



Youth Work in the Kinlochleven 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, Ruralty and Cuts. View the event report at: <https://www.highlifehighland.com/youth/highland-youth-parliament/>

A couple of stories and some headline stats

Story #1: K.Y.A was formed!!

The Kinlochleven Youth Activists were formed in August 2019. The group began with 3 members, eager to make their mark on their community. Since forming, the group have organised a number of activities in Kinlochleven such as litter picks, Xmas cheer projects and work around improving equality for young people. The group has grown from 3 members to 8 members and they meet weekly to plan activities ... and also have great fun.

Story #2: SCHOOLS OUT 2019.

In the summer, local young people came together with Youth Development to help plan a summer activity programme! There were lots of fun activities and trips available thanks to our young people's ideas: one of which was a trip to the trampoline park in Inverness!

Quotes

"I enjoy coming along to KYA every week because we get to make decisions and choose what we're working on." – Young person.

"I really enjoyed the Christmas cheer stuff, it felt good doing a nice thing for people."

At the HYP conference in June

1 young person from this area took part

At the Lochaber Area winter conference in Glenuig

7 young people from this area took part

During the period, across this area there were

849 meaningful contacts

1820 hours of learning and youth work activity

106 Programmed Activities

8 Awards were gained by young people

Some useful information

Local contact:

Kara Gillespie: Youth Development Officer-
Tel: 07788387529

Email: Kara.gillespie@highlifehighland.com

Social Media:

"South Lochaber Youth Development"

