Who we are

YouthLink Scotland is the national agency for youth work. We’re a membership organisation representing more than 100 youth organisations across Scotland, both voluntary and statutory. We champion the value of the sector and collaborate with all key levels of government and other stakeholders.
Our vision

A nation which values its young people and their contribution to society, where young people are supported to achieve their potential.

Our mission

YouthLink Scotland is the collective voice of the youth work sector. We represent the interests, policy and practice needs of the youth work sector to government and other stakeholders.

We achieve this by:

• Supporting the sector to demonstrate the impact and value of their work
• Promoting a positive image of young people and youth work
• Helping the sector to identify new sources of sustainable funding and make effective use of existing resources
• Representing the range of views and interests of the sector to all levels of government
• Being key partners with government in workforce development
• Encouraging more adults to volunteer or consider a career in youth work
• Providing information and support to the youth work sector and other partners

Our outcomes

• Undertaking research that will contribute to a better understanding of the role of youth work and of the needs of young people in Scottish society
• Campaigning for equality of access to youth work for all young people
• Maintaining an independent approach to the delivery of our mission

Our values

We believe in young people and are focused on their needs.

We consult and represent our membership with integrity.

We are ethical, equitable and non-discriminatory.

We promote learning, innovation and forward thinking.

We are committed to the highest standard of protection and safety for young people.

Our vision

A nation which values its young people and their contribution to society, where young people are supported to achieve their potential.

Our mission

YouthLink Scotland is the collective voice of the youth work sector. We represent the interests, policy and practice needs of the youth work sector to government and other stakeholders.

We achieve this by:

• Supporting the sector to demonstrate the impact and value of their work
• Promoting a positive image of young people and youth work
• Helping the sector to identify new sources of sustainable funding and make effective use of existing resources
• Representing the range of views and interests of the sector to all levels of government
• Being key partners with government in workforce development
• Encouraging more adults to volunteer or consider a career in youth work
• Providing information and support to the youth work sector and other partners

Our outcomes

• Undertaking research that will contribute to a better understanding of the role of youth work and of the needs of young people in Scottish society
• Campaigning for equality of access to youth work for all young people
• Maintaining an independent approach to the delivery of our mission

Our vision

A nation which values its young people and their contribution to society, where young people are supported to achieve their potential.

Our mission

YouthLink Scotland is the collective voice of the youth work sector. We represent the interests, policy and practice needs of the youth work sector to government and other stakeholders.

We achieve this by:

• Supporting the sector to demonstrate the impact and value of their work
• Promoting a positive image of young people and youth work
• Helping the sector to identify new sources of sustainable funding and make effective use of existing resources
• Representing the range of views and interests of the sector to all levels of government
• Being key partners with government in workforce development
• Encouraging more adults to volunteer or consider a career in youth work
• Providing information and support to the youth work sector and other partners

Our outcomes

• Undertaking research that will contribute to a better understanding of the role of youth work and of the needs of young people in Scottish society
• Campaigning for equality of access to youth work for all young people
• Maintaining an independent approach to the delivery of our mission

Our vision

A nation which values its young people and their contribution to society, where young people are supported to achieve their potential.

Our mission

YouthLink Scotland is the collective voice of the youth work sector. We represent the interests, policy and practice needs of the youth work sector to government and other stakeholders.

We achieve this by:

• Supporting the sector to demonstrate the impact and value of their work
• Promoting a positive image of young people and youth work
• Helping the sector to identify new sources of sustainable funding and make effective use of existing resources
• Representing the range of views and interests of the sector to all levels of government
• Being key partners with government in workforce development
• Encouraging more adults to volunteer or consider a career in youth work
• Providing information and support to the youth work sector and other partners

Our outcomes

• Undertaking research that will contribute to a better understanding of the role of youth work and of the needs of young people in Scottish society
• Campaigning for equality of access to youth work for all young people
• Maintaining an independent approach to the delivery of our mission

Our vision

A nation which values its young people and their contribution to society, where young people are supported to achieve their potential.

