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[www.missingpeople.org.uk](http://www.missingpeople.org.uk)

20<sup>th</sup> April 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of the charity Missing People to share an update about our latest work in partnership with the Scottish Government, and to invite you to work with us on this extended project to support professional's with the implementation of The National Missing Persons Framework.

### **What is the project?**

Since August 2019, Missing People have been working to deliver a **free** programme of consultancy, training and best practice sharing in selected local areas in Scotland to build on the excellent work already being delivered to support missing persons and their families, in line with The National Missing Persons Framework.

In 2019 - 2020, the three areas Missing People were commissioned to work in were Edinburgh, Fife and Dundee. In 2020 - 2021, the three areas were North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, and Moray.

From May 2021, we will be extending this offer of **free support to five additional areas in Scotland**. We will be tailoring support according to current practice and expertise, and specific local need in order to ensure that people at risk of going missing continue to be treated as a priority. We have been working with a number agencies to develop good practice in supporting children, adults and families and this learning will be shared throughout the project.

We anticipate that the majority of this support will be delivered within these five areas between **June 2021 to March 2022**. In line with the current COVID-19 guidelines, the project to be delivered remotely and online until otherwise advised.

### **Who is the project for?**

The project will support Police Scotland, NHS, Education, and local authority staff who are directly or indirectly involved in supporting missing children and/or adults and their families.

“We look forward to working further with the charity to make improvements in the areas identified in the review and appreciate their assistance in respect of delivering these.” – Police Scotland, D-Division

## What support does the project provide?

From June 2021 to March 2022, we will be offering support to a total of five local areas. We will be offering 'light touch support in three local areas, and 'in-depth' support in 2 local areas.

**Light touch support** will involve us working together on specific consultancy and/or training activities. Activities included as part of this support offer will be dependent on the needs of each local area.

Activities include:

- Reviewing the response to missing through mapping and understanding current policies, guidance and practice relating to missing persons
- Consulting on and developing policies and protocols around Return Discussions, and information sharing
- Delivering free, tailored training sessions to local professionals working in this field
- Sharing best practice and learning related to the implementation of the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland
- Building awareness of support services available from Missing People which can allow our partners to focus resources on the operational response to missing persons
- Accessing a free Good Practice Toolkit for professionals to use day-to-day.

This will take place over a five-to-ten-day period for each local area.

**In-depth support** will involve a full mapping, review and support approach around missing in two local areas, including all the activities list above. This will take place from June 2021 to March 2022.

## How can I get my local area involved?

In order to be considered for this free programme of support, we ask that a local area has the support from both the relevant missing person's Champion within Police Scotland **and** the local authority/authorities for either adult and/or children's services.

Please complete the application form below to tell us your current local multi-agency response to missing and detail how you feel that your area would benefit from Missing People's support.

Please submit the application form to our National Coordinator for Scotland, Annie Marshall at [annie.marshall@missingpeople.org.uk](mailto:annie.marshall@missingpeople.org.uk). **The application deadline is Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of May.**

## Further Information

This project is designed to complement Scottish Government's and Police Scotland's' commitment to create a national response to protect vulnerable missing people from harm. It also builds on Missing People's strong working partnership with Police Scotland; and our receipt of multi-year funding from the Scottish Government to increase awareness and the use of our services for young people.

The project team will work with local Police Scotland divisional missing persons leads; local authority missing persons champions, including those from education and public health; the Scottish Government's Missing Person's Team; and The National Working Group, which has been established to support the delivery of The National Framework. This range of partners means that we can help to ensure that your views are represented to local and national government, contributing to our common goal of positive outcomes for missing people and their families.

Missing People has over 25 years frontline experience and works in collaboration with a range of partners across the UK, including the UK Missing Persons Unit, and Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP). We are looking forward to growing our experience in Scotland and sharing our specialist knowledge of supporting missing people and their families by providing support to teams implementing The National Framework through the continuation of this project.

Please get in touch if you would like any further information, or to talk anything through.

Yours sincerely,

Annie

**Annie Marshall**

National Coordinator, Scotland



**Please provide us with any relevant missing statistics from your local area for adults and children** *(For example, the number of adults and children reported missing over the last year; of those missing who are children, how many are Looked-After Children (LAC); the number of missing adults reported from public health; the number of missing adults reported from home; the number of children reported from Education; the number of missing children reported from Home (non-LAC); the number of Return Discussions completed for returned non-LAC; the number of Return Discussions offered/completed for returned adults)*

**Please tell us about 3 areas in which your local area demonstrates good practice around missing children and/or adults and their families**

**Please tell us about 3 areas for development in your area that you think would benefit from Missing People's expertise in supporting local professionals to more closely implement practice within The National Missing Persons Framework**

**Please tell us on a scale of 1-10 (1 being low, 10 being high) how you would rate the knowledge of The National Missing Persons Framework in your local area**

**Please tell us any further information that you think would support your application**