

Welcome (We're halfway there)



year of young people
bliadhna na h-óigridh
2018

We are now halfway through 2018 and the Scottish Borders Youth Voice Team has been as busy as ever. Remember if you want to highlight any Rights, Participation and/or Year of Young People 2018 activities that are taking place in your school, youth group or community please get in touch and we can showcase it here.

The next newsletter will be sent out at the start of October so if you wish to share any news please get it to the team by Monday 24th September. Our email address is youth@scotborders.gov.uk

Our Vision

Our vision is for children and young people in the Scottish Borders to feel empowered to be active participants in decision making processes, to engage in democracy and to have the knowledge and skills to fulfil their roles as rights holders under the UNCRC.

Annual Statistics Update

2017/18 has been another successful year for the Scottish Borders Youth Voice Team. We have 34 regular members, who have been involved in service design and championing the rights of children and young people for over 775 hours. Not to mention the, 850 young people that have taken part in world café, YOYP2018 and online consultations. For Rights Respecting Schools, we have had 13 new registrations, awarded 9 Bronze Awards and 1 Silver Award.



YOYP2018 Ambassadors

Our local Ambassadors have been out and about promoting the Year of Young People 2018 across the Scottish Borders. May, was a busy time for the Ambassadors. To kick off the month they helped launch the [Scottish Borders YoYP2018 Plan](#) they were then at the opening of the Rowan Boland playpark in Galashiels doing a bit of face painting and they rounded off the month with a stand at the Developing the Young Workforce Celebration Event in Kelso. To keep up the momentum in June, Gordon was at the Big Bang in the Borders STEM DYW Event for S2 pupils at Borders College.



Why do you want to be a CLD Worker?

Over the last few months there have been 3 vacancies in the CLD Service, Youth Learning Team. Gaining one of these posts has been no easy feat. As part of the interview process, the Scottish Borders Youth Voice Team, has supported groups of young people to interview the candidates. This is a great way to see how the candidates work and interact with young people. Do you or would you consider involving young people as part of your interview process? How would you answer the question “why do you want to be a Community, Learning and Development Worker?”

Scottish Borders SYP By-election Results for 2017-19

On the 31st of July we said farewell to 2 of our 3 current MSYPs Sanna Aziz and Tanya Thomson, who are both moving on to pastures new. In preparation for their departure a By-Election was held in June and as a result we would like to introduce to you Alex Morgan, MSYP Elect for Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale and Lucy Lauder, MSYP Elect for Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire who will represent the young people of the Borders until March 2019. The Scottish Borders Youth Voice team would like to thank Sanna and Tanya for all of their hard work over the past 18 months and we look forward to seeing what they do in the future. If you would like to get in touch with Lucy, Alex or Georgia you can contact them on Twitter @SB_MSYPs, Facebook @ScottishBordersMSYPs or through the Scottish Borders Youth Voice team youth@scotborders.gov.uk



Alex Morgan,
MSYP Elect for
Midlothian
South,
Tweeddale and
Lauderdale



Lucy Lauder,
MSYP Elect for
Ettrick,
Roxburgh and
Berwickshire



Nominations open for Scottish Youth Parliament 2019 elections

Young people aged 14-25 interested in becoming a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP) are being encouraged to register their interest for the elections due to take place in March 2019.

The Scottish Young Parliament (SYP) is the democratically elected voice of Scotland's young people. It is a young people's parliament, designed by young people and led by young people for the benefit of young people. Members are committed to ensuring young people are heard by the decision makers of Scotland and are determined to campaign on the issues which matter most to Scotland's youth.

There are three elected representatives in the Scottish Borders serving as MYSPs. They are elected by their peer group and serve for a two year term. They are supported by staff from Scottish Borders Youth Voice to attend three sittings of the SYP a year and to deliver and develop local and national campaigns. They can also sit as members or convenors of committee groups.

Anyone interested in standing for the 2019 election is being asked to register their interest by visiting: elections.syp.org.uk and completing the Expression of Interest Form.

The Expression of Interest period is open from Wednesday 1 August to Wednesday 31 October 2018. Following that, applicants will be invited to a meeting at the start of November 2018 where they can meet the current MSYPs and be helped to develop their candidate profile and plan their campaign.