Our mission

YouthLink Scotland is the collective voice of the youth work sector. We represent the interests, policy and practice needs of the youth work sector to government and other stakeholders.

We achieve this by:

• Supporting the sector to demonstrate the impact and value of their work
• Promoting a positive image of young people and youth work
• Helping the sector to identify new sources of sustainable funding and make effective use of existing resources
• Representing the range of views and interests of the sector to all levels of government
• Being key partners with government in workforce development
• Encouraging more adults to volunteer or consider a career in youth work
• Providing information and support to the youth work sector and other partners

Our outcomes

• Undertaking research that will contribute to a better understanding of the role of youth work and of the needs of young people in Scottish society
• Campaigning for equality of access to youth work for all young people
• Maintaining an independent approach to the delivery of our mission
Networks

A stronger, more informed sector

Our networks bring the youth work sector and partners together, to develop our practice, shape national and local policy-making and ultimately, make sure youth work in Scotland is protected and strengthened so all young people have the opportunity to access high quality youth work.

Scottish Youth Work Leaders Forum

The forum represents the interests and aspirations of the youth work sector and champions the value of youth work. It works alongside national partners to develop youth work policy and challenge government at national and local levels to invest in youth work.

Local Authority Youth Work Managers

We provide managers responsible for youth work in a local authority the opportunity to influence and shape youth work at a national level. We support local authorities to take forward youth work developments, and we use our expertise to advise on emerging policy, practice and workforce developments.

National Voluntary Youth Work Organisations

The network allows national voluntary youth work organisation CEOs to meet on a regular basis in order to facilitate peer support on management issues. It enables discussion and the formulation of responses to key policy issues which impact on voluntary youth organisations.

For all three networks it’s been a year of shaping policy and practice, which included:

- National Youth Work Outcomes Framework (Impact, Voice & Partnership)
- Year of Young People (coordination of events & peer support)
- Contribution to the Youth Work Induction Checklist
- Contribution to the National Youth Work Strategy (development & implementation)
- Contribution to the Youth Work Research programme

Youth Work Training Forum

The Training Forum’s purpose is to advocate on behalf of youth work training providers, to enable the sharing of information, good practice, and resources in the training and development of youth workers across the sector.

This year the training forum:

- Developed the National Youth Work Induction Checklist
- Reviewed the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work
- Explored training pathways and incorporated the Youth Work Outcomes into training
- Contributed to the CLD Workforce Development Action Plan
The Digital Youth Network is a network for practitioners who are using digital tools and online spaces in their work with young people. Co-hosted with Young Scot, it facilitates learning about new and innovative approaches in digital youth work and developments within policy. Members of the network explore opportunities to collaborate, share and improve practice.

This year the network contributed to and shared practice on:
- STEM Learning and Teaching Strategy: CLD Professional Learning Consultation
- Safe, Secure and Empowered – Cyber Resilience Guidance for CLD
- Hackathon in youth work
- GDPR

This network is open to representatives from our membership. It’s a chance for those who have responsibility for managing and delivering youth work services to share and discuss best practice from the sector.

Meetings include member presentations, practice and information sharing, youth work promotion, and keynote speakers on current issues for the sector.

This year the network shared practice on:
- Youth Work Outcomes
- Youth Enterprise and Regeneration
- Building a legacy from Year of Young People
- Inclusive Youth Work

This network is for communications, marketing and digital professionals from member and partner organisations. It maximises opportunities for joined-up, coordinated messaging across member organisations within the youth work sector. Members also share examples of best practice in relation to media strategies and campaigning from within the sector.

This year our members worked together on:
- GDPR and promotion of the Youth Work Outcomes
- Sharing and learning from successful campaigns
- Filming and editing on i-devices
- Messaging and profile for Year of Young People

The seminars give opportunities for youth work practitioners, policy makers, academics, and other interested stakeholders to come together. The seminars are designed to facilitate networking, collaboration, as well as creating precious time for critical thinking and reflection.

