



# Youth Work in the Kinlochbervie 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

## Climbing Wall trip to Ullapool

Over a period of 4 weeks, the youth team worked alongside Active Schools to provide a leadership/mentor programme to enable the group of young people attending the Climbing wall in Ullapool High School to overcome personal barriers and to develop confidence in pushing themselves beyond their comfort zones. Those involved learned about taking control of fears and working together as a team to beat challenges they were facing. Working together to plan a session and ensure that equipment was being used correctly meant they mentored each other and fulfilled the requirements to climb the rock wall safely.

## Sutherland Winter Conference

In November the young people from Kinlochbervie attended the annual winter conference which was held in Lairg. It was a busy day with guest speakers in attendance. The topics covered on the day included the current PSE review, Access to College and Foundation Apprenticeships and the new Inverness Castle project. The young people had the opportunity to share their opinions with the guest speakers and to share experiences with young people from other areas of Sutherland.

## Quotes

'Every young person can learn, just not all in the same way'.

'I almost quit, but then the encouragement given from others pushed me to go beyond'.

At the HYP conference in June

2 young people from this area took part

At the Area winter conference in November

8 young people from this area took part

During the period, across this area there were

847 meaningful contacts

2167 hours of learning and youth work activity

108 Programmed Activities

3 Awards gained by young people

## Some useful information

Local contacts

Cara Cameron

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Social Media

Facebook – Kinlochbervie youth development

