the Divisional Organiser (Community and Field Work) or the Divisional Adoption and Fostering Adviser. | Fostering panels were constituted by The Boarding Out of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1985, regulations 4 & 5. Members of the panel were required to have relevant qualifications and experience to enable them effectively to carry out their duties in line with regulation 6 of this.  |
| <b>Present:</b> |   | <b>1930-75</b>  | <b>1975-96</b>  | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
| g)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?  | Not applicable for this period                                      | see subsequent periods  | no   |
| h)              | If so, please give details.   |   |   |  |

## (ii) Foster Carers

| Past:   | 1930-75  | 1975-96   | 1996>  |
|---|--|---|--|
| a) How were foster carers identified and approved/registered?   | Unable to confirm from available records   | Strathclyde Region ran concerted publicity campaigns and outreach activities in the 1970s.<br><br>The process of assessment and preparation of applicants included<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group meetings</li> <li>• Individual interviews</li> <li>• Undertake contact with existing foster carers</li> <li>• Formal enquiries of applicants: departmental records; police enquiry; Area health Board enquiry ; personal references ; medical reports and x-rays</li> <li>• Enquiries regarding other residents</li> <li>• Outwith the Region enquiry</li> <li>• Presentation of assessment report</li> <li>• Approval by Divisional Adoption and Fostering Panel, passed to Divisional Director who makes final decision</li> </ul> | Foster carers contact the local authority themselves to inquire about becoming carers. They are subject to an assessment, the format of which is provided by CoramBaaf and before that, BAAF |
| b) What experience and/or qualifications, if any, did a foster carer require to have?   | unable to confirm from available records, Council had responsible for ensuring they were a fit person under the 1948 Act   | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | nothing specific other than over 21 years of age   |
| c) What checks were carried out in relation to a prospective foster carer, including criminal record checks, references and interviews?   | Unable to confirm from available records   | Policies, handbooks and guidelines etc., 1975-1996, show the following:<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checked: departmental records; police; Area Health Board enquiry</li> <li>• Initial interview, plus at least 2 others, with both partners present. All members of household to be seen at some time.</li> <li>• Personal references</li> <li>• Medical reports and x-rays</li> </ul>  | Criminal records; health; address history checks; references and interviews as appropriate   |
| d) What checks were carried out in relation to other persons residing with the prospective foster carer, including criminal record checks, references and interviews?                     | Unable to confirm from available records   | Policies, handbooks and guidelines etc., 1975-1996, required the following:<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checked: departmental records; police; health; health visitor;</li> </ul>   | Criminal records check, health check , local authority check and interview   |
| e) What checks were carried out in relation to other family members and friends of a prospective foster carer including record checks, references and interviews?                         | Unable to confirm from available records   | BAAF guidance followed for much of this period  | none unless likely to be around any placed child(ren)  |
| f) To what extent, if any, were the checks referred to at para c) to e) above reviewed? If so, how frequently and what checks were done? If not, why not?                                 | Unable to confirm from available records   | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | Criminal record check updated every 2 years. Medical previously annually, but now every 3 years only   |
| g) What checks were carried out by the local authority of the available accommodation? How frequently were these carried out? Were they repeated? If so, how frequently? If not, why not? | Records indicate a regular pattern of visiting by the Children's Officer generally appears to have been at least Quarterly | unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | Health & Safety check on home done and updated annually for Foster carer's review. Fire Safety checks updated every 3 years  |

