



First N.A. Youth Conference

Recommendations:

- All Councils should adopt a Youth Charter
- All Secondary schools should have pupil councils which are youth led
- All Councils should have youth work staff in place to support youth engagement and participation
- All Councils should have structures in place so young people's voices, ideas, and recommendations are listened to and action taken
- Northern Alliance should have another conference for young people



First YAG Residential

The first YAG Residential was held 10th – 12th March 2023 at Highland Council HQ, Inverness, and Fairburn Activity Centre, Muir of Ord, building on the key points from the highly successful first N.A. Youth Conference and the "Changing Tides and Making Waves" virtual youth conference

A chance for young people to

- Meet each other
- Have fun
- Build confidence
- Learn more about the Northern Alliance
- Plan for the future

"Changing Tides and Making Waves" Youth Conference

Key Points:

- Meaningful youth participation is "by young people, for young people" and all work with young people must be considered in this light
- We need spaces to meet, and workers to support and facilitate, bringing together young people as "one youth voice" for the Northern Alliance area but with the widest representation of young people possible so that everyone's voice is heard
- We would like to follow up by establishing working groups of young people to focus on priority areas, including adopting a Northern Alliance Youth Charter

Voices Into Action Group Established

Youth Participation Leads from each of the 8 local authority areas.

Outcomes:

- Create a baseline picture of youth participation and youth voice mechanisms across the Northern Alliance areas
- Clarify youth voice communication routes
- Establish a youth advisory group
- Develop a youth charter in each of the 8 local authority areas

Youth Advisory Group (YAG) Established

Two young people from each of the 8 local authority areas.

Outcomes:

- Young People express their voice within the structures of the Northern Alliance and local authority areas
- Youth Participation is an integral part of the Northern Alliance and the individual local authority area structures





These things have been done:

- Northern Alliance should have another conference for young people
- Create a baseline picture of youth participation and youth voice mechanisms across the Northern Alliance areas
- Establish a Youth Advisory Group

Some areas have done this, others haven't. It's still on our list of actions.

 All Councils should adopt a Youth Charter We can't do this alone. We need to collaborate with school colleagues to make a difference:

 All Secondary schools should have pupil councils which are youth led

These things have also been done but we will continue to monitor and improve them:

- All Councils should have youth work staff in place to support youth engagement and participation
- All Councils should have structures in place so young people's voices, ideas, and recommendations are listened to and action taken
- Meaningful youth participation is "by young people, for young people" and all work with young people must be considered in this light
- We need spaces to meet, and workers to support and facilitate, bringing together young people as "one youth voice" for the Northern Alliance area but with the widest representation of young people possible so that everyone's voice is heard
- We would like to follow up by establishing working groups of young people to focus on priority areas, including adopting a Northern Alliance Youth Charter
- Clarify youth voice communication routes
- Young People express their voice within the structures of the Northern Alliance and local authority areas
- Youth Participation is an integral part of the Northern Alliance and the individual local authority area structures

haseline

Youth Participation & Youth Voice Mechanisms



| T. | Aberdeen City | Aberdeenshire | Argyll & Bute | Highland | Moray | Orkney | Shetland | Western Isles |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| Local (Community) | Youth Forums In community centres & schools | Youth Platforms One in each of the 17 Learning Community Partnership Areas Special Interest Groups Pupil Councils | 6 x Youth Action Groups Pupil Councils | Local ASG Youth Forums Local Youth Projects Pupil Councils | Youth Councils Pupil Councils LOIP Youth Representatives | School Youth Voice Structures Thematic Groups | Youth representatives Thematic Groups | Community Councils Pupil Councils |
| L.A. Wide | Aberdeen City Youth Council Thematic Groups Child Friendly Cities 3rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups | Aberdeenshire Youth Forum Aberdeenshire Youth Council Youth Shadow Management Team Pupil Participation Forum (Pupil Council reps) 3rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups | Champions Board Participation Groups 3 rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups | Highland Youth Parliament HYP Executive Committee Youth Convener 3rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups | Champions Board Moray Youth Matters Re:connect Y Consult Participatory Budgeting 3rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups | Youth Forum Orkney College Management Council Student Rep 3 rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups | Youth Voice Forum 3 rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups | Island Voices Care through our voices Youth Champions 3 rd Sector Youth Groups Special Interest Groups |
| National | 6 x MSYPs | 7 x MSYPs | 3 x MSYPs | 6 x MSYPs | 2 x MSYPs | MSYPs | MSYPs | MSYPs Children's Commissioner Advisors Children's Parliament Participatory Budgeting |
| RIC Youth Advisory Group | 2 reps | 2 reps from Aberdeenshire Youth Forum | 2 reps from Youth Action Groups | Youth Convener And HYP Rep | 2 reps from Moray Youth Matters | 2 reps | 2 reps | 2 reps |
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