



## Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

### Stage 1 – Screening Form

Date of screening:	17/06/2025
Name and job title of person undertaking the screening:	Alan Morgan, Regional Manager – Central Region
Name of policy to be screened:	Scottish FA CashBack for Communities Programme
Overall aims of the policy being screened:	<p>CashBack for Communities is a unique Scottish Government programme which takes money seized from criminals under the proceeds of crime legislation and invests them in our future – our young people. The initiative aims to improve the quality of life of young people across Scotland. There are 5 outcomes associated with the phase 6 programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people are diverted from antisocial, criminal behaviour and involvement with the criminal justice system</li> <li>• Young people participate in activity which improves their learning, employability and employment options (positive destinations)</li> <li>• Young people's health, mental health and wellbeing improves</li> <li>• Young people contribute positively to their communities</li> <li>• Young people build their personal skills, resilience, and benefit from strengthened support networks and reduce risk taking behaviour</li> </ul>
Is the policy an organisational policy? <i>e.g. recruitment procedure, safeguarding policy, performance plan</i>	No
Is it a policy that sets criteria and guidelines for others within the sport to use?	No
What aspects of the policy/measure will affect children and young people up to the age of 18? <i>The Articles of the UNCRC and the child wellbeing indicators under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 apply to all children and young people up to the age of 18</i>	All
What likely impact – direct or indirect – will the policy/measure have on children and young people?	The programme will directly impact children/young people



<p><i>'Direct' impact refers to policies/measures where children and young people are directly affected by the proposed changes. 'Indirect' impact refers to policies/measures that are not directly aimed at children but will have an impact on them</i></p>	<p>involved in the various strands of the programme</p>
<p>Which groups of children and young people will be affected?</p> <p><i>Under the UNCRC, 'children' can refer to: individual children, groups of children, or children in general. Some groups of children will relate to the groups with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010: disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. 'Groups' can also refer to children by age band or setting, or those who are eligible for special protection or assistance: e.g. preschool children, children in hospital, children in rural areas, looked after children, young people who offend, victims of abuse or exploitation, child migrants, young carers, or children living in poverty.</i></p>	<p>The programme is targeted at children and young people aged 10-25 and is open to all children without discrimination.</p>
<p>Will this require a CRWIA? Explain your reasons.</p>	<p>Based on the screening the programme will require a CRWIA. This decision is based on consideration that the programme will directly affect children and young people U18 without discrimination.</p>
CRWIA Declaration	
CRWIA required	Yes
Authorisation	
<p>Policy Lead (name, title and Scottish FA department)</p> <p><i>Paul McNeill, Head of Community Football</i></p>	<p>Date: 18/06/2025</p>
<p>Line Manager (name, title and Scottish FA Department)</p> <p><i>Andrew Gould, Chief Football Officer</i></p>	<p>Date: 18/06/2025</p>



## Stage 2 – CRWIA

### CRWIA Stage 2 The CRWIA – key questions

**1. Which UNCRC Articles are relevant to the project?** *List all relevant Articles of the UNCRC and Optional Protocols. All UNCRC rights are underpinned by the four general principles: non-discrimination; the best interests of the child; the right to life, survival and development; and the child's right to have their views given due weight.*

- Article 1 (u18)
- Article 2 (Non-discrimination)
- Article 3 (best interests)
- Article 12 (respect for views of the child)
- Article 24 (health and health services)
- Article 29 (goals of education)
- Article 31 (leisure, play and culture)

### **2. What impact will the project have on children's rights?**

Positive/negative/neutral.

The Scottish FA's CashBack for Communities project will have a positive impact on children and young people's rights. All strands of the project will include participants under the age of 18 (**Article 1**) and are open to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, sex, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background (**Article 2**). The programme will be internally and independently evaluated to give children and young people the opportunity to express their views which in turn help inform future developments (**Article 12**).

