



SKRB
2024

WE CAN MAKE CHANGE TOGETHER

**Lessons learned about care
experienced children and
young people's collective
participation**

Cath Larkins,
The Centre for children and young
people's participation

Europe



Reaching In and the EU Platform



Young people from alternative care from Croatia participated in the creation of the leaflet. For more information, read: EU Child Guarantee, adopted by the European Commission in 2021.



The leaflet was created through collaboration on the project 'Reaching-In: promoting children's participation in inclusive public decision making', which is carried out by the international organization Eurochild and which lasts from 2020 to 2022. The creation of the leaflet was financed by Eurochild for the needs of the project.



Creating Information about Rights

What does the European Union say should be happening for us?

How can we simplify this so that children in care will understand?

How can we share this with people with influence in Croatia – so that they know their obligations



Forming groups, so that children get a chance to think together and develop trust

Creating and Improving Children's Meetings in Residential Homes

Sharing ideas about how to improve housing, activities and education

Exchanging these ideas with each other and with the European Commission

EU Children's Participation Platform

How to work together to improve child participation systems

How to get a better understanding of democracy

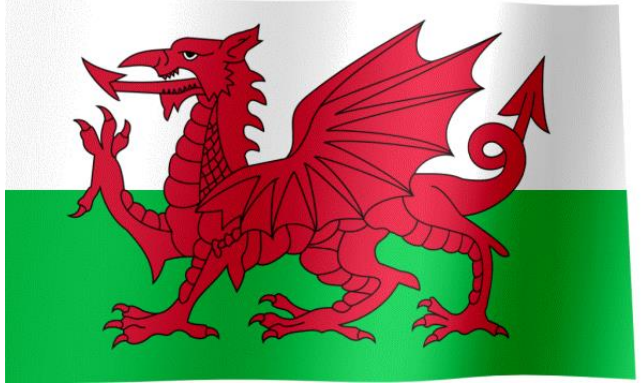
How we should work together across countries – and what issues

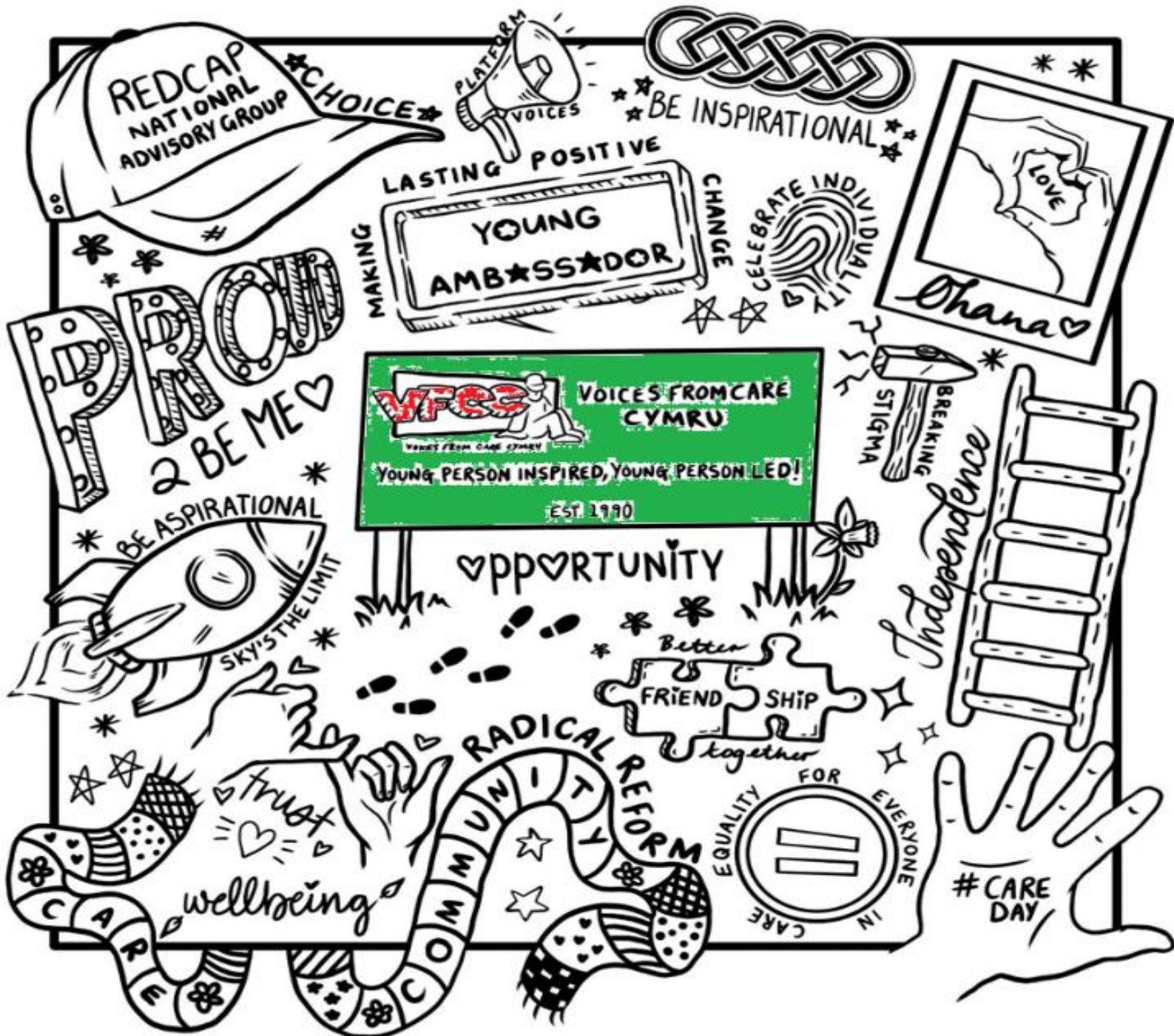
<https://eu-for-children.europa.eu/>





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Voices from Care Cymru

Voices for Change Group

- Meeting regularly
- Building Skills
- Having Fun
- Influencing National Decisions

JOIN OUR campaign
For change

IMPACT

FOR US CARE EXPERIENCED
14 TO 22 YEARS OLD

THURSDAY
JUNE 20TH

RADIO/PODCAST SKILLS + SOCIAL ACTION

DJ & RADIO PRESENTING WORKSHOPS

SIGN UP!