Campaigning for the election will begin in January next year with the election itself being held between 15-29 March 2019. The results will be announced at a declaration event on Friday 29 March at Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells.

Sanna Aziz, outgoing MSYP for Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale, said: "Thank you for the opportunity to represent the young people of this constituency for a year at the Scottish Youth Parliament. It has been the most amazing year of my life, making sure that we the young people aren't forgotten."

All candidates are given full training by Scottish Borders Youth Voice to develop their skills and confidence, making them ready to run their campaign for the March elections. Once elected, MYSPs continue to be supported by the Scottish Borders Youth Voice team to carry out their responsibilities to the best of their ability.

To register as a candidate, visit: elections.syp.org.uk

Information is also available from: www.syp.org.uk or the Scottish Borders Youth Voice team:

Managing Your Digital Footprint

A challenge to develop a new online tool to help young people review and manage their digital footprint has been launched by CivTech and the Young Scot 5Rights Youth Leadership Group.

As part of the challenge, the successful company, will be co-designing the software with the Young Scot 5Rights Youth Leadership Group, as well as other groups of young people.

The challenge is being administered through the CivTech Innovation Flow, designed to quickly and effectively find solutions, using a combination of the best public and private sector practice. Funding for the development will come from the Scottish Government digital participation fund.

The software – which could be an app or web based – will help users to pull together all the input young people leave behind online. It will then help to make informed decisions about how they might want their digital footprints to appear to others, with guidance on how they can delete data, dispute the data uploaded by others, or make certain data private.

Some of the initial ideas proposed by The Young Scot 5Rights Youth Leadership Group include that the software could include the following features.

- Providing information on the data that has been collected – including an explanation of the privacy policies associated with those collecting or holding the user's data
- Guidance on removing content for all major digital services
- Gamified educational elements
- Data generated within the solution should be anonymous and self-delete.

Callum Adams, a member of the 5Rights Youth Leadership Group said; “We hope the platform we will provide will benefit young people in Scotland, and beyond, protect themselves now and in the future. We look forward to the opportunity of working with the winning developer.

For more information please contact Joe Walton at Young Scot. 0131 313 2488/ 07968022684

Young Scot Awards – All Young People

There are just a few weeks left to nominate for the Young Scot Awards, which take place in November. We are looking for inspirational young people from across the Country, that inspiration could be creating something amazing, overcoming a big problem or being a great example to other young people – if you are proud of a young person in your area, we will be too, so please encourage staff and young people to nominate. You can also make a ‘bulk’ nomination from your own records, particularly if you have your own awards. Some Local Authorities have already done this and it's a great way to ensure your young people are fully recognised for their achievements – everyone who applies will get a certificate, and you can also apply for the YoYP 2018 participation certificates.

Nominate now: <http://www.youngscotawards.com/>

My Rights My Say

In January this year children with additional support needs were awarded extended rights under the Additional Support for Learning Act as part of the Education Act 2016. This means that children between the ages of 12 - 15 now have most of the same rights as young people and parents under this legislation. The principle of this change and one of the key policy intentions was that children have more rights to be involved in their support and are able to directly challenge things they are not satisfied with through the Additional Support Needs Tribunal

My Rights, My Say

The Act also introduced the requirement to provide a support service for children wishing to exercise their rights. Enquire, Children in Scotland, Partners in Advocacy and Cairn Legal have been commissioned to provide this service which is called **My Rights, My Say**. The Enquire role is to provide information and raise awareness of the rights, Partners in Advocacy provides advocacy to children in relation to exercising these rights, Cairn Legal provides legal representation at the Tribunal and Children in Scotland takes the views of children in response to direction from the ASNT, mediation or adjudication services and supports local authorities to enhance professional practice in listening to children's views.

Making referrals to My Rights, My Say

Children can now make a referral to My Rights, My Say through the Reach website. The address is <http://www.reach.scot/myrightsmysay>

Parents, carers and practitioners can now make a referral through the Enquire website www.enquire.org.uk/myrightsmysay

For more information about Scottish Borders Youth Voice or Children's Rights contact the team below



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