

YOUR COMMUNITY

SPRING 2021

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VISION STATEMENT

'OUR VISION FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE IS OF A STRONG VIBRANT COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE IS COMMITTED TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE, WORK, AND ATTAINMENT FOR THEMSELVES AND OTHERS'

We will achieve our vision and contribute to our community plan priorities through:

- Engaging with, listening to and responding to communities and individuals at all stages in the process.
- Targeting those most in need due to their personal, social, cultural or economic circumstances.
- Working in close partnership with each other and with communities.
- Promoting and sharing examples of best practice.
- Getting best value through sharing and pooling our resources.
- Publicising and marketing learning and development opportunities effectively.
- Creating a 'learning culture' which promotes the benefits of learning.
- Delivering high quality services which are evaluated regularly through ongoing self-evaluation and external inspection.
- Developing the CLD Partnership workforce
- Supporting individuals and communities to help them deal effectively with the challenges they face.
- Providing experiences for participants which will last a lifetime and lead them to become:
 - Successful learners
 - Confident individuals
 - Responsible citizens
 - Effective contributors

Strategic member organisations of the CLD Partnership include:

- North Lanarkshire Council
- Culture NL
- New College Lanarkshire
- Skills Development Scotland
- VANL
- JobCentre Plus
- Routes to Work
- NHS Lanarkshire

We also work with a number of local and national partners.



Contact 01236 812597 for a copy of the Partnership Strategy document or view it online at: www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk

 Follow us on Twitter
@YourNLCommunity

Contact us on: llscdlifelonglearning@northlan.gov.uk
or telephone 01236 812598

MAPRUNF

MOTHERWELL DOFE AND LGBT+ GROUPS PARTICIPATED IN A NEW WAY OF ORIENTEERING THANKS TO THE STAFF AT OUR NORTH LANARKSHIRE DOFE STORES AND AN APP CALLED MAPRUNF.

Staff from the stores designed an orienteering course around the Ravenscraig Regional Sports Facility Site along with an orienteering map which can be printed.

Gold DofE participant and LGBT+ group member Ty Burton said 'the app was very simple and easy to use and having a paper copy of the course to hand was an added benefit as I was able to pick out features and orientate the map'.

Several the young people participating in the course used this as part of a Youth Achievement award and a Bronze National Navigation Award.

For more info contact Gillian McCairn mccairng@northlan.gov.uk

Gillian McCairn
North Lanarkshire Council



SUICIDE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

YOUTH WORK PARTICIPANTS FROM BOTH MOTHERWELL AND CUMBERNAULD VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME TO HELP PROMOTE A SUICIDE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL'S 'LET'S TALK' SUICIDE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN.

Each of the young people participated in filming and a photoshoot at Motherwell Civic Centre wearing a variety of masks to highlight how



people can often mask their feelings behind a character.

The campaign has been aired over the via STV and a range of digital platforms

and is now a billboard campaign across North Lanarkshire.

For further details on this contact June Ford on fordju@northlan.gov.uk

OXFORD UNIVERSITY STUDY

GILLIAN MCCAIRN AND LAURA MACFARLANE, CLD YOUTH WORKERS FROM THE MOTHERWELL LOCALITY WERE INVITED BY OXFORD UNIVERSITY TO TAKE PART IN A STUDY BY THEIR SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY ENTITLED COVID-19 - SUPPORTING PARENTS, ADOLESCENTS AND CHILDREN IN AN EPIDEMIC (CO-SPACE).

The team were contacted by Oxford University postdoctoral researchers due to their presence on twitter and wanted to know more about their experiences as practitioners supporting adolescents through the pandemic and how they adapt their current workload to fit to changing needs of young people whilst working within Government restrictions.

The results of the survey will be published at a later date and can be found <https://cospaceoxford.org>

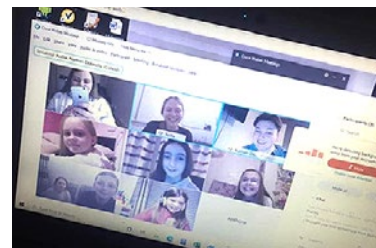
To find out more about youthwork in Motherwell contact the team via social media using @MotherwellCLD or email motherwellyouthwork@northlan.gov.uk

STUDENT PLACEMENTS

FOUR STUDENTS ARE LEADING THE WAY IN DIGITAL YOUTH WORK IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE THANKS TO THEIR UNIVERSITY PLACEMENTS WITH MOTHERWELL YOUTH WORK TEAM.