NEW VENUE

HIGH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

COME AND LEARN KEY DJ +
RADIO BROADCASTING SKILLS
(MAKE YOUR OWN PODCAST)

#RadicalReform



Action by government

PRESS RELEASE

Children and young people lead radical reform of care services in Wales

A declaration committing to the radical reform of care services for children and young people has been signed by the First Minister Mark Drakeford today.

First published: 10 May 2023

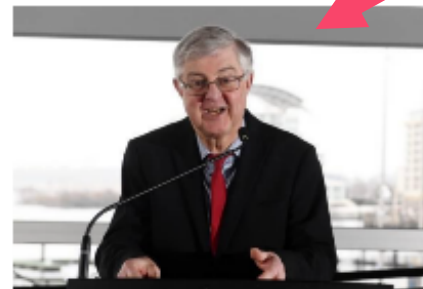
Last updated: 10 May 2023

The declaration, developed jointly by care-experienced children and young people and ministers, outlines the Welsh Government's commitment to putting the voice of children and young people at the heart of the transformation of children's services.

It commits the Welsh Government to deliver a wide range of changes to the current care system, to enable a 'children first' approach in everything we do and to make sure that everything is done to help children and families stay together.

The declaration comes as the Welsh Government is radically transforming children's services in Wales.

It is committed to reducing the number of children and young people entering care but for those children who are in care, it wants them to remain close to home so they can continue to be part of their community.



Share this page:



Partnered with the youth parliament

Making sure that care experienced children and young people

Are part of mainstream collective participation activities



Encouraging all young people to use their vote

Encouraged young people to register to vote

Summarized what every party was offering

**DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE. YOUR
VOTE = YOUR VOICE.**

Are you 18 or over? July 4th is your chance to vote to choose who you want to send to the Parliament in London to speak for your community on issues like benefits, tax, courts and fighting crime.

You've got less than 48 hours to register to vote. The deadline is 11.59pm tomorrow June 18th.

You can do that here – www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Need help to register? Email Voices From Care Cymru volunteer Brendan at Brendan.roberts@vfcc.org.uk and he'll help you through.

VFCC
VOICES FROM CARE CYMRU

WWW.VFCC.ORG.UK
@VOICESFROMCARECYMRU

Generating Community Connections

Developing a network of allies
Adults and young people
(Safety is essential)

JOIN US ONLINE EVERY THIRD TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH - 6 - 7.30PM



Contact fran@vfcc.org.uk to get involved.





University - Care Forum Partnerships

Creating our Lives

Co-created Research

Discussed with Committee

Informed national guidelines

Developed Training for Social Workers



Area-Based Children in Care Councils

University of Central Lancashire
UCLan

Open Days Study Life International Business Research More

Home / About / Exhibitions / Ethical Research / **Centre for Children and young people's Participation**

Institute for Relational Research (INTERRELATF)

The Centre for Children and Young People's Participation

The Centre for Children and Young People's Participation, established in 2009, is a research, teaching and networking hub concerned with children and young people's participation, inclusion and empowerment.





https://youtu.be/VI_oSSeyWKA?feature=shared

Housing

What do you think is making a difference?

How can we research it together?

What are we finding out?

How can we tell other people and the governments?



The image shows two overlapping website screenshots. The top screenshot is from the Coram Voice website, featuring a purple and yellow color scheme. It includes a navigation menu with links like 'Get Help', 'My Rights', 'My Stories', 'Get Involved', and 'For Professionals'. The main content area has a video player with the title 'What does Coram Voice mean to you?' and a woman's face. Text on the page states: 'Coram Voice will help you if you are in care, leaving care, have or need a social worker. We will get your voice heard, tell you about your rights, give you the support you need through our advocates and work with you to improve the care system.' A 'Find out how' button is visible. The bottom screenshot is from the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) website, showing a dark blue header with the university logo and navigation links like 'Open Days', 'Study', 'Life', 'International', 'Business', 'Research', and 'More'. The main content area features a white background with the text 'Institute for Relational Research (INTERREL)' and 'The Centre for Children and Young People's Participation'. A photograph of children playing with colored powder is on the right.





Pesäpuu in Finland

Collaboration with Children's Ombudsperson

Roadshow around the country

What are your concern?

What do social services need to do?

How can we make this happen?

Children's Detective Club

Children aged 6-10 investigate child protection in a group with Badger the Puppet

Children help Badger – they don't have to talk straight about themselves and their own experiences.

Detective Club isn't a therapy group but it has elements of empowering participation and peer support

- We investigate
- We develop
- We influence



Lessons learned

- Care experienced young people can be amazing leaders
- Create groups and get to know each other – spend time and do activities
- Get to know adult allies – politicians and public
- Be creative – DJ workshops and Badger Puppet
- Develop your strengths – get informed, share information
- Build partnerships with other organisations – including academics
- Make links to the political processes that already exist – voting, youth councils, national and international platforms
- Remind people of their duties and your rights
- Try to influence laws, guidance and how people do things in practice locally, nationally and internationally
- Remember we can do this together and there are lots of us working for similar change