



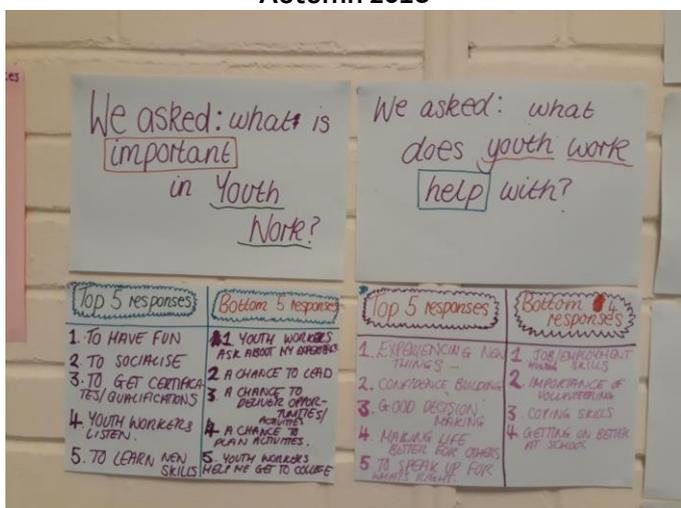
# Youth Work in the WICK area

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 50 individual young people aged between 11 and 21 amounting to 1516 meaningful contacts

In total there were approx 2,865 hours of engagement with young people

And these took place on 242 separate occasions at the following locations

Wick Community Campus, Wick Assembly Rooms, and on trips across the Highlands.

A total of 31 Leadership Awards were completed

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

## What's been happening locally – Young Scot

Over the past six months, we have had an Assistant Youth Worker based in Wick High School to engage with young people to find out how the National Entitlement Card could be improved to make it more relevant to young people living in the north; and to ensure everyone knows how it can be used. As well as negotiating Young Scot discounts with local businesses, the project gave additional food and leisure credits to targeted young people, helping to improve health and wellbeing.

## What's been happening locally – Step Forward Wick

In partnership with Wick High School and the Voluntary Youth Network, Wick Youth Development staff have been delivering a series of in school and after school Youth Work sessions, to help improve attainment. These sessions include cooking, drama, choir, art, hair & beauty, study groups and a Friday afternoon activity session. All activities were informed by the young people at Wick High School and have been hosted on campus. Whilst initially young people had expressed a desire to find their own informal space in town, using the campus as a venue to start with has proved more successful than expected and sessions are very popular.

## Quotes

*"This project was good, because it helped encourage you to get involved in more sports and activities."* – Young person

*"Thank you for your time and help with our project."* – Group of Youth Philanthropy Initiative students.

*"It's amazing that you take the time to help families at Christmas."* – Parent in receipt of Mission Christmas assistance

## 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 contacts:

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