The interests of the child are the top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children (**Article 3**). The programme seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

1. YP are diverted from antisocial, criminal behaviour and involvement with the criminal justice system
2. YP participate in activity which improves their learning, employability and employment options (positive destinations)
3. YP health, mental health and wellbeing improves
4. YP contribute positively to their communities
5. YP build their personal skills, resilience, and benefit from strengthened support networks and reduce risk taking behaviour

The two strands of the project (Alternative Education and Alternative Football) contribute to the rights of children in different ways as is outlined below:

#### **Alternative Football - GoFitba**

GoFitba is a free to access football-based health and wellbeing project for primary school children aged 10 – 12 yrs. Through fun and progressive structures and delivery, the project offers young children a platform of regular and fun physical activity (**Article 31**) and an understanding of the importance of leading a balanced and healthy lifestyle through diet and nutrition (**Article 24**). In addition, the project aims to increase the young people's motivation, improve their self-confidence, further develop their social and interpersonal skills and improve their general self-esteem (**Article 29**).



### **Alternative Football – Kick About**

Kick About aims to provide a targeted 'outreach' project that will seek to engage with young people aged between 10 – 16 years. The concept is to take football out into an area that young people might congregate to provide tailored activity **(Articles 24 & 31)** that will not only engage young people but help to deter them from becoming involved in anti social behaviour. The project will be embedded within the club that will enable them to provide alternative routes to other volunteering, career or educational opportunities **(Article 29)** ; with the club linking with the local schools this will also help increase opportunities to engage with the young people. **(Article 12)**

### **Alternative Football - Play Fitba**

This element of the project will target those young people aged between 16 and 25 years old providing free football in a less formal environment. **(Article 24)** The research has indicated that young people start to drop out of the game as they get older due to a number of factors (e.g. too formal) and this section of the project is aimed to provide a less formal approach to being involved in club football. **(Article 31)** The concept is to provide a more 'drop-in' games project with some tailored educational/volunteering opportunities to help support young people. **(Article 29)** This element of the project would enable the clubs to work with key stakeholders to provide referral routes into the project for young people that might be on the verge of becoming involved in the criminal justice system.

### **Alternative Education – Football Champions**

This project is aimed at P5-7 age children within the feeder primary schools of the targeted secondary school in the local area providing a tailored 'Football Champions' educational project. Working with the schools and other stakeholders to identify approx. 10-12 young people per school disengaged in learning, that would benefit from engagement within the project. **(Article 29)** The programme will work with a minimum of 4 schools per cluster in each targeted area over 12 weeks using football as a tool to engage with young people in a learning environment. The 'Football Champions' project would have a number of elements but the main one would be to encourage young people with poor attendance to attend schools and take part in formal learning. Over the course of 12 weeks (1 hour a week) the young people would take part in different modules such as Health & Wellbeing, Equality and organise an end of programme festival which will develop further leadership competencies. The programme will involve classroom-based sessions alternating each week with playground based sessions to participate and design the end of programme festival. **(Article 24 & 31)** An end of programme internal evaluation of the programme is conducted to get feedback from the participants **(Article 12)**

### **Alternative Education – Football Leaders**

This project is aimed at S4-6 pupils within the key targeted communities secondary schools to delivered a tailored learning programme to approx. 10-15 young people at that have been identified via different stakeholders as suitable to engage. The concept would be that these young people, who might be disengaged with education, would undertake a 12 week 'Football Leaders' programme within schools where they would lead and participate in coaching sessions working towards a certified Scottish FA qualification. **(Article 24, 29 & 31)** The overall aim would be to provide the young people with other opportunities at the clubs or other stakeholders. As part of the project the young people



would have to volunteer at the local clubs while the local club can provide pathways to the project and for the young people to take part in other participatory activities.

### **Alternative Education - Volunteer Inspire Programme**

The Volunteer & Inspire Programme (VIP) provides a tailored pathway of development for young people aged between 16 and 24 with an interest in pursuing a career in the game. Over the course of 12 months, it supports them to gain valuable training and work experience of their choice.

Participants have access to courses and qualifications in a variety of areas (**Article 29**).

### **3. Will there be different impacts on different groups of children and young people?**

*Which groups of children will be affected by the project? Are there competing interests between different groups of children and young people, or between children and young people and other groups?*

The stands of the project are targeted at children based on their age, as follows:

- Go Fitba is targeted at children under the age of 12.
- Kick About Fitba is targeted at young people aged 10-16.
- Play Fitba is targeted at young people aged 16 – 25.
- Football Champions is targeted at children under the age of 12.
- Football Champions is targeted at children under the age of 16.
- VIP is targeted at young people 16-25.