This year policy seminars focussed on:
- Adverse Childhood Experiences and the development of resilience within the context of youth work relationships and practice
- Digital youth work and cyber resilience

This network promotes equalities in the youth work sector through informing policy and supporting implementation in order to create a sector that is 100% accessible to all young people. Meetings explore and share current best practice in equalities work internally and externally.

This year they promoted equalities in youth work through:
- ALLIN Project – Advisory Panel
- New Scots Integration Strategy 2018 – 2022
- Education Scotland Equalities Strategy Consultation
- Racial Equality & Youth Work Briefing Seminar at Strathclyde University
**Policy impact**

**Policy and influence**

We represent the interests of our members and the wider youth work sector by influencing policy development on issues affecting the sector and young people. Responding to government legislation, initiating and submitting responses to key consultations on a wide range of issues - we’re always working to champion the role and value of youth work.

We are committed to developing policy and research for the benefit of the youth work sector and we are currently engaged in activities including the next National Youth Work Strategy, Youth Mental Health, UNCRC, Equalities, Attainment and Wider Achievement, Anti-Bullying, and Cyber Resilience.

As part of our policy development work, we are represented and influence policy on:

- National Internet Safety for Children and Young People Action Plan
- Scottish Government Cyber Resilience Learning Network
- CLD STEM Strategy Implementation Steering Group
- Cross Party Group on Volunteering
- Scottish Volunteering Forum
- Scottish Government Expert Reference Group on Preventing Sexual Offending
- Scottish Government Youth Justice Improvement Board: Developing Capacity and Improvement Group
- Scottish Government Delivery Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion
- Mentors in Violence Prevention National Steering Group
- Scottish Government Reference Group: Out of School Care Strategic Framework
- Scottish Government Learner Journey Review
- National Group on Recognising Wider Learning and Achievement
- Children and Young People’s Mental Health Taskforce
- First Ministers Women and Girls Advisory Group
- Scottish Government Participation Research Group
- Play Scotland Strategic Group
- Third Sector Research Forum
- Brexit and Rights Civil Society Working Group
- Joint Secretariat for Cross Party Group on Children and Young People

As part of our policy development work, we are represented and influence policy on:

- National Internet Safety for Children and Young People Action Plan
- Scottish Government Cyber Resilience Learning Network
- CLD STEM Strategy Implementation Steering Group
- Cross Party Group on Volunteering
- Scottish Volunteering Forum
- Scottish Government Expert Reference Group on Preventing Sexual Offending
- Scottish Government Youth Justice Improvement Board: Developing Capacity and Improvement Group
- Scottish Government Delivery Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion
- Mentors in Violence Prevention National Steering Group
- Scottish Government Reference Group: Out of School Care Strategic Framework
- Scottish Government Learner Journey Review
- National Group on Recognising Wider Learning and Achievement
- Children and Young People’s Mental Health Taskforce
- First Ministers Women and Girls Advisory Group
- Scottish Government Participation Research Group
- Play Scotland Strategic Group
- Third Sector Research Forum
- Brexit and Rights Civil Society Working Group
- Joint Secretariat for Cross Party Group on Children and Young People
Scottish Youth Work Research Steering Group

The group works to further the interests and needs of research in the youth work sector in Scotland. Since the group’s formation in 2015, it has worked collaboratively, grown in size and profile, and has delivered high-quality outputs of interest to the youth work sector and its partners. The group’s primary purpose is to oversee the development of a national programme of youth work research.