|                 |   |  |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|---|--|
| h)              | Was the gender of the foster carer of any relevance to approval as a foster carer or in relation to the placement of a child with a particular carer? If so, why?                           | No Known   | BAAF guidance followed for much of this period  | not generally and would only be considered if relevant to the child's specific assessed needs  |
| i)              | Was the gender of other persons (including children) residing in the same house of any relevance to the approval of a foster carer or to the placement of a child with a carer? If so, why? | No Known   | BAAF guidance followed for much of this period  | as above   |
| j)              | Were foster carers required to provide any services for children in their care beyond accommodating them? If so, what were they?  | Unable to confirm from available records   | The 1976 foster carer handbook laid down the following services to be provided by the foster carer to:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• care for the foster child</li> <li>o This means dealing with the day-to-day caring – food, clothing, warmth; encouraging interests or hobbies. Foster parents will do many other things, including reading bedtime stories (with a goodnight cuddle, changing the sheets after an accident, attending open days at schools, seeing teacher at school etc.</li> <li>• watch over health and well-being</li> <li>o Consulting doctor/dentist when necessary. Arranging periodic check-ups and allowing the child to be medically examined</li> <li>• bring up foster child in his own religion</li> <li>• let Social Work Department know immediately of any serious incident effecting the child</li> <li>• permit any person authorised by SRC to see the child</li> <li>• notify Social Work Department of any change of address, before actual move</li> </ul> | yes, parenting them and everything that goes with that role. Working with birth families and children's services, as well as keeping comprehensive records. Attending training and keeping up to date with current practice in fostering |
| k)              | Did children work manually in the placement or externally (e.g. farming work or other labour), or both? If so, did that change at any point? If so, why?                                    | Unable to confirm from available records, there is some reference in records from the 1950s to children in care being in employment but it has not been possible to identify the nature of this employment | Unable to identify from information provided by Glasgow City Archive  | no   |
| l)              | Were fostering agreements entered into? If so, were these in a prescribed form or created on an ad hoc basis?   | Unable to confirm from available records   | No evidence has been sighted in the historic records re fostering agreements. The 1980s guidelines refer to access agreements re parental contact.  | Yes, formal agreement requires signing by all foster carers. Same for all  |
| <b>Present:</b> |   | <b>1930-75</b>   | <b>1975-96</b>  | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
| m)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?  | see subsequent periods   | see subsequent periods  | no   |
| n)              | If so, please give details.   |  |   |  |

**Part A 2.1 Organisational Structure & Oversight Culture**

| Past:   | 1930-75   | 1975-96   | 1996>   |
|---|---|---|---|
| a) What was the nature of the culture within the local authority in relation to the provision of foster care?   | Unable to answer from available information question is too vague   | Unable to answer as question is too vague .   | Unable to answer as question is too vague. Fostering has always been seen as a valued part of the service for children who can't remain with their birth families   |
| b) Was that culture reflected in the local authority's policies, procedures and/or practice in relation the provision of foster care?   | Unable to answer  | Again it is difficult to determine the culture of the predecessor organisations and therefore comment on any reflection in policy and procedure   | Policies and procedures have been in place to reflect our commitment to promoting the welfare of children in care and a commitment to helping ensure that as many looked after children as possible could enjoy family life - where consistent with their needs.  |
| c) How can that be demonstrated?  | Children's Committee minutes record consideration of national guidance  | Changes in policy and procedures can be evidenced by the succession of reports, action plans and procedures. See Appendix F                       | In policies and procedures, departmental and interagency strategy and latterly in the work of the Corporate Parenting Board   |
| d) Did the provision of care by foster carers reflect the local authority's culture, policies and procedures?   | Children's Committee closely monitored the welfare of all children in care through Children's Officer reports | Provision of high quality foster care was a priority for SRC this was reflected in policy and procedures  | Yes note comments above on culture. Yes   |
| e) If not, please provide a representative range of examples and explain, by reference to those examples, why particular foster carers did not, in material ways, work in accordance with the local authority's then culture, policies and procedures and what, if anything, was done to change that? |   |   | A significant aspect of culture will have changed over time and reflected the leadership of the manager in post at any given time and changing national practice  |
| f) When and why did any changes in the culture driven by internal influences, incidents, experiences or events within the local authority, or any of the foster care placements?  | Insufficient information in available records to determine reasons  | none identified by Glasgow City Archive   | Societal views of children as well as the introduction of new policies procedures, national care standards and regulation of care, staff training and changes of regulation and legislation brought about changes in the culture of the organisation.   |
| g) Were there any changes in culture driven by internal influences, incidents experiences or events within the local authority, or any for the foster care placements?  | Insufficient information in available records to determine reasons  | Unable to determine from information available from Glasgow City Archive Unable to determine from information available from Glasgow City Archive | The overall culture and commitment has remained child focused and based on promoting the welfare of looked after children and a commitment to quality foster care, Culture has evolved to reflect changing national practice, research, the work of national bodies like CELCIS and the implementation of national priorities like GIRFEC and Corporate Parenting . |

