



Location CashBack

Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA)



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Location CashBack and the UNCRC

The Location CashBack programme is delivered by a consortium comprising of: Scouts Scotland, Girlguiding Scotland, The Boys' Brigade and Youth Scotland. All four organisations are committed to upholding children's rights, both at an organisational level and as part of the Location CashBack consortium. The desired outcomes of the Location CashBack programme include:

- Providing safe spaces and suitable activities that reduce boredom, frustration and isolation
- Supporting young people to understand their own value and become positive influences and leaders
- Supporting young people to be able to ask for help and support from people around them
- Providing opportunities for young people to develop their skills and gain accreditation, helping them progress towards a more positive future
- Encouraging young people to feel less inclined to participate in antisocial behaviour

As a result, many of the articles in the UNCRC are inherent to Location CashBack's design. Since the overall objective of the programme is to improve outcomes for children and young people, **articles 3 and 6** underpin all activities. The best interests of children and young people are considered in every decision, and the aim of supporting children to develop to their full potential is foundational to the Location CashBack programme. The programme works particularly with children and young people from areas of higher deprivation who may be at a higher risk of involvement with the criminal justice system. As such, Location CashBack also upholds **article 40**, treating any young people in the justice system with dignity and respect.

Providing safe spaces and suitable activities that reduce boredom, frustration and isolation

Building on their connection to trusted local youth groups, Location CashBack offers safe spaces, mentoring, personal development and accredited leadership opportunities that open new pathways for learning, life and work. Through the 'Learn to Lead' strand of work, young people have access to youth work sessions and training which support them to develop new skills which improve their educational and employability options. They are also able to undertake a range of youth awards through the different consortium partners. Through each partner's membership offer, local youth groups can access training and other support to help improve and expand the activities available to children

and young people. This gives participants a space to express themselves, meet new people, make friends, access information, and feel supported by trusted adults. **Articles 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 28, 29 and 31.**

Supporting young people to understand their own value and become positive influences and leaders

Listening to and incorporating young people's views is embedded in all consortium programmes, shaping both our design process and delivery. The Location CashBack leadership and development pathway was co-produced with young people from all four partner organisations, informed by consultations with participants from previous CashBack phases and advice from our Reach Young Advisors. The Reach Young Advisors, representing each partner, planned and delivered the annual **Reach** cross-consortium event, where 120 young people come together for workshops, networking, and youth voice activities, directly influencing programme direction. Two major programme features were introduced based on young people's requests:

- Level 2 small funding pots, enabling participants to turn their social action ideas into reality and signaling that their contributions are valued.
- Level 3 advanced leadership training, paired with funding to remove barriers to participation, such as travel and residential costs.

Young people tell us this approach matters: "I even learned more about myself... it really gave me a boost, it made me feel great about myself, to know I was feeling heard." – Participant, Year 1. Young people will continue to co-design their journey, choose social action themes and shape delivery throughout the three years, ensuring this project meets their needs and aspirations. Through this, young people learn the importance of their opinions, see that their input is valued, and go on to become more active members of society.

In Phase 7, Location CashBack will support young people in targeted areas to hold smaller local Reach events which will be designed, planned and delivered by young people for young people.

A further range of youth participation programmes are available across the consortium including Youth Scotland's Young Grantmakers project; most recently involved in the Corra Way Forward for Families Partnership Fund; leadership and participation training through the iLead Pathway; Scouts Scotland's Young Leaders and Rights Challenge Badge; and many more.

Articles 12, 13, 14, 15, 28 and 29.