This year the group achieved:

• A committed core membership, with a growing number of academic partners and institutions represented and increased engagement with the youth work sector
• Secured questions within and continued influence of the Growing Up in Scotland longitudinal study
• Publication of The Impact of Community-based Universal Youth Work in Scotland - 129 significant change stories were collected from three Scottish youth work organisations demonstrating the impact of universal youth work on young people’s lives as well as the youth work practice which contributed to these impacts
• Year of Young People
• Should there be a presumption in law that children benefit from contact with their grandparents?
• Exiting the European Union and Children and Young People
• Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Bill

Consultations

This year, formal responses to national government consultations have been made on a range of issues including Social Isolation and Loneliness, Protection of Vulnerable Groups, and Children’s Rights Action Plan. Oral evidence was provided to Holyrood’s Education and Skills Committee’s Attainment Inquiry.

Cross Party Group on Children and Young People

We provide the joint secretariat to the CPG alongside Children in Scotland. This year the group discussed policy on the following issues:

• Children and young people’s positive mental health

We are working with the Community Empowerment Team to develop a participatory budgeting and grantmaking online resource for young people and the community.

Political engagement

This year, led by young people, we delivered Year of Young People Gathering events at the main party conferences in Scotland. We asked party members and politicians from across the political spectrum to help us shape a true and lasting legacy from YOYP 2018. We would like to say a massive thanks to the SNP, Labour, Conservatives and Liberal Democrats for providing these fringe events to YouthLink Scotland free of charge, and we welcome their continued support for the youth work sector and our work with young people.
Investing in youth work

YouthLink Scotland administer a range of funds, on behalf of Scottish Government, which invest in youth work projects and organisations around the country.

Through the CashBack for Communities Youth Work Fund we made 171 awards worth £716k, reaching

17,120 disadvantaged young people across Scotland.

The CashBack for Creativity Open Fund supported

2,461 disadvantaged young people to take part in high quality arts based youth work opportunities. A total of 32 projects totalling

£252,040.

Through the National Voluntary Youth Organisation Support Fund we awarded

£500,956 to 53 organisations, supporting the development of

9,414 staff and volunteers (including young leaders).

This year, the fund helped thousands of young people on the path to a more positive future:

10,854 young people said their confidence had improved

16,435 young people reported increased wellbeing

Focus – Youth Work Fund

YouthLink Scotland administers the CashBack for Communities Youth Work Fund to build the capacity of young people and the youth work organisations who work with them. The fund supports the Scottish Government’s aim to tackle inequalities by providing targeted youth work opportunities for young people from areas of deprivation.

7,702 young people said they had increased their skills and

4,002 young people achieved accredited learning.

“Being a part of drop in again made me realise that I can do better than causing havoc in the local park with “friends” every week. It has shown me that I can get anywhere I want to be with focus and hard work.”

Participant, Renfrew YMCA, Renfrewshire

“Through the support from PEEK I have managed to get myself into college where I have started my course on Sports and Fitness at Cardonald College, I was super happy and couldn’t thank PEEK enough for their support through a tough period I had.”

Participant, PEEK, Glasgow

Credit: Launch of CashBack for Communities Youth Work Funding at Royston Youth Action, Glasgow
Workforce development

We are committed to promoting the value of youth work and supporting our sector.
We work with Education Scotland, the CLD Standards Council for Scotland and the sector to ensure that the youth work sector’s needs are fully articulated and represented.

This year we have:
• Developed the National Youth Work Induction Checklist with the Youth Work Training Forum. This will ensure that new entrants to the sector have an agreed grounding in the values, principles and skills for youth work and an understanding of young people’s realities
• Contributed to the CLD Workforce Survey, Development Action Plan and Evaluation
• Partnered with CLD Standards Council’s Review of the Youth Work National Occupational Standards, representing the sector needs
• Supported the analysis of the CLD plans 2018-2021
• Presented Youth Work in Scotland at international workforce development conferences

YouthLink Scotland works with members and partners to create a national approach to practice, workforce development and standards of training.

