



Youth Work in the Dingwall area

April to December 2019

Young People Involved, Being Heard and Achieving



Pàrlamaid Òigridh na Gàidhealtachd – The Highland Youth Parliament Conference - took place on 24-25 June 2019 in the UHI Inverness Campus. HYP includes young people from all 29 Highland Secondary Schools and Local Youth Forums. The HYP conference is a young person-led event at which approx. 80 young people from across the Highlands met with Service Directors, Lead Officers and Elected Members from The Highland Council, High Life Highland and partner agencies, in order to influence decision making that impacts Highland's young people.

Sessions

The event was themed around young people's 'Right to Freedom of Expression' with sessions of importance to young people in Highland including peer support for young people's mental health, climate change, an Education Q&A with The Highland Council's Head of Education, Highland Children and Young People Forum's



Inspire Group, the 'Grow2gether' teenage pregnancy project, the new Highland Youth Work Strategy (co-produced with young people), NHS Highland, Waverley Care and HLH C-Card scheme update and local workshops.

Delegates from Argyll and Bute and Western Isles Councils also attended in order to learn more about HYP and the role of the Highland Youth Convener. The Northern Alliance (NA) Youth Conference, involving 70 young people from across all 8 local authorities which make up the NA took place alongside the Highland Youth Parliament conference.

Issues

Issues highlighted by young people were Climate Change, Mental Health, Additional Support Needs, Youth Services Promotion in Schools, School subjects, languages, PSE improvements, LGBTI, Rurality and Cuts. View the event report at:
<https://www.highlifehighland.com/youth/highland-youth-parliament/>

A couple of stories and some headline stats

Employability

High Life Highland Youth Development team are providing an employability service for young people in the Dingwall catchment area. The employability project provides the opportunity for young people to gain SQA qualifications at levels 3 and 4 in Communications, Numeracy, Health and Wellbeing and Employability. Since April 2019 the young people in the Dingwall catchment area have achieved a pass in 54 of these SQA modules. Young people with support from youth workers manage their own learning plan allowing them to take responsibility for their future.

Dingwall Youth Forum

Dingwall Youth Forum continue to meet on a weekly basis to discuss and work on issues affecting their peers and their community. One of the concerns that they have is around Climate Change and due to this they are working on their next project - A Community Litter Pick. They will encourage as many community groups as they can to be involved on the day. This has been planned for spring time.

Quotes

"I am so please that I came along to this course, I will feel more confident trying out new things"- a young person who attended the employability make-up course.

"She has had more confidence since volunteering with youth work, she enjoys helping out"- a parent.

At the HYP conference in June

2 young people from this area took part

At the Area winter conference in November

13 young people from this area took part

During the period, across this area there were

3715 meaningful contacts

10726 hours of learning and youth work activity

303 Programmed Activities

25 Awards gained by young people

Some useful information

Local contacts

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Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/DingwallYouthDevelopment>