Protecting children and young people from harm and ensuring that their fundamental needs are met:

All four organisations in the Location CashBack consortium have robust policies and procedures in place to protect the rights of children and young people, to ensure their fundamental needs are met while engaging with the programme, and to protect them from harm. The consortium partners also undertake due diligence on their member groups to ensure standards are upheld by them. Each consortium partner has a Child Protection Policy and requires all staff and volunteers who work directly with children and young people to be members of the PVG scheme, provide suitable references, and attend regular Child Protection Awareness training. Consortium partners also have Equality and Diversity Policies to ensure all staff are working to combat discrimination, and support children and young people equally. Health and Safety Policies and Risk Assessments are in place to ensure all activities are appropriate, and necessary safety precautions are taken. Data Protection Policies are implemented to ensure young people's data is kept securely, and data protection regulations are followed. All staff working for the consortium partners are fully briefed on these policies and procedures and disciplinary action will be taken where staff are in breach of the rules. The consortium partners also support their member groups with key policy development by providing policy templates, risk assessment templates and support from development workers (DOs) thereby supporting the sector more widely to have robust and live policies and procedures to protect the rights of young people. **Articles 2, 14, 16, 19, 23, 30, 33, 34 and 36.**

Location CashBack's impact on children's rights

Our consortium has successfully delivered CashBack projects for 14+ years, reaching tens of thousands of young people with a strong focus on those living in Scotland's most deprived areas (SIMD 1–2). Across Phases 5 and 6, almost 75% of participants were from SIMD 1–2 postcodes, demonstrating our ability to effectively engage those most in need of positive diversionary opportunities. Over four phases (2013–2026), we have delivered 37,000+ leadership opportunities and independent evaluations show that 92% of participants reported increased confidence, while 81% felt more able to influence decisions affecting them (GCB, 2024)

Location CashBack (Phase 7) runs from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029. During those three years the programme aims to reach 4320 children and young people aged 10–25 living in areas of higher deprivation and who may be impacted by ACEs, poverty, criminal activity and anti-social behaviour.

Location CashBack will have a positive impact on the rights of those children, in particular on the following articles: 2, 3, 6, 12,13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36 and 40.

Groups benefiting from Location CashBack

Location CashBack will be delivered across 12 local authorities during Phase 7. These locations were chosen for high levels of disadvantage, existing member youth group presence and potential for lasting impact. Evidence shows many young people are increasingly disengaging from school, lack confidence in future prospects and are at a higher risk of anti-social/ offending behaviour. Youth work is proven to provide trusted adults, safe spaces and positive pathways that reduce exposure to crime, improve wellbeing and support learning and employment outcomes (Health Scotland, 2019; Edinburgh & Glasgow Universities). Yet many local youth groups lack resources to meet rising demand. Location CashBack takes an assets-based approach: we strengthen local youth groups to reach those most at risk, offering safe, consistent support while connecting young people to national training, accreditation and leadership opportunities. This approach delivers national reach with local impact, creating strong networks of support while developing young leaders embedded in their own communities. Young people benefit from diversionary activities, improved confidence, resilience, skills for learning, life and work, accredited achievements and better prospects for employment or education. Families and communities benefit from reduced anti-social behaviour, stronger relationships with local services and young people leading positive change in local places and spaces.

There are no competing impacts between different groups of children and young people. Each group participating in Location CashBack is supported with an individual needs analysis and receives tailored support to build capacity in the areas that are most useful to them. All groups are offered Lead sessions delivered by Location CashBack DOs across a range of different topics.

Consideration of negative impacts

No negative impacts have been assessed from the Location CashBack programme for children and young people.

Furthering the implementation of the UNCRC

While the Location CashBack programme does not explicitly make reference to the UNCRC, the principles are embedded in the outcomes of the programme. Consortium partners also support member groups to follow these articles by providing direct support and training. There is a small worker training element within Location CashBack and this includes supporting the upskilling of youth workers and volunteers in youth participation approaches.

Youth Scotland offers 'Young People's Rights: Creating a Rights Based Practice' training to our network of member groups.

Scouts Scotland have introduced a Rights Challenge Badge in partnership with the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland and has supported Location CashBack groups to access this. The badge features a range of activities and resources to empower Scouts (and their leaders) to learn about and understand their rights.

