

# Annual Report & Accounts 2022 – 2023

## Objective 3

To address breaches of children's and young people's rights



NICCY continues to **challenge** and **scrutinise** the relevant authorities

### FORMAL INVESTIGATION

NICCY's first formal investigation was published in January



### COMPLAINTS CASEWORK – 356 CASES ADDRESSED

**324 case cases** successfully closed



**118 cases** carried over to next year



### INTERVENTIONS

Intervened in 5 **Judicial Review cases** on a range of issues involving breaches of children's rights – 2 are ongoing

### LEGAL ADVICE

Provided legal advice to inform the ongoing work of NICCY on issues including **education, restraint and seclusion and safeguarding**

### PROTECTED DISCLOSURES

2 **protected disclosures** were received in relation to alleged mistreatment of children in schools



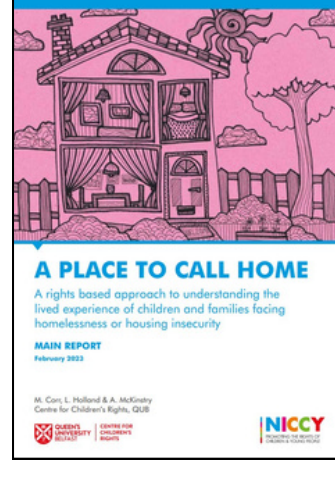
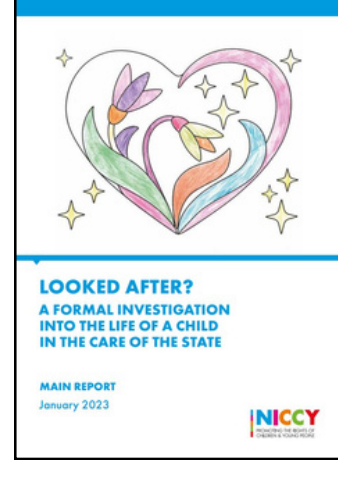
## Objective 4

To raise awareness of children's and young people's rights, the UNCRC and the functions of the Commissioner



### PUBLICATIONS

- Published 'Looked After? A Formal Investigation into the Life of a Child in the care of the State', 'A Place to Call Home' and 'Statement on Children's Rights in Northern Ireland 3'
- Published **Annual Complaints and Legal Report (2021-22)**



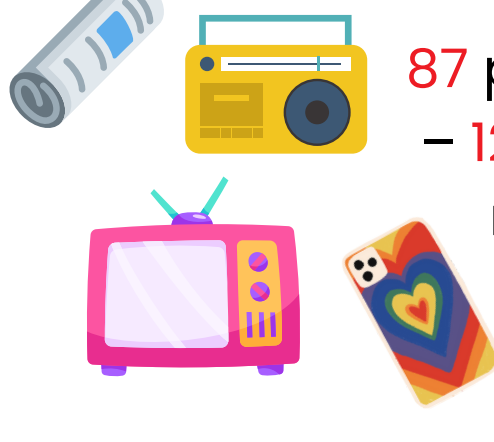
### MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

37 interviews for the Commissioner  
15 press releases & 15 statements  
88 media enquiries responded to



### NICCY COVERAGE

87 pieces in daily NI newspapers/regional print – 120 pieces of coverage on local, UK and Irish radio stations – and 4 pieces on local TV



Featured **724** times on online sites

### ENGAGEMENT

- NICCY has monitored, advised and held government to account on child rights issues. Key issues raised include: **child poverty; safeguarding; RSE; use of restrictive practices; school attendance; provision for new pupils; emotional health and wellbeing; bullying; school uniform costs; SEND**
- PSNI engagement on a range of issues, including safeguarding children from criminal coercion and exploitation by organised, criminal groups and gangs
- Delivered in-person training for government officials – **60** people completed online Child's Rights Impact Assessments training



## Objective 5

To ensure the participation of children and young people in decision making processes



### NICCY YOUTH PANEL

- Panel consisting of **56 members**
- Meeting with key **international child rights defender** Dunja Mijatović, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights



- Presented to an Independent Review Panel on 4 key areas: **Single Education System; Mental Health Support; Post-primary Transfer Test and Curriculum Content.**
- Supporting NICCY with **recruitment, social media and the development of a new website**

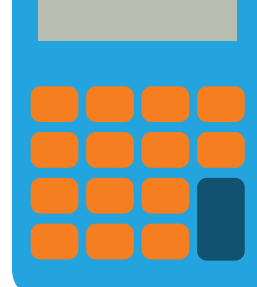
## Objective 6

To ensure NICCY is an effective and efficient organisation



### EFFECTIVE DELIVERY AND GOVERNANCE

- Ensured **value for money** and **appropriate expenditure of public monies**, adhering to our legislative duties, powers and functions
- '**Satisfactory**' ratings on all audits
- Governance and Accountability – Quarterly meetings held with Sponsor Department – **no issues raised**



### NET EXPENDITURE

£1.67m

4

**meetings held with NICCY's Audit and Risk Assurance Committee**

- Performance Management – **effective delivery** on objects and targets
- Annual Report and Accounts 2022 – 2023** laid in NI Assembly on 19 December 2023

[Click here to read the full 2022 – 2023 Annual Report and Accounts](#)

