***Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) for Mayfield and Easthouses Youth 2000 Projects CashBack 180 Service***

**Project Summary**

Y2K’s CashBack 180 service aims to provide support and opportunities for young people involved in/at risk of becoming involved in anti social, offending or risk taking behaviours to make positive changes to their lives in order to work towards more positive futures. Using a range of creative, participatory youth work methods, we deliver a range of educational activities to provide young people with the information required to make informed choices about their lives. Group work programmes, 1:1 supports and awareness raising workshops are delivered with referred young people where there is an identified risk.

1. **Which articles of the UNCRC does the policy/measure impact on?**

*Article 1: Definition of a Child*

*Article 2: Non discrimination*

*Article 3: The best interests of the child*

*Article 12: Respect the views of the child*

*Article 13: Freedom of expression*

*Article 14: Freedom of thought*

*Article 15: Freedom of association*

*Article 16: Protection of the child’s privacy*

*Article 17: access to information and the mass media*

*Article 23: Rights of disabled children*

*Article 25: Review of treatment in care*

*Article 24: Right to health/health services*

*Article 26: Right to social security*

*Article 27: Adequate standard of living*

*Article 28: Right to education*

*Article 29: aims of education*

*Article 31: Right to leisure, play and participation in cultural, recreational activity*

*Article 33: Drug abuse*

*Article 39: Recovery and reintegration of a child victim*

*Article 40: Children accused of or recognised as having infringed the penal law to be treated in a manner consistent with the promotion of the child’s dignity and worth*

*Article 42: make the convention widely known*

1. **What impact will your measure/policy have on children’s rights?**

**Article 1: The definition of a child**

**POSITIVE IMPACT-** The CashBack 180 and all of Y2K’s other services are targeted at young people aged between 11 and 21 years old. Young people involved with the project fit within the UNCRC definition of a child. Our service and the content delivered is tailored to ensure it is age appropriate and relevant for children and young people.

**Article 2: Non Discrimination**

**POSITIVE IMPACT-**The CashBack 180 and all of Y2K’s other services are open to all young people regardless of background, religion, sexuality, gender or circumstance. Protected characteristics of all service users are collected at the time of referral and appropriate adaptions are made where necessary to ensure the service is inclusive. We use a person-centred approach when working with service users and work hard to remove any barriers that could jeopardise the young persons engagement with the service. Discrimination awareness sessions are delivered as standard in all our programme delivery. Our staff and young people are made aware of our equal opportunities and diversity policy and copies of these can be found throughout our premises.

 **Article 3: The best interests of the child primary consideration**

POSITIVE IMPACT- The CashBack 180 project is led by the voices of the young people we serve and we use information and insight gained from them to devise, improve and deliver our supports. We involve young people at all stages when considering how best to support service users. Meetings are had with young people to find out more about what matters to them and the issues impacting their lives, futures and wellbeing. This information is then used by CashBack 180 staff as the basis for all decision making. Where appropriate we also liaise with other professionals involved in the care of a young person to gather relevant information that will allow us to best support each individual. Staff attend training on creative evaluation processes with young people to equip them with the skills to encourage young peoples participation in improving and reflecting on existing and future developments.

**Article 12: Respect the views of the child**

POSITIVE IMPACT- As with all our projects and services, CashBack 180 prides itself on being a youth led service, with the voices of our young people central to all decision making. We encourage and create opportunities for young people to participate and have their views listened to through a range of methods including group agreements decided on by group members, individual target setting at the beginning of all supports, individual evaluation processes at the end of supports, ongoing individual check ins with participants to monitor progress and any individual concerns or suggestions, encouraging young people to participate in local and national surveys that are of relevance and importance to them and daily feedback processes. We follow the GIRFEC model and understand the importance of young people feeling able to have their views listened to and respected.

 **Article 13: Freedom of Expression**

POSITIVE IMPACT-Young people involved with the CB180 service and all of Y2K’s other services, are encouraged and supported to express their thoughts and opinions on the issues impacting their lives and communities. We offer young people safe and inclusive spaces to express their thoughts and have their voices heard. When required, we will also advocate for young people to ensure their voices are heard.

 **Article 14: Freedom of Thought**

POSITIVE IMPACT- Participants of the CashBack 180 service are actively encouraged and supported to take part in discussion and debate. As with all Y2K services, the CB180 service aims to equip young people with the knowledge and information they require to make their own informed decisions about their lives and futures. Dedicated youth workers create opportunities and safe spaces for young people to explore their own views and opinions, whilst being challenged and encouraged to consider the thoughts and opinions of others.