This year we have:
• Worked with our members on the indicator framework for Scotland’s Youth Work Outcomes
• Continued to ensure the youth work sector in Scotland is represented on the UK and Ireland Joint Education and Training Standards Body
• YouthLink Scotland’s Annual Conference delivered a range of training and seminars around the theme of participation

We develop the workforce by providing a range of activities, including our practice development offer, listening to our members’ experiences and connecting people via our networks. Our guidance, training and resources address sector priorities such as digital, equalities, participation and health.

This year we have delivered a range of training including:
• Recognising and Realising Children’s Rights Toolkit training in partnership with Education Scotland
• Healthy Young Lives training
• Media and Influencing training
• Youth Ambassador training and guidance
• Participative Democracy Certificate
• Youth-Led Research training
• Brexit and the EU training
• Digital Youth Work and Cyber Resilience training
• Violence Reduction training and toolkits (No Knives Better Lives)
This last year has been a year of transition for the organisation, as we said goodbye and thank-you to our Chief Executive Jim Sweeney, whose commitment and dedication to YouthLink Scotland throughout the last decade did so much to ensure youth work’s offer to young people and communities throughout Scotland was recognised.

At the end of the Year of Young People 2018, we welcomed Tim Frew as the new Chief Executive. Tim has continued to drive the organisation forward with the full support of the board and an excellent staff team, building on solid foundations.

In 2018/19, our government sponsor department moved from Education Scotland into the Scottish Government and this has only served to strengthen the links with both. It has been pleasing to see that partnerships with the Scottish Government, Education Scotland and other key agencies have continued to be strong and vibrant - leading to positive outcomes for young people.

There have been many highlights throughout the year. In June, it was a great pleasure to host the launch of the Youngwummin exhibition in the National Library of Scotland over the summer of 2018. The display was created by young people supported by member organisations trained in youth-led research, studying the often untold story of the lives of Scots women in the First World War and coinciding with 100 years since the suffragette movement began. In November, I was delighted to once again chair our National Youth Work Conference on the theme of Youth Participation during the Year of Young People, celebrating the important role that youth work plays in supporting the meaningful participation of young people in society. The rights and equality of all young people remain a fundamental part of the youth work offer.

It has been another rewarding year and I would like to thank our members, funders and partners for their continued commitment to youth work and the impact that this has on young people. To my fellow board members and staff a big thank you. It continues to be a real privilege to be your chair.

Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood OBE,
Chair of YouthLink Scotland
The Year of Young People 2018 presented a great opportunity to celebrate young people and youth empowerment, while also raising the profile of youth workers. To cement the legacy of YOYP 2018 and turn it into a decade of accelerated youth participation, it is vital that youth work services are enabled to continue to play a full role in supporting young people to thrive and succeed in all areas of their life. From this perspective, I welcome the Scottish Government’s commitment to the co-development of a new National Youth Work Strategy. The challenge for the next year is to ensure that all stakeholders work to create a meaningful legacy for young people, ensuring that our young people grow up loved, safe and respected, able to realise their full potential.

This annual report by no means captures everything we do, but it does give a flavour of how contributing to policy, research, workforce development, networks, events, national programmes, funding and communications benefits the whole youth work sector. A key highlight for me has been YouthLink Scotland’s role in supporting and advocating for the rights and participation of young people. Our members’ work supporting the national conference on participation with the Scottish Government, the Link Magazine, First Minister’s Question Time, the #iwill campaign, and our blueprint for meaningful participation, which we took to party conferences, were all welcomed by the sector.

We have also raised the profile of the sector’s contribution to closing the poverty-related attainment gap through the Youth Work and Schools Partnership programme, a three-year initiative as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge launched by the Deputy First Minister.

Youth work’s role in public health and supporting positive mental health and wellbeing is increasingly being recognised, and we continue to contribute to the taskforce and its successor, the Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme Board.

YouthLink Scotland’s impact on the prevention agenda through programmes such as No Knives Better Lives, Action on Sectarianism and Action on Prejudice remains strong. This work, along with our development of guidelines and toolkits to support Digital Youth Work, has attracted international interest.