All partners further Article 12 of the UNCRC by offering youth participation projects where young people's views are heard and respected. This includes the Young Leaders Network at the Boys' Brigade and Citizen Girl resources provided by Girlguiding Scotland.

Location CashBack will further the effect of the following articles:

- Article 2 – nondiscrimination – Location CashBack provides children and young people with equal access to positive, non-discriminatory youth activities
- Article 3 – best interests of the child – all Location CashBack activities are designed and delivered with the best interests of the child in mind
- Article 6 – right to life – all activities are designed to support young people to thrive and reach their full potential
- Article 12 – respect for the views of the child – Location CashBack gives young people the opportunity to develop leadership skills and take action in their communities. It also listens to feedback from young people taking part and offers opportunities for co-production of activities
- Article 13 – freedom of expression – young people are encouraged to share their opinions and develop their individual perspectives
- Article 14 – freedom of thought, belief and religion – Location CashBack is open to young people from all religious and secular backgrounds
- Article 15 – freedom of association – young people have the opportunity to meet new people, make friends and join different sessions and groups that interest them
- Article 16 – right to privacy – consortium partners have Data Protection Policies in place to ensure young people's data is stored securely and any images or videos are only shared with child and parental consent
- Article 17 – access to information from the media – Location CashBack groups support young people to research causes they are passionate about and incorporate this into their leadership and awards activities.
- Article 23 – children with a disability – consortium partners have Equality and Diversity Policies in place to ensure member groups consider how best to make activities accessible to children with disabilities, and that those children are adequately supported

- Article 28 – right to education – Location CashBack provides a range of opportunities and awards that complement children’s school learning and enhance personal development
- Article 29 – goals of education – the range of activities and awards available through Location CashBack ensures that young people can develop the talents and abilities they are most passionate about to the full
- Article 30 – children from minority or indigenous groups – consortium partners have Equality and Diversity Policies in place to ensure young people from minority groups are adequately supported and activities are accessible
- Article 31 – leisure, play and culture – Location CashBack offers young people many opportunities to take part in fun leisure activities
- Article 33 – drug abuse – member groups of the consortium partners offer issue-based sessions covering topics such as drug education
- Article 34 – sexual exploitation – all consortium partners have a Child Protection Policy in place, including mandatory training for staff, in order to prevent or recognise any forms of harm against children
- Article 36 – other forms of exploitation - all consortium partners have a Child Protection Policy in place, including mandatory training for staff, in order to prevent or recognise any forms of harm against children
- Article 40 – juvenile justice – Location CashBack supports young people in youth offending institutions and treats them with respect and dignity

Consulting with young people

Location CashBack was first developed in response to young people's views. Theirs' and youth workers' on-going feedback on our previous programme Generation CashBack, has helped the consortium to learn and refine our approach. This means an even bigger focus on leading in the community and empowering young people to play their part:

"I want to help the community, keep it safe and clean – and this [Generation CashBack] has helped. I feel more confident and made more friends" (Young person, Glasgow)

The evaluation from previous years also demonstrated that skilled and knowledgeable DO support enables youth groups to reach more disadvantaged young people, more quickly than possible without their support.

The consortium collectively supports over 192,700 young people which evidences their commitment to listening to and meeting young people's needs. Young people's views have been essential to the success of previous projects; from young people co-designing

project ideas for the small grants scheme (Phase 3) to national youth-led events (Phases 4-6).

‘I even learned more about myself, like personal development, more skills... and friends I met. It really gave me a boost, it made me feel great about myself, to know I was feeling heard.’

Further evidence to inform this assessment

Location CashBack (Phase 7 of CashBack for Communities) builds directly on the foundations laid by Generation CashBack in Phases 4–6. Our own evaluations and several independent evaluations found that Generation CashBack had a positive impact on children and their rights. Further reports on the impact of previous phases of Generation CashBack are available on the Youth Scotland website.