The various projects are intended to be delivered in and around areas of deprivation in Scotland however regardless of location the projects are open to anyone who seeks to participate regardless of their ability to take part. For example, a young person struggling in the school environment with any additional learning needs could still participate in the educational 'Football Champions' programme or any alternative football programme. Each strand of the project is targeted towards specific age groups as outlined above. The full project is delivered within 12 key communities however various strands of the programmes are also delivered in other communities of deprivation or areas with anti-social behaviours.

### **4. If a negative impact is assessed for any area of rights or any group of children and young people, what options have you considered to modify the proposal, or mitigate the impact?**

*If options to modify the policy/measure are included here, include associated resource implications where relevant.*

With the aims and objectives of the programme being targeted specifically to areas of deprivation, and initially to 12 key communities, a potential negative impact could result in limited opportunities for young people within affluent areas being able to participate.

**5. How will the project contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland?** *Outline how the implementation of the policy/measure will support public bodies in Scotland to meet their duties to safeguard, support and promote the wellbeing of children in their area, with wellbeing defined by eight wellbeing indicators. The indicators are: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included.*

All delivery partners adhere to the Scottish FA Children and Wellbeing Board Directive and have designated Child Wellbeing Protection Officers in place. All adults in a regulated role, e.g delivery coaches, must meet the relevant safeguarding standards such as



holding an up to date PVG, signing up to Set the Standards and completing mandatory Child Wellbeing and Protection training. These standards and safeguards are screened through the Regional Departments through signed Partner Investment documents.

The project has also been extensively evaluated on an annual basis. Participants in the first 2 years of the Phase 6 programme reported positive contributions to their wellbeing in the following ways:

- 1793 young people demonstrated an increase in confidence
- 1647 young people felt more resilient
- 1232 young people reported that their own participation in antisocial and/or criminal behaviour had reduced
- 1177 young people reported an improved relationship with their school
- 4490 young people reported increases in wellbeing feelings against SHANARRI indicators
- 992 young people demonstrated improved attendance at school
- 3245 young people reported increased motivation to positively influence what happens in their community
- 2937 young people report a heightened sense of belonging to a community

**6. How will project give better or further effect to the implementation of the UNCRC in Scotland?** This will inform Scottish Ministers' duty to report to Parliament on children's rights under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

In 2025 the Scottish FA's CashBack for Communities project was delivered to 4792 children and young people aged between 10-24. The project directly and positively contributes to the implementation of Children's rights as demonstrated in the project evaluation. The project provides access to play, education and health benefits for children who may not be able to access it otherwise. In addition, dissemination activities promote key messages on the Rights of Children to a national, regional and local audience.

**7. What evidence have you used to inform your assessment? What does it tell you?** *The evidence base may include demographic information, academic research, service monitoring/inspection reports, service evaluation reports, user surveys, etc. In particular, look at what existing evidence tells you about children and young people's views and experiences of the relevant service(s); and/or what it tells you about children and young people's views of the policy proposal. Identify any gaps in the evidence base, and set out how you will address these.*

In order to monitor the effectiveness of the programme we use the following:

- Attendance figures
- Stakeholder surveys
- Participant surveys
- SIMD analysis of participant postcodes
- Equality monitoring
- Case studies

**8. Have you consulted with relevant stakeholders?**

*This would include public or targeted consultations with children and young people, their*



*parents/carers and the children's workforce*

Go Fitba

- Stakeholder and participant survey

Kick About & Play Fitba

- Stakeholder and participant survey

Football Champions and Leaders

- Stakeholder and participant survey

VIP

- Participant self-evaluation

**9. Have you involved children and young people in the development of the policy/measure?** *Is there enough information on the views of the children and young people who will be affected by the policy/measure that enables you to make an informed assessment of impact?*

Within phase 6 various questionnaires have been designed to try and capture the opinion and thoughts of all participants through QR codes, links and coach led questioning.