The continuation of CashBack for Communities programmes and the National Voluntary Youth Organisations Support Fund remain important for the sector. The economic climate remains challenging and uncertainty around Brexit and funds such as Erasmus+ have featured in our influencing work. We continue to advocate for sustainable investment from the Scottish Government, local government and charitable funders in youth work.

The publication of the Universal Youth Work Research in 2018 was welcomed and we continue to build the case for additional investment in youth work through all our activities. I have no doubt that youth work changes lives, and ensuring that the value of youth work’s impact is understood and its footing secure is our primary objective in the years ahead.

Tim Frew, CEO, YouthLink Scotland
Communicating impact

Through our communications, both internal and external, YouthLink Scotland continues to improve public awareness and recognition of youth work. With continued growth in our digital media, print and broadcast media, publications and our national awards, we keep the profile of our impact and that of the sector front and centre in all we do.

• The Link Magazine highlights youth work’s contribution to a range of policy. This year the sector magazine put a focus on Youth Work in Schools Partnerships
• Our website had 260,000 hits
• Our twitter followers have increased by 20% to 13,500
• Over 900 pieces of positive media coverage across print, radio, television and online news
• 40% increase in our youth work briefing subscribers
• Introduction of podcasts for the youth work outcomes
• The 2018 National Youth Work Awards again showcased the breadth and impact of youth work across Scotland
As an organisation, we are constantly evolving to harness the opportunities of an ever changing digital world, meeting those challenges as we strive to be a digitally confident organisation for our staff and membership.

This year we continued our digital journey by:

• Creating a Digital Evolution Strategy and Technology Strategy
• Completing a Digital Staff Skills Audit to monitor training and development
• Introducing a range of platforms for smarter working including: Zoom and Breathe HR
• Increasing our website traffic by 65% and improved our social media presence
• Completing Cyber Essentials Accreditation
• Continuing to innovate and share practice across the youth work sector through the Digital Youth Network
• Developing YouthLink Scotland’s Safe, Secure and Empowered project, funded by Scottish Government through the Cyber Resilience Strategy
• Continuing to work with six country partners internationally on Erasmus+ funded Digital Youth Work Project
Our stats

Each year youth work makes a life-changing and significant contribution to Scotland’s young people:

Youth work contributes well over £656M to the Scottish economy.

Our sector works with 350,000 young people.

Youth work volunteers put in 13M hours of their time.

Our sector has a workforce of 80,000 including over 70,000 adult volunteers.
Europe

YouthLink Scotland is a key partner for many European and International programmes, bringing youth workers from Europe and beyond together to innovate, enhance their youth work practice and open up life changing exchanges and projects for young people.

By bringing international perspectives to the wider youth work sector workforce and more, directly into the heart of our most deprived communities, these projects transmit important values of social justice and equality, citizenship and sustainable development.

For young people experiencing socio-economic deprivation, international mobility is distant. Erasmus+ funding has allowed young people, who might otherwise not have the opportunity, to participate in an international exchange. This year we facilitated this wider perspective by:

• Sharing Erasmus+ and other international funding and training opportunities with the youth work sector and updates on the impact of Brexit
• Representing youth work in Scotland on the Erasmus+ Sector Consultative Group and Scotland Advisory Group
• Supporting the launch of the European Solidarity Corps in Scotland
• Leading the UK wide Keep Erasmus Plus campaign to lobby for inclusion in the successor programme to Erasmus+ after Brexit
• Working with the UK National Agency for Erasmus+ on the Among Others project to highlight the importance of intercultural learning to CLD students
• Delivering training about Brexit and the EU to youth projects and schools across Scotland in partnership with Involver
• Leading a delegation from the sector to Allianssi’s Youth 2019 conference in Turku, Finland
• Presenting youth work training in Scotland to a Council of Europe conference on Youth Worker Training and Competence, in Finland, following input to this workstream in Brussels
• Collaborating with colleagues from Austria, Denmark, Germany, Finland and Ireland at international ‘Training Jams’ as part of our Digital Youth Work project
• Participating in the International Youth Policy Dialogue Network
• Hosting study visits for delegations from Norway, Austria, Finland, Hong Kong, Wales, Flanders and the International Youth Policy Dialogue Network to explore youth work in Scotland
• Developing the “All In” Inclusive Practice Toolkit with European Partners, funded by Erasmus+
National programmes