In Phase 6, **8,838** young people participated in Generation CashBack over three years, benefiting directly from the programme’s support.

Some highlights of their progress against outcomes were as follows:

- 97% report improved wellbeing against SHANARRI indicators (articles 2, 3, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 28, 29, 31)
- 99% report increased confidence (articles 6, 12, 13, 14)
- 99% report a heightened sense of belonging to a community (articles 12, 13, 14, 28, 29)
- 100% report positive supportive networks (articles 6, 12, 19, 33, 34, 36)

Below are some direct quotations from young people who benefitted from Generation CashBack support in Years 1-3 of Phase 6, taken from their respective annual reports.

“It’s changed the way I want to see myself in the future. I would love to continue onto more volunteering, doing more youth work sessions and workshops with Youth Scotland. I feel like I could still learn more, and I feel very encouraged to do that as well.”

(Articles 3, 6, 15, 31)

“I feel like it teaches a lot of people respect... because it gives you responsibility as well. It shows you how to do stuff, how to be self-sustaining and capable of going out and doing something, and if you don’t know how to do it, capable of going out and learning how to do that.”

(Articles 3, 6, 17, 28, 29, 31)

“Being a Reach Young Advisor has helped me to become a lot more confident in who I am and what I want to do and who I want to be. It’s helped me understand that what I have to say and the things that I do are equally as important as what anybody else does.”

(Articles 3, 6, 12, 13, 15, 28, 29)

“I have learned so many things that have helped me to become the person I am today. Before I was shy and timid, then I started to gain a bit more confidence, and learned how to communicate in groups of new people better. Now, I’d describe myself as extroverted and fond of the communication side. I’m confident and willing to listen to the opinions of others.”

(Articles 2, 3, 6, 12, 15, 23, 28, 30)

Monitoring the impact of Location CashBack

Location CashBack reports on the agreed targets and outcomes listed above. The consortium reports to Inspiring Scotland and the Scottish Government, who fund the programme through the CashBack for Communities initiative. Reports are submitted on a quarterly and annual basis. Reports cover:

- Number of children and young people reached by Location CashBack
- Number of children and young people gaining youth awards through Location CashBack
- A summary of participants’ progress against outcomes agreed with CashBack for Communities
- A breakdown of SIMD Levels and protected characteristics pertaining to participants
- A summary of barriers faced by young people engaging with Location CashBack

Annual reports and case studies are made available to the public on the Youth Scotland and CashBack for Communities websites.

Young people’s progress against outcomes is tracked through evaluation forms that they complete after participating in Location CashBack activities, as well as from stakeholder reporting. The consortium supports member groups to execute their evaluations by hosting training sessions to build youth worker capacity and confidence in this area, as well as directly collecting evaluation forms when delivering Lead activities.

Communicating the impact of Location CashBack to children and young people

Children and young people hear about Location CashBack opportunities primarily through their youth groups. These would be explained to them by a DO from Location CashBack, or a youth worker at their group. Young people can choose whether or not they want to engage with Location CashBack opportunities using the information available to them.

There are case studies and reports on our projects from previous phases available on the Youth Scotland website that are presented in a clear, user-friendly and visual way. There are also films and animations about the CashBack for Communities project on the Youth Scotland website, and the CashBack for Communities website. To develop a Young Persons Version of the CRWIA, we facilitated an interactive session with young people. The session used discussion, games, drawing, and rapid idea generation to explore how best to present information in an engaging and accessible way and how our existing CRWIA could be improved. Furthermore, we explored how the group would go about assessing the impact that the activities they do in their own youth groups would have on children's rights. The Young Persons Version is now available on the [Youth Scotland website](#) and we will work with young people to further refresh this as Location CashBack progresses.

Sign & Date

Policy Lead Signature & Date of Sign Off:



Head of Youth Worker Programmes and Quality Improvement - 02/04/2026