|                 |   |  |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|---|--|
| h)              | Were there any changes in culture that were driven by abuse, or alleged abuse, of children in foster care?  | no identified records of abuse of children during this period      | Unable to determine from information available from Glasgow City Archive  | We have not identified any derived from internal investigations of abuse allegations. National learning from abuse of children will have been a driver of practice and procedural change including the introduction of advocacy services, private access to telephones, frequency of reviewing, visiting by placing social workers and introduction of independent reviewing officers. none identified.  |
| i)              | If so, when did they occur and how did they manifest themselves?  | Insufficient information in available records to determine reasons | Unable to determine from information available from Glasgow City Archive  | Unknown. See above<br>N/A  |
| j)              | Were any changes in culture driven by any external influences or factors and if so what were those influences or factors?   | Records of national guidance being considered and implemented      | Strathclyde Regional Council established groups to look at all the Inquiry Reports regarding abuse across the UK for example, Fife, Orkney; Cleveland. Where the recommendations were relevant to legislative practice in Scotland or not already in place in Strathclyde Regional Council, policies and procedures were altered to reflect this.<br><br>See Appendix E for details | Changes in the the culture were driven in part by external factors such as National Enquiries, new legislation and policies including the introduction of the Protection Vulnerable Groups Scheme following the Bichard Report and improvements to ensure children and young people having a greater influence on their day to day care and the issues that affect their daily lives. Changes in culture were driven in part by external factors such as national inquiries, new legislation and policies, including the introduction of The Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme. |
| <b>Present:</b> |   | <b>1930-75</b>   | <b>1975-96</b>  | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
| k)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?  | see subsequent periods   | see subsequent periods  | No   |
| l)              | if so, please give details.   |  |   | Not applicable.  |
| m)              | To what extent, if any, has abuse or alleged abuse of children cared for in foster care caused, or contributed to, the adoption of the current policies, procedures and/or practices of the local authority, in relation to the provision of foster care services for children including the safeguarding and child protection arrangements applying to its current foster care placements? |  |   | There are no documented occasions of policy or practice guidance introduction resulting from incident of alleged incident – in current record.   |

## Part A 2.2 Structure, Leadership &amp; Accountability

| Past:  | 1930-75   | 1975-96  | 1996->   |
|--|---|--|--|
| a) What was the structure of responsibility within the local authority in relation to foster care?   | unable to identify from available records   | The Regional Council was a Local Authority for Social Work purposes within Strathclyde Region. For the discharge of their functions they established various Committees, including the Social Work Committee. (Strathclyde Region)<br>The Regional Council established various committees for the discharge of their functions, including the Social Work Committee. The Regional Council retained the right to take many decisions at full Council level, but there were arrangements for the allocation of duties to Committees and Sub-Committees. For the most part, the decisions were taken by the Social Work Committee | Organisational structure changed following a number of service and management reviews and the establishment of HSCP. At all times there will have been an identified front line manager, reporting either directly or indirectly to the Head of Children & Families service. Prior to the establishment of the HSCP the Head of Service reported through a nominated Director to the Councils Chief Executive Officer. In the HSCP Head of Service reports directly to the HSCP Chief Officer. |
| b) What were the oversight and supervision arrangements by senior management?  | Records form 1950 confirm Quarterly oversight by Children's Committee. No relevant records identified prior to 1950 | From 1975 to 1996 details of their management were discussed at the relevant Strathclyde Regional Council Social Work Committee/Sub Committees.  | as above   |
| c) What were the lines of accountability?  | Children's Officer appears to have reported direct to the Children's Committee, wider management structure unclear  | We are unable to confirm or provide details of the qualifications The Social Work Committee and various sub-committees would agree major proposals re foster care.   | as above   |
| d) Within the local authority, who had senior management/corporate/organisational responsibility for the managers/management teams/leadership teams who had responsibilities in relation to children in foster care? | Children's officer appears to have reported direct to the Children's Committee, wider management structure unclear  | Social Work Services External Management Team - see Appendix F<br>Strathclyde Regional Council 1975-1996<br>Chief Executive was Chief Officer 1975-1996<br>1975 -1996 Social Work Department, Director of Social Worker.   | Head of Service Children and Families accountable to relevant Director of Argyll and Bute Council and to the Chief officer of the HSCP.<br>as above  |
| e) Who, within the local authority, took decisions to matters of policy procedure and/or practice in relation to foster care?  | Overall responsibility appears to have rested with Children's Committee   | As far as is known, within Strathclyde Region it would be the Council itself and its committees. Some functions may have been delegated to officials   | Policies and procedures were inherited from Strathclyde Regional Council and reviewed and adapted with the agreement of either the external manager or senior management team and Head of Service, in line with all of the above   |
| f) To whom were foster carers accountable?   | Appear to have been monitored by Children's Officer   | As vi above  | All foster carers had and have a designated link worker from the fostering and adoption team who supports and oversees the quality of their care Argyll & Bute council   |

