



Stuart Valentine
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Dr Kirsty Darwent
CHAIR



ANNUAL REVIEW 2016/17

In the past year, the Relationships Scotland Network has again provided face-to-face support to over 15,000 people across the country.

The Relationships Scotland Network is a unique Scotland-wide family and relationship support service. Our 22 Member Services help people cope with relationship problems, separation and divorce. We work with individuals, couples, families and children to help reduce conflict, improve communication and ensure that people are supported to manage times of crisis and relationship breakdown.

Our Network provides relationship counselling, family mediation, child contact centres and many other forms of related family support, including sexual relationship therapy, Parenting Apart Groups and children's counselling.

Our work has a strong focus on early intervention and prevention. We work with families as early as we can, supporting them to look at the issues they are facing and helping them avoid letting things get worse. Through our highly trained counsellors, mediators and other practitioners, we provide high quality and professional support services. Our work is supported by over 900 people, including around 400 volunteers.

A recent report by Inspiring Scotland (*Relationships Scotland, Cost Benefit Review, 2017*) has demonstrated the impact that our work has on the lives of children and families and the savings that this work has for the public purse. The report found that the average benefits to the public purse of successful relationship counselling, family mediation and child contact centres is estimated at £11,445, with an average delivery cost of £895.

When compared against the cost of delivery of such services, the average ratio of benefits to one pound of cost for relationship counselling is £11.20, family mediation £12.68 and child contact centres £14.94.

The work of the Relationships Scotland Network supports the Scottish Government's vision for children, young people and their families. We fully support the aspirations of the *National Parenting Strategy* and *The Early Years Framework*. Our work operates within the guiding principles of *Getting it Right for Every Child* (GIRFEC) and also supports the National Outcomes which underpin Single Outcome Agreements between the Scottish Government and every Local Authority in Scotland.

We are again grateful to the Scottish Government for their ongoing funding of the Relationships Scotland Network. We are also grateful to the Big Lottery in Scotland for the ongoing support of our child contact centres, which enables us to offer additional services to the most vulnerable families.

We would like to express our thanks to the 22 Member Services who provide such a high level of care and support. We would also like to pay particular thanks to the staff team at the Relationships Scotland National Office for the excellent work that they do, and also to the Directors who serve on the National Board.

The Relationships Scotland Network will continue to work with many partner organisations across the country to make our vision a reality: Positive and Respectful Relationships at the Heart of Scotland.

2016/17 IN NUMBERS

RELATIONSHIPS SCOTLAND NETWORK

22
MEMBER SERVICES

619

COUNSELLORS, MEDIATORS,
THERAPISTS & CONTACT
CENTRE WORKERS

46

CHILD CONTACT
CENTRES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

97% of clients
would recommend our
services to others

98% of clients
said their relationship
or family situation had
improved as a result
of counselling

70% of parents said
their children found it
easier to cope with their
situation after using a
child contact centre

79% of clients said
their family situation
had improved as a
result of mediation

KEEPING STANDARDS HIGH

344

PEOPLE
ATTENDED
NETWORK
CPD EVENTS

71

COUNSELLORS
AND MEDIATORS
BENEFITTED FROM
OUR SPECIALIST
TRAINING

72

QUALIFIED
COUNSELLING
& MEDIATION
SUPERVISORS ARE
NOW WORKING
ACROSS SCOTLAND

75,000+

PEOPLE VISITED OUR
WEBSITES FOR INFORMATION
AND SUPPORT

15,000+

clients received

FACE TO FACE SUPPORT

including:
relationship counselling,
family mediation,
child contact centre provision,
family support and
sexual relationship therapy.

44,000+
PEOPLE

CONTACTED US FOR
SUPPORT THIS YEAR