The students studying Community Learning and development at UWS, Community Development at Glasgow University and Primary Education at Strathclyde University have been given the opportunity to develop an innovative online programme for young people aged 8-12 years from the Motherwell area focusing on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

As well as the online programme the students have been given the opportunity to work with vulnerable young people who have been referred to Community Learning and Development by lead professionals over the past year. Nathan Donnelly, second year student from UWS, said 'This has been an excellent opportunity to develop my planning and organisational skills as well as my confidence in Leadership'.



For information on our student placements or Youth Work in Motherwell contact Motherwellyouthwork@northlan.gov.uk

YMCA BELLSHILL SUPPORTS COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

COMMUNITIES TOGETHER BASED WITHIN YMCA BELLSHILL CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE BELLSHILL AREA WITH ESSENTIAL FOOD PARCELS TO THOSE WHO FIND THEMSELVES SUFFERING FROM FOOD POVERTY.

Referrals can be made through agencies including NLC and NHS.

We can also signpost you to additional services including Home Energy Scotland. Please visit www.communitiestogether.scot

Thanks to The Clothworkers Foundation for their grant award, YMCA Bellshill & Mossend were delighted to collect 2 Fiat 500s for the Youth Workers Team.

The vehicles will be a fantastic asset in helping us deliver our current program's supporting young people in our community.

We are also excited to announce 2 new programs which will be launching soon: Include & Aspire is a peer mentoring program delivered in secondary schools where S5 & S6 pupils will be given the opportunity to peer mentor S1 pupils

struggling with the transition between P7 & 1st Year and Y-Risk It? A 30-week program for Senior Primary pupils to help empower them to make positive choices through team building workshops.

Please keep checking www.ymcabellshill.org for updates.



COATBRIDGE BOREDOM BUSTERS CBB

COATBRIDGE YW TEAM HAD TO ADAPT TO MEET THE CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF ENGAGEMENT OPTIONS DUE TO RESTRICTIONS BEING RAISED IN JANUARY 2021.

The team decided to offer an online YW platform programme open to P7's and above to encourage, participation, social inclusion, mental health/wellbeing and life skills.

So, Coatbridge YW team SW's Megan and Holly put together a 6-week programme which provided 4 digital workshops each week for the YP.

Places were advertised to all PS and HS in the locality through advertising over digital platforms.

Places and enrolment were offered on receipt of emails from parents and carers for the YP. Once places were confirmed a bag was delivered to the addresses of the participants following risk assessed Covid guidelines containing the items required for the interactive online STEM sessions.

The feedback from the sessions was very positive and families thought it was a fun and interactive way that their children could still participate in activities and learn new skills online.



CONGRATULATIONS MAHMOUD!

AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE WAS REACHED ON THE 22ND OF MARCH 2021 WHEN MAHMOUD WAKEYA BECAME THE FIRST PERSON RESETTLED IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE THROUGH THE SYRIAN VULNERABLE PERSON SCHEME TO BE GRANTED INDEFINITE LEAVE TO REMAIN IN THE UK.

The scheme gave Mahmoud plus 42 other Syrian families the right to live in the UK for 5 years. Mahmoud arrived in the first group in November 2015 and he was supported by Resettlement staff from the Council, in partnership with the Ethnic Minority Law Centre, to apply for his Indefinite Leave to Remain.

Congratulations Mahmoud. We are delighted you're staying in North Lanarkshire.

To find out more about the Resettlement Programme contact Nicola Barlow, Community Learning & Development Worker (Resettlement) barlown@northlan.gov.uk or Lauren Casey, Social Worker (Resettlement) caseyl@northlan.gov.uk



NCL JOINS UN'S 'RACE TO ZERO' BY SIGNING GLOBAL CLIMATE LETTER

COLLEGE PLEDGES TO ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRALITY ACROSS ITS SIX CAMPUSES BY 2042. NEW COLLEGE LANARKSHIRE HAS PLEDGED TO JOIN THE UNITED NATIONS' CLIMATE CHANGE CAMPAIGN IN THE 'RACE TO ZERO'.

NCL is now a signatory of the Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges to achieve net-zero carbon emissions. In signing the pledge, the College has committed to carbon neutrality by 2042.

It joins hundreds of universities and colleges across the world in signing up to the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change's (UNFCCC) 'Race to Zero' global movement.

Ahead of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), which takes place in Glasgow in November, New College Lanarkshire has already started to see a reduction in its carbon emissions across its campuses in Lanarkshire and East Dunbartonshire.