|                 |   |   |   |  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|--|
| g)              | Who, within the local authority, was responsible for the implementation of, and compliance with, the local authority's policies, procedures and/or practices in foster care both by local authority staff and by foster carers? | Children's Committee                              | 1975-1996 Chief Executive of Strathclyde Region/Director of Social Work   | Chief Social Work Officer/ Agency Decision Maker. Shared responsibility between all carers, supervising social workers and managers of the service.  |
| h)              | To whom were fostering panels accountable?  | No fostering Panels identified during this period | Divisional Director made the final decision on each application, taking into account the panel's recommendations  | To the Agency Decision Maker and ultimately to Argyll & Bute Council. In addition the Fostering service - including operation of Panels, has been subject to inspection by the Care Inspectorate |
| i)              | What were the oversight and supervision arrangements in respect of fostering panels?  | No fostering Panels identified during this period | Divisional Director made the final decision on each application, taking into account the panel's recommendations<br>1975-1996 Chief Executive of Strathclyde Region Council<br>Director of Social Work<br>1996 - Chief Executive of Glasgow City Council<br>Director of Social Services | Annual appraisal system for all members and Agency Decision Maker oversight of all activity  |
| <b>Present:</b> |   | <b>1930-75</b>                                    | <b>1975-96</b>  | <b>1996&gt;</b>  |
| j)              | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?  | see subsequent periods                            | Divisional Director made the final decision on each application, taking into account the panel's recommendations  | no   |
| k)              | If so, please give details.   |   |   |  |

Part A 2.3 External Oversight

| Past:    |   | 1930-75  | 1975-96   | 1996>  |
|----------|---|--|---|--|
| a)       | What were the arrangements for external oversight of the local authority's foster care services?                  | Records from 1950 onward confirm Children's Officer reporting to Children's Committee. No record of external oversight during this period. No relevant records identified prior to 1950      | unable to confirm from information provided by Glasgow City Archive | The foster service was subject to regular scrutiny by the children's services regulatory bodies. The Legal and/or regulatory requirements in respect of children in care have changed and developed with emerging new legislations and expectations with regard to the care that children can expect to receive whilst looked after away from home. In relation to what we could establish, the following outlines the changes to the regulatory body in respect to residential child care services including foster care. The Care Inspectorate was set up April 2011 as a single regulatory body for Social Work and Social Care services. The new organisation took on the work of: HMIE, SWIA, Care Commission. Using the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001, the Care Commission (Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care) regulated care services and provided external scrutiny from April 2002 till 2011. The change from Commission/HMIE/SWIA to Care Inspectorate was via the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010. |
| b)       | Who visited the local authority's foster care services in an official or statutory capacity and for what purpose? | Children's Officer to monitor the welfare of children in care. A small number of children Boarded out out with Argyllshire are recorded as being monitored by other Councils mainly Glasgow. | unable to confirm from information provided by Glasgow City Archive | Care Inspectorate and predecessors   |
| c)       | How often did this occur?   | Appears usually at least quarterly in Argyllshire  | unable to confirm from information provided by Glasgow City Archive | At least annually  |
| d)       | What did these visits involve in practice?  | records indicate that to have seen the child and carers and inspected accommodation and discuss progress, concerns and problems  | unable to confirm from information provided by Glasgow City Archive | Inspections are multi -faced and check that our fostering service is compliant with the National Care Standards including Leadership and Management, Environment, Standard of Care and Staffing. This involves scrutiny of evidence that policies and procedures are being adhered to, written evidence with regards to practice, discussions with children and young people, carers, staff, managers and stakeholders. Managers within the organisation also visit to ensure practice is appropriate for the needs of the children/young people in placement and to offer support and advice to staff and carers.   |
| Present: |   | 1930-75  | 1975-96   | 1996>  |
| e)       | With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?                  | see subsequent periods   | see subsequent periods  | no   |
| f)       | If so, please give details.   |  |   |  |