No Knives Better Lives – Celebrating 10 years

No Knives, Better Lives (NKBL) is a Scottish Government programme which aims to prevent knife carrying amongst young people in Scotland. It is a primary prevention programme informed by a youth work approach to prevention. This means the focus is not simply an exercise in telling young people what not to do but rather helping them to assess and understand the risks involved and make positive life choices.

There are two strands to the delivery of NKBL both of which are supported by the NKBL National Delivery Team.

- Communicating prevention messages to young people across Scotland
- Capacity building work to support the delivery of local prevention work with young people

85% reduction in young people under 18 convicted of handling an offensive weapon.

Knife crime prevention play 'Balisong' with partners Fast Forward, delivered in every local council, reaching over 20,000 young people.

Developed the 4R’s of prevention work: Resilience, Reassurance, Responsibility and Risk.

Trained 461 peer educators in the last five years.

Reached over 100,000 young people with our prevention message.

Youth Work and Schools Programme

Tackling the attainment gap requires all those involved in Scottish education to collaborate and focus efforts on reducing the impact of poverty on attainment. Youth work, taking place in schools and within the wider school community, plays an important role in the learner journey for many young people, particularly those affected by poverty and inequality.

YouthLink Scotland’s Youth Work and Schools Partnership programme, funded under the Scottish Attainment Challenge, aims to promote and expand the role of youth work in closing the poverty-related attainment gap by:

- Strengthening collaboration between the youth work sector and formal education.

Our impact this year:

- Scottish Government recognised the role of youth work within the Scottish Attainment Challenge; committing funding for a three-year programme to allow YLS to strengthen the partnership between youth work and schools as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge
- Collective key messaging developed and agreed by the youth work sector, to raise understanding of youth work’s contribution to attainment and achievement
National programmes

Action on Prejudice
Action on Prejudice, funded by Scottish Government, is a virtual one-stop shop for young people and those who work with young people to find facts, videos, research, learning tools and other resources focused on challenging discrimination and hate crime as well as promoting diversity and inclusion.

The portal is the first website in Scotland to provide resources across all protected characteristics including prejudice related to race, sexuality, gender identity, disabilities and religion.

Our impact this year:
Website launched in May 2018.
400 young people reached through our AoP Live events, introducing them to the website and other organisations working on tackling prejudice.
Action on Prejudice campaign – my story of hate crime - engaged with over 2,000 people.

Action on Sectarianism
This national portal provides ‘information that inspires action’ in local communities across Scotland, by sharing stories of those affected by sectarianism.

This website acts as a central gateway to information and resources tackle sectarianism in Scotland by providing tailored user access to four distinct target groups:

- Children
- Young people
- Adults: parents, carers, community groups
- AoS Network: teachers, youth workers, academics, policy officers, community

Our impact this year:
17,722 downloads of resources on the website.

#IWill in Scotland
The #IWill movement here in Scotland aims to encourage and empower more young people to make a difference to their community and society through activities such as volunteering, fundraising, campaigning and mentoring. Year of Young People 2018 opened new doors to ensure that young people were being involved in shaping and informing services which have an impact on their lives and futures. But there's much more we can do! We want to ensure that those doors continue to stay open.

