



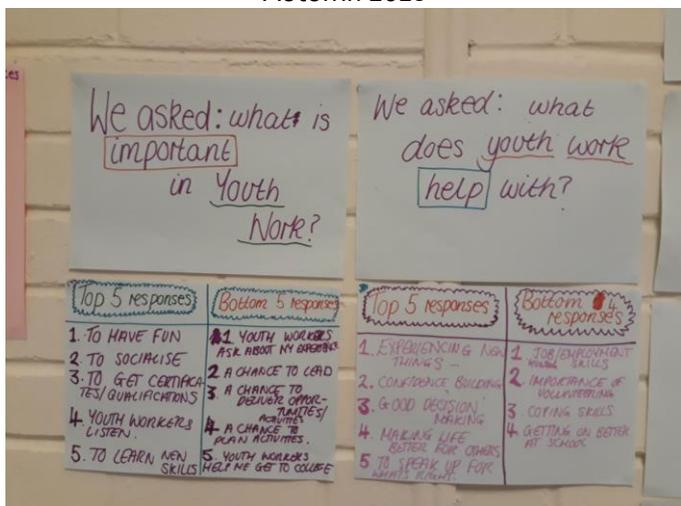
# Youth Work in the Grantown area

October 2018 to March 2019

## Celebrating Achievement and Valuing Young Voices



Highland wide survey of Young People  
Autumn 2018



During this period, the local youth team has worked with around 75 individual young people aged between 11 and 21 amounting to 1,152 meaningful contacts

In total there were approx 1,166 hours of engagement with young people

And these took place on 70 separate occasions at the following locations- The Craig MacLean Centre, Grantown Grammar School and the Grantown YMCA.

A total of 5 recognised awards were gained

# Some of what's been happening and what's planned

## What's been happening locally -

A programme of online awareness was delivered in partnership with the Grantown Children's Service Worker to all S1 pupils at Grantown Grammar School. The sessions covered the topics of social media, sexting, cyber-bullying and online security.

The sessions were well received with positive feedback from the young people, the vast majority of which stated that they'd learnt something new, felt better equipped for being online and now knew where they could go to get help if they ever had a problem.

## What's been happening locally – Area Youth Forum Conference

Youth forum members from Grantown, Kingussie and Nairn met up in December at the Nairn Community Centre for their annual Area Youth Conference. They discussed issues that they felt were important to young people in their areas including mental health, sexual health and transport.

The conference included fun team building activities, and also discussions and debates. In addition there was a very informative and discussion provoking session from James Cook around LGBT+ issues and equality.

## Quotes

'I know to stop, block and tell if I was bullied online' – young person on the online awareness sessions.

'Good to hear about the ideas from other youth forums and how we could do things for Badenoch & Strathspey' – Grantown youth forum member regarding the area youth conference.

## A vision for high quality youth work across Highland

The current Youth Work policy has been in place since 2007, and has stood the test of time.

However, stakeholders including young people, statutory and third sectors have agreed there needs to be a refreshed strategy to reaffirm core youth work principles and reflect emerging and changing needs of young Highlanders.

Since autumn 2018 much activity has occurred to contribute towards this new youth work strategy – surveys, focus groups, stakeholder engagement and conversations.

Watch out for a new youth work strategy for 2019 onwards, which will describe how the following will be achieved:

- ✓ *clear ways for young people to become involved in youth work activity*
- ✓ *young people have a voice in youth work and an influence in decisions and services which affect them*
- ✓ *support for young people to progress from youth work into other positive destinations such as employment or further education.*

## Some useful information

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