### Stage 3 – Authorisation of CRWIA

<b>Is this a new or existing policy?</b>	Existing
<b>Who has authority to make changes?</b>	Head of Community Football
<b>Who else is involved in approving the policy? (e.g. committees, stakeholders)</b>	CashBack Working Group
<b>Name of policy owner</b>	Head of Community Football
<b>Summary of policy aims and desired outcomes</b>	<p>The overall aim of the project is to target the needs of the 12 communities involved, using programmes, which support education, employability, health and well-being, confidence, resilience and community contribution.</p> <p>The outcomes of the project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. YP are diverted from antisocial, criminal behaviour and involvement with the criminal justice system</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. YP participate in activity which improves their learning, employability and employment options (positive destinations)</li> <li>3. YP health, mental health and wellbeing improves</li> <li>4. YP contribute positively to their communities</li> <li>5. YP build their personal skills, resilience, and benefit from strengthened support networks and reduce risk taking behaviour</li> </ol>
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<p>The project consists of two main strands: Alternative Education and Alternative Football.</p> <p>The projects will initially target 12 disadvantaged communities in Scotland and support over 8700 young people. These projects will also focus on some of those at risk of entering the criminal justice system and communities most affected by crime.</p> <p>Each project will be specific to the needs of that community, using programmes, which target education, employability, health and well-being, confidence, resilience and community contribution challenges. Typically, the two strands will include:</p> <p><u>Alternative Football</u></p> <p>Go Fitba' (in partnership with the Scottish Football Partnership) to deliver a 'holiday hunger' program over the holiday periods. The project will aim to engage with a minimum of 2160 young people annually.</p> <p>Kick About and Play Fitba aims to provide a targeted 'outreach' and 'diversionary' football projects tailored to the needs of the community. The project will aim to engage with a minimum of 4320 participants.</p> <p><u>Alternative Education</u></p> <p>Football Champions and Football Leaders to deliver educational programmes, both classroom and participation based, to a minimum of 1980 pupils throughout 12-week blocks.</p> <p>My Volunteer Inspire Project will deliver a targeted volunteer project offering four mandatory workshops and opportunity to gain formal qualifications to a minimum of 270 young people.</p>



	<p>Main areas where project will be delivered:</p> <p>Clackmannanshire: Alloa</p> <p>Falkirk: Larbert</p> <p>Fife: Cowdenbeath</p> <p>Dundee: Linlathan.</p> <p>Glasgow: Drumchapel</p> <p>Inverclyde: Port Glasgow</p> <p>Aberdeen: Seaton</p> <p>Inverness: Merkinch</p> <p>South Ayrshire: Ayr</p> <p>North Ayrshire: Kilwinning</p> <p>West Lothian: Blackburn</p> <p>Edinburgh: Pilton</p>
<b>Scope of the CRWIA, (identifying the children and young people affected by the policy, and summarising the evidence base)</b>	<p>The scope of the CRWIA is limited to participants involved in the CashBack for Communities activity. The programme is targeted at children and young people aged 10-25 and is open to all children without discrimination.</p>
<b>Children and young people's views and experiences</b>	<p>The views of children and young people are sought through an annual evaluation of the project. A need to include the views and experiences of children and young people towards developing the project has been identified as a result of undertaking the CRWIA.</p>
<b>Key Findings (including an assessment of the impact on children's rights, and how the measure will contribute to children's wellbeing)</b>	<p>The Scottish FA CashBack for Communities programme positively impacts the rights and wellbeing of children and young people involved in the programme.</p>



<b>Monitoring and Review</b>	<p>The monitoring and evaluation plan for year 3 (2025-26) of the programme is as follows:</p> <p><b>Scottish FA Monitoring and Evaluation Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stakeholder and participant survey's issued to delivery partners and participants</li><li>• Participant Equality Monitoring to be undertaken within the programme</li><li>• Quarterly case studies from regional teams and stakeholders.</li></ul>
<b>Authorisation</b>	
<b>Policy Lead (name, title and Scottish FA Department)</b> <i>Paul McNeill, Head of Community Football</i>	<b>Date: 18/06/2025</b>
<b>Head of Department (name, title and Scottish FA Department)</b> <i>Andrew Gould, Chief Football Officer</i>	<b>Date: 18/06/2025</b>