



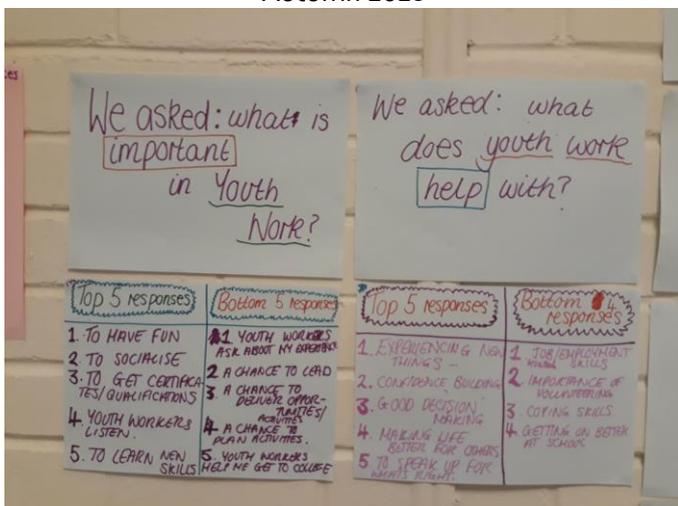
Youth Work in the Invergordon area

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 over 112 individual young people aged between 11 and 21 amounting to 1259 meaningful contacts

In total there were approx 2763 hours of engagement with young people

And these took place on 75 separate occasions at the following locations

Invergordon Community Hub, schools and outdoor spaces

A total of 33 recognised awards were gained

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

What's been happening locally – Job Ready



As the local job market begins to show signs of recovery a group of 9 young people from Invergordon Academy supported by High Life Highland youth workers took the initiative to focus on a practical life skills programme. During their job ready journey the group ran a felting art project at local care homes and worked with a young person's autistic support group. As result of their hard work and commitment young people gained valuable work experience and SQA and Youth Achievement qualifications.



What's been happening locally – Let's Grow

An ambitious group of young people aged between 11 and 13 took up the challenge of refurbishing the once vibrant Polly tunnel garden within the grounds of Invergordon Academy. The group spent several weeks repairing broken fencing, clearing rubbish and organised the complete replacement of the poly tunnel membrane. The aim of the project is to enable intergenerational group's easy access to a community garden offering all abilities the opportunity try their hand at growing veg and fruit. During the spring and summer HLH Adult Learning and Youth Work staff will work together to support any individuals or groups to produce for community lunch within the school café.

Quotes

"I can't thank these young people enough; they enabled our residents and staff to take part in wonderful craft project and made new friends, welcome back any time"

LR Care Home Manager

"Extremely proud of the hard work put into all aspects of the employability project this year, well done to staff and pupils"

MA Invergordon Academy Head Teacher

"My son has registered for a Care Course at Inverness College, as result of taking part in the project with the Youth Worker, surprised and happy" Local Parent

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

Local contact:

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Social Media

[Invergordon Youth Development@facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/InvergordonYouthDevelopment)