



Youth Work in the Kilchuimen 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

Our New MSYP for Inverness and Nairn

David Seatter was elected to the position of MSYP.

David has been involved in Youth Forum for the last 4 and a half years and during this time he has attended Highland Youth Parliament, become an Exec member for the HYP committee and helped to organise the Local Area Conference over this period.

He has been an active community volunteer throughout this time and currently has over 50 hours through the leadership programme and over 100 Saltire volunteering hours with more to be claimed.

He is working towards a Youth Achievement Award for his community work as he believes in giving the young people in rural communities a voice so they can highlight the issues faced in areas where the geography is large, but the population is sparse. Our area may seem affluent, but there is hidden poverty which also needs to be addressed.

Cook club

Cook Club was originally formed to take young people from school to youth club, giving them the opportunity to learn new skills, socialise and challenge themselves.

5-6 young people regularly attended but as time passed young people became conscious of exam pressures and the numbers dwindled.

This opportunity is now being provided through school contact and they are keen to develop new clubs. It is important that young people are fully involved in the shaping and delivery of new projects.

Quotes

"I wasn't sure what to expect from the area conference, but it was really good and I made new friends."



At the HYP conference in June

2 young people from this area took part

At the Area winter conference in November 2019

4 young people from this area took part

During the period, across this area there were

276 meaningful contacts

774 hours of learning and youth work activity

120 Programmed Activities

4 Awards gained by young people

Some useful information

Local contacts:

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Find: Great Glen Youth Development on Facebook