  **Article 15: Freedom of Association**

POSITIVE IMPACT-Young people who engage with Y2K services, including CashBack 180, are provided with opportunities to spend time with peers and get involved with activities that they enjoy. Through access to spaces and groups where young people can spend time with others and have a choice in what activities they would like to get involved with, participants are able to take part in positive opportunities that help them build friendships, support networks and provide positive alternatives to risky behaviours.

 **Article 16-Protection of the child’s privacy**

POSITIVE IMPACT- Young peoples involved with the CB180 project and all of Y2K’s services have their right to privacy protected through our compliance of data protection and confidentiality policies and procedures. All young people are made aware of the confidentiality procedures before they begin their involvement with the service. Information on our confidentiality procedures are located around the project for all young people to view. Consent is always sought before sharing any information with other professionals, unless there are concerns around the young persons safety and welfare, in line with our safeguarding policy. Anyone wishing to access the information stored on them, has the right to request this at any time. All Y2K staff are aware of Y2K’s policies on data protection, GDPR, safeguarding and confidentiality.

**Article 17- access to information from the mass media.**

POSITIVE IMPACT- Participants of the CashBack 180 service have access to a diverse range of resources from a variety of sources, based on their identified needs and wishes. Youth workers use a variety of resources such as websites, film and social media to educate young people on issues such as the consequences of crime, personal safety and information around their rights. Y2K provides young people with access to wifi and IT equipment when appropriate. At Y2K we recognise the importance of young people having the knowledge required to access support they need and research information that will benefit them.

 **Article 23: Rights of disabled children**

POSITIVE IMPACT- Y2K aims to include and support young people with a disability to engage with our services wherever possible. Youth work staff work with the young person and other professionals involved in the care of young people to ensure young people with disabilities are able to benefit from our range of supports. Our building is fully accessible. Individual support plans are in place to ensure individual needs are taken into consideration when delivering supports. We have youth workers who have completed training on supporting young people with disabilities. All staff have completed Child Protection training which includes the additional vulnerabilities of children and young people with disabilities

 **Article 24: Right to health/health services**

POSITIVE IMPACT-Young people are provided with a wide range of information and advice around health services that are available to them. Youth workers will support any young person who feels they would benefit from referrals to health-based services including local counselling and therapeutic services. We will also support young people, when requested, to access sexual health services locally. Our programmes include inputs from health-based services including therapeutic support services and Healthy respect.

**Article 25: Review of Treatment in care**

POSITIVE IMPACT- Y2K is committed to The Promise and aims to ensure all young people in care or on the edge of care, are aware of their rights and have access to the support they require at the times they need it. Y2K is a member of the Midlothian Promise Delivery group, who meet regularly to discuss and improve the lives of care experienced local young people.

 **Article 26: Social Security**

POSITIVE IMPACT**-**When appropriate, young people are supported to access the social security they are entitled to. This can include support to complete forms, consulting with benefits advisors and advice from youth work staff on the entitlements they have, such as Educational Maintenance Allowance and Personal Independence Payments.

 **Article 27: Adequate Standard of Living**

POSITIVE IMPACT- All young people who access Y2K services have access to free meals and health and hygiene products when they need it. Young people who require this additional support, are treated with respect and dignity at all times.

**Article 28 and Article 29-right to education and the aims of education**

POSITIVE IMPACT- The CashBack 180 service supports young people to take part in a wide range of educational opportunities and through their participation, service users are supported to work towards SCQF level 3 accredited awards. Our CashBack 180 service understands that one size does not fit all and we strive to increase young peoples awareness on the diverse range of opportunities available to them that will provide opportunities for them to learn and develop. Y2K also provides opportunities for young people to develop transferrable life skills and volunteer in order to gain invaluable experience and increase confidence.

**Article 31: Right to leisure, play and participation in cultural, recreational activity**

POSITIVE IMPACT- The CashBack 180 service provides participants with a wide range of opportunities to take part in recreational, positive and diversionary activities that are suited to their needs and interests. Y2K provides free, physical and fun activities throughout the year that give young people the chance to develop new skills, gain new experiences and form positive relationships with others. By providing these opportunities, young people are able to explore positive alternatives to more harmful behaviours.