**Retrospective Acknowledgement/Admission**

|   |  | 1930-75  | 1975-96   | 1996>   |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <b>3.1 Acknowledgement of Abuse</b>             |  |  |   |   |
| a)  | Does the local authority accept that between 1930 and 17 December 2014 any children cared for in foster care were abused?                | Inquiries have not identified references to abuse of children in foster care in minutes and reports of the Children's Officer from 1950 onwards. Additional information may be available within individual child records. Without the specific names of children were are unable to form a view on this question. No relevant records have been identified prior to 1950 | Inquires have not identified indications of systematic abuse of children in the care of SRC. Information regarding any allegations from children may well be contained within individual case records. Without the specific names of children were are unable to form a view on this question with regard to the period fostering services were operated by Strathclyde Regional Council. Our inquiries have identified two SRC foster carers living in Argyll who were investigated and subsequently convicted of sexual abuse. However as soon as allegation were made to officers of Argyll and Bute Council appropriate steps were taken to investigate and support and protect any children involved | We have identified a number of complaints and allegations of abuse of children in foster care some of which were upheld   |
| b)  | If so, what is the local authority's assessment of the extent and scale of such abuse?   | See 3.1 a) above   | Inquires have not identified indications of systematic abuse of children in the foster care. Information regarding any allegations from children may well be contained within individual case records. Without the specific names of children it is not possible to form a view about this question   | Inquires have not identified indications of systematic abuse of children in foster care. Information regarding any allegations from children may well be contained within individual case records. Without the specific names of children it is not possible to form a view about this question |
| c)  | What is the basis of that assessment?  | This is based on the information currently available to us from minutes of the Children's Committee and reports of the Children's Officer from 1950 onward, no relevant records identified prior to this   | This is based on the information currently available to us  | This is based on the information currently available to us  |
| <b>3.2 Acknowledgement of Systemic Failures</b> |  |  |   |   |
| a)  | Does the local authority accept that its systems failed to protect children in foster care between 1930 and 17 December 2014 from abuse? | Inquiries have not identified references to abuse of children in foster care. Additional information may be available within individual child records. Without the specific names of children were are unable to form a view on this question  | Inquires have not identified indications of systematic abuse of children in SRC foster care in Argyll. Information regarding allegations from children may well be contained within individual case records. Without the specific names of children were are unable to form a view on this question with regard to the period the fostering service was provided by Strathclyde Regional Council. We have insufficient information about the 2 foster carers convicted of sexual abuse to form a view about systems to protect the children   | While we have identified a number of allegations of abuse during this period (see 5.8 and D5.9) there is no indication that between 1996 and 17 December 2014 children were abused whilst in foster care as a result of failures in systems.  |
| b)  | What is the local authority's assessment of the extent of any such systemic failures?  | see 3.2.1 above  | see 3.2.1 above   | As above  |
| c)  | What is the basis of that assessment?  | see 3.2.1 above  | see 3.2.1 above   | As detailed in 3.2.1  |

|    |  |                 |                 |  |
|----|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| d) | What is the local authority's explanation for any such failures? | see 3.2.1 above | see 3.2.1 above | Based on the information available to us at this time we have no reason to believe that there has been systemic failures to meet the needs of children in foster care or to keep them safe from abuse. |
|----|--|-----------------|-----------------|--|

### 3.3 Acknowledgement of Failures/Deficiencies in Response

|    |  |                 |  |   |
|----|--|-----------------|--|---|
| a) | Does the local authority accept that there were any failures and/or deficiencies in its response to abuse, and allegations of abuse, of children in foster care between 1930 and 17 December 2014? | see 3.2.1 above | Inquires have not identified indications of systematic abuse of children in the care of the establishment. Information regarding any allegations from children and how they were responded to may well be contained within individual case records. Without the specific names of children we are unable to form a view on this question with regard to the period foster care was provided by Strathclyde Regional Council. | We have not identified failures or deficiencies in response to allegations abuse of children in foster care while under the management of Argyll and Bute Council/HSCP. |
| b) | What is the local authority's assessment of the extent of any such failures in its response?   | see 3.2.1 above | see 3.3.1 above  | As detailed above.  |
| c) | What is the basis of that assessment?  | see 3.2.1 above | see 3.3.1 above  | As detailed above.  |
| d) | What is the local authority's explanation for any such failures/deficiencies?  | see 3.2.1 above | see 3.3.1 above  | As detailed in 3.3.i  |

### 3.4 Changes

|    |   |                 |  |  |
|----|---|-----------------|--|--|
| a) | To what extent has the local authority implemented changes to its policies, procedures and practices as a result of any acknowledgement in relation to 3.1 - 3.3 above? | see 3.2.1 above | Inquires have not identified indications of systematic abuse of children in the care of the establishment. Information regarding any allegations from children and how they were responded to may well be contained within individual case records. Without the specific names of children we are unable to form a view on this question with regard to the period the establishment was operated by Strathclyde Regional Council. | Policy and practice has evolved to reflect national guidance, best practice the requirements from inspection along legislative or regulatory changes |
|----|---|-----------------|--|--|