This year we encouraged more people to say #IWill by:
- Gaining 16 new pledging partners from across different sectors
- Welcoming 9 new #IWill ambassadors in October 2018
- Recruiting a full time National #IWill Development Officer for Scotland
- Supporting the #IWill4Nature Campaign launched at UK wide level.
- Working with our partners to launch the YouthVIP recommendations
- Championing the involvement of #IWill Scotland youth ambassadors on a range of working groups
National programmes

FMQT Next Generation
As part of #FMQTNextGeneration, children and young people across Scotland had the opportunity to question First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, as part of a series of events that give children and young people a voice in politics and the ability to ask the First Minister questions on issues important to them.

In 2018, 100 children and young people attended the first FMQT Next Generation, and put their questions to the First Minister, covering topics such as mental health, education and youth homelessness, as well as less serious questions like her thoughts on the new Irn Bru recipe.

The project, funded by Scottish Government as part of the Year of Young People, builds on work both ourselves and Children in Scotland are currently undertaking to promote the participation of children and young people in civic society.

We hope that FMQT Next Generation will continue to provide a platform for young people to, not only have their views heard, but also acted upon.

FMQT Next Generation supports the realisation of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) by prioritising children and young people’s participation in matters affecting them.

Youngwummin
Between September 2017 and August 2018, YouthLink Scotland, in partnership with the National Library of Scotland supported five youth groups across Scotland to examine the impact of World War One on young women in Scotland.

Through the project, early career youth workers from five youth groups across Scotland were trained in how to support young people to conduct heritage based research.

44 young people conducted research on the impact of WW1 on young women in Scotland.

7,000 people visited the young people’s exhibition at the National Library of Scotland.

Based on our learning from Scotswummin and Youngwummin, we created a resource on how to engage young people in heritage using a youth-led research approach.

Activity Agreements
2,006 young people supported through an Activity Agreement.

81% of leavers progressed to employment, further learning or training.
# Financials

## Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financials</th>
<th>Unrestricted Fund</th>
<th>Restricted Fund</th>
<th>Designated Funds</th>
<th>Total Funds 2019</th>
<th>Total Funds 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>1,666,737</td>
<td>29,996</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1,696,733</td>
<td>1,587,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td>1,610,491</td>
<td>38,307</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1,648,798</td>
<td>1,641,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure</td>
<td>1,610,491</td>
<td>38,307</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1,648,798</td>
<td>1,641,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net incoming/(expenditure)</td>
<td>56,246</td>
<td>(8,311)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>(47,935)</td>
<td>(54,130)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross transfer between funds</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net incoming/(expenditure)</td>
<td>56,246</td>
<td>(8,311)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>(47,935)</td>
<td>(54,130)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actuarial gain/(loss)</td>
<td>(21,000)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>(21,000)</td>
<td>83,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income/(expenditure)</td>
<td>35,246</td>
<td>(8,311)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>26,935</td>
<td>28,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconciliation of funds</td>
<td>240,149</td>
<td>14,517</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>254,666</td>
<td>225,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total funds carried forward</td>
<td>275,395</td>
<td>6,206</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>281,601</td>
<td>254,666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financials</th>
<th>Unrestricted Fund</th>
<th>Restricted Fund</th>
<th>Total Funds 2018</th>
<th>Total Funds 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
<td>3,535</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>3,535</td>
<td>5,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td>786,604</td>
<td>6,206</td>
<td>792,810</td>
<td>603,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>336,993</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>336,993</td>
<td>169,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions falling in less than one year</td>
<td>15,751</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>15,751</td>
<td>27,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors falling in more than one year</td>
<td>(162,000)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>(162,000)</td>
<td>(158,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>275,395</td>
<td>6,206</td>
<td>281,601</td>
<td>254,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds of the charity Unrestricted</td>
<td>275,395</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>275,395</td>
<td>240,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6,206</td>
<td>6,206</td>
<td>14,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>275,395</td>
<td>6,206</td>
<td>281,601</td>
<td>254,666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following is an extract of the financial information contained in YouthLink Scotland’s audited report and financial statement for the year ending 31 March 2019. Copies of the full accounts may be obtained from the registered office.
#YouthWorkChangesLives