 **Article 33: Drug Abuse**

POSITIVE IMPACT- Young people who engage with the CashBack 180 service are supported to engage with awareness raising, issue based workshops around the consequences and risks associated with using drugs. We use a harm reduction approach to educate young people on the potential dangers of using drugs.

 **Article 39: Recovery and reintegration of a child victim**

**POSITIVE IMPACT-** Young people involved in the CashBack 180 service often have been the victim of harm. Our youth workers are trained in trauma informed practice and provide the support, advice and information that the young person requires to recover and move forwards more positively. We work with the young person to identify what support they feel they require and liaise with our partners with permission from the young person to source the best possible support for each individual. Through tailored, person-centred approaches, young people are able to reflect upon their lives and the barriers/issues preventing them from achieving and succeeding.

**Article 40: Children accused of or recognised as having infringed the penal law to be treated in a manner consistent with the promotion of the child’s dignity and worth**

POSITIVE IMPACT- CashBack 180 supports young people involved in offending behaviours, therefore we often work with young people who have police charges. Our youth workers are committed to ensuring that young people, regardless of previous choices and consequences, have the opportunities to make positive change and move forward. Our service aims to highlight the fact that people can change and this is achieved by working with mentors who share their stories with young people. We also work closely with the police to help break down any barriers that may exist between them and young people. This non judgemental and inclusive approach ensures young people feel welcome, valued and reassured.

**Article 42: make the convention widely known**

POSITIVE IMPACT- Raising awareness of young peoples rights and responsibilities is an area included in all our programmes with young people. Young people are provided with regular opportunities to discuss their rights and what this means for them. Y2K staff have all completed training on the rights of the child and this is revisited on an ongoing basis.

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

The CashBack 180 service will work with young people between the ages of 11 and 21 who fit one or more of the following criteria:

* Involved in offending, anti-social or risk taking behaviours
* Identified as at risk of becoming involved in anti-social, risk taking or offending behaviours
* Young people living within Midlothian
1. **If a negative impact is assessed for any area of rights or any groups of children and young people, can you explain why this is necessary and proportionate? What options have you considered to modify the proposal, or mitigate the impact?**

The CashBack 180 service has no identified negative impacts on the rights of any groups of children and young people.

1. **How will the policy/measure give better or further effect the implementation of the UNCRC in Scotland?**

Y2K works with young people identified as the most vulnerable due to concerns around the negative and harmful behaviours and choices they are engaging with. Many of the young people who access the service are also considered to be those living in areas of high deprivation. The CashBack 180 service aims to give young people an increased understanding of their rights.

1. **How have you consulted with relevant stakeholders, including involved children and young people in the development of the policy/measure?**

Y2K prides itself on being a youth led organisation, with all of our projects and services being developed in response to the identified needs and wishes of local young people. We carry out regular consultation processes with young people, other professionals and stake holders to help us identify areas of need and how we can best support. The CashBack 180 service was introduced after young people expressed that they felt there was a gap in provision for young people involved in offending. We continuously strive to improve our existing provision and facilitate opportunities for young people to share feedback on what has worked best for them and what more we can be doing to support them. Our full staff team have all be involved in the review of our CRWIA as well as our young people.

1. **What evidence have you used to inform your assessment?**

We have used information and feedback from our service users, feedback from our partners from other organisations and our own professional observations and experiences to inform this assessment.

1. **How will the impact of the policy/measure be monitored?**

Y2K’s senior management team will monitor and review the impact the service is having on young people. This will involve regular consultations with young people, staff and other professionals. The project manager will also provide regular updates on the impact of the measure to the board of directors.

The CRWIA has been reviewed in December 2023. The next review will take place in December 2024.

1. **How will you communicate to children and young people the impact of the policy/measure on their rights?**

Young people are made aware of their rights throughout their time with Y2K and the CashBack 180 service. We work with each individual to identify which rights of the young person needs to be explored and where an improved understanding of these rights would be beneficial. We include sessions on Childrens rights in all of our programmes of activities to increase awareness. Young people will be involved in producing an updated “young person friendly” version of the CRWIA which will be displayed around our project and published on our website.

All Y2K staff have undertaken Childrens rights legislation training. This will be revisited each year.

**Reviewed: December 2023**

**Signed:** 

**Lyndsey Ritchie**

**Project manager**