



Youth Work in the Gairloch area

April to December 2019

Young People Involved, Being Heard and Achieving



Pàrlamaid Òigrìdh 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

A number of young people who attend school on a very irregular basis are working with the youth work team to develop their skills and learning. HLH youth staff are helping them get ready for the work place. The young people are in the process of completing the SQA in employability. The achievement process will enhance their understanding of what they can expect from the workplace and what the workplace can expect from them. Completion of the award will improve the young people's chances to access further training opportunities, work placements or employment. We are working with Gairloch High School and Skills Development Scotland to support these young people become more confident and optimistic about their future.

The Den – Youth Club

The youth work team support local youth provision in Gairloch where over 40% of the high school population attend. Accessing the Den provides young people with opportunities to develop and manage personal and formal relationships in a safe environment. The group often have the opportunity to engage with the local community raising money for local projects. The young people are committed to their local community.

Quotes

"I am so grateful for the support and advice that I get from my Youth worker, they have helped to get through a very difficult time in my life" – young learner
At the HYP conference in June

At HYP in June

2 young people from this area took part

At the Area winter conference in November

2 young people from this area took part

During the period, across this area there were

1418 meaningful contacts

5631 hours of learning and youth work activity

69 Programmed Activities

4 Awards gained by young people

Some useful information

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Social Media

Facebook: [Gairloch Youth Development](#)

