



Youth Work in the Dornoch 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

Hi Fires – Youth Training Course

6 Young people attended every week and developed their physical and mental capabilities, working as part of and leading a team. They had improved self-discipline, confidence and communication skills. They increased their knowledge and awareness of their local communities and the contribution to communities the Fire and Rescue Service and other agencies. They learned a clear community safety message and how to improve health and safety measures in the workplace and at home. They undertook the basic first aid course. All 6 young people passed the course and had a passing out parade for their parents where they put on a display of skills they learned.

Employability Award

11 young people started the employability award where they undertook sessions in career exploration, health and safety, work experience and enterprise. Each week a visiting service engaged with the young people in discussions about their careers and the routes they had followed to gain employment. These included Highland Council roads department, early education and social work; Police Scotland with police dogs (!); anti-terrorism and internet safety; NHS Midwife; Scottish Ambulance Service; Dietitian, Physiotherapy and Care at Home. Fire Services and local employers were all involved. Through High Life Highland they gained their Defibrillator qualification and some life guarding experience. Young people gained their Employability award and 6 young people gained apprenticeships and employment.

Quote “I really enjoyed the roads engineer and I’m going to get my higher maths to apply for a job there” - young participant

At the Area winter conference in Lairg

4 young people from this area took part

During the period, across this area there were

1312 meaningful contacts

5791 hours of learning and youth work activity

431 Programmed Activities

54 Awards gained by young people

Some useful information

Local contacts

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Social Media

Facebook – Dornoch Youth Development