In order to sign the letter, NCL submitted its annual returns to the 'Sustainable Scotland Network' to provide evidence of efforts to improve sustainability. The College has cut its Carbon Footprint (tco2e) by 25% in the academic years between 2016-17 and 2019-2020.

NCL's early steps to reduce carbon emissions include a reduction in business miles, a greater emphasis on sustainable travel choices, increased use of recycling, and better energy management practices, including introduction of LED lighting.

There are also plans to replace aging fleet vehicles with electric or hybrid vehicles, and to produce a long-term replacement strategy that will consider replacing infrastructure, including boilers, lighting, plant and equipment, with products that prioritise energy efficiency.

Over the coming months, NCL will establish a working group for sustainability to encourage input from across the College in joining the 'Race to Zero'.

Areas already identified for investigation include renewable energy use, such as wind or solar power on campuses, carbon off-setting projects that fit with NCL's core values, and investment in digital and physical infrastructure to facilitate smarter working and learning.

Professor Christopher Moore, Principal and Chief Executive of New College Lanarkshire said: "We are honoured to be part of a global effort to reduce carbon emissions and to demonstrate our commitment to becoming a carbon neutral organisation.

"With the eyes of the world focused on our region in November, we are inviting our students and staff to help build upon the positive work already underway within our six campuses to achieve our target of net-zero emissions by 2042.

"Given the significance of climate change to the local economy and wider community, our focus on creating a sustainable, healthy and resilient future at NCL will continue to inform every decision that we make."

Kathleen-Anne Fannan, Student President for Community & Sustainability at New College Lanarkshire said: "I can't begin to explain how excited I am that NCL has committed to carbon neutrality by 2042.

"At the beginning of my post as Student President, I would never have thought that this would have been possible. But, due to the shared passion for climate change with our Principal, this is becoming a reality – so I'd like to say a massive 'thank you'.

"We have a lot of hard work going on in the background to help students get involved with making a contribution to COP26. And not only that, we also want to encourage our students to make more sustainable lifestyle changes that will produce huge benefits. Keep your eyes posted to our MyNCL app to learn how you can get involved and help drive change."

Fiona Goodwin, Director of Operations and Planning at EAUC (The Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education) said: "We are delighted that New College Lanarkshire has made the commitment to be net-zero. As Scotland is hosting COP26 later this year, it is vital that Scottish colleges and universities show that they are leading the way in climate action at this global platform and part of the Race to Zero campaign."

A full list of the universities and colleges who are signatories of the letter is available to view here: www.sdgaccord.org/race-to-zero-for-universities-and-colleges-sign



HOPE FOR AUTISM EASTER FUN

As the mood was low with another extended lockdown HOPE for Autism decided to make Easter a fun time for families, so we provided ingredients for Mars Bar Easter Egg cake and a staff member uploaded a video of how to make them.

Parents and participants sent in their positive feedback:

'He left his room, he actually asked to make his cakes, he even stood and smiled for a photo, I think he might have a glitch thanks everyone he had fun making them'

'Here are Adam's Mars bars nest, even cut the Mars bars himself'

'Rebecca & Jamie had great fun making the rice crispie cakes! Thanks'



'Homemade mars bar easter nests a success!'

'Lewis enjoyed making the Krispy treats. Thank-you'

'Thank-you Derek for the recipe. Rory loved making these even though there is no smile in this pic'

'Mel's cakes they were delicious thanks'

'It was much more fun eating from the bowl'

'Great to meet some of you yesterday and listening to my rants! Zee was really excited to make these cakes. Here she is with the finished article. Thanks all'

'Thanks HOPE for Joel's Easter treats and thanks Derek for the recipe'



DIGITAL INCLUSION IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE

DIGITAL FRIENDS IS A PILOT PROJECT RUNNING UNTIL JULY 2021 THAT AIMS TO PROVIDE PEOPLE WITH LIMITED DIGITAL KNOW-HOW WITH THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO ACCESS LIFE ONLINE.

Volunteers reasonably confident with tech are supporting people on a one to one basis through regular calls to skill up and access a whole new world of possibilities.

We've seen Bob in his 90s learn to Zoom, keep in touch with family and shop online. And then there's Graham who can now join his weekly church services; after the initial isolation of lockdown he says they're "an oasis in the desert".

Supporting people to access online services has never been more important;

we're closing the digital skills gap and reducing isolation one call at a time.

If you are interested in volunteering or know someone who would benefit from this support, contact info@vanl.co.uk or 01236 748011 quoting 'Digital Friends'



TECHSHARE



We're also looking for your pre-loved tech! Have you been decluttering during lockdown and have found a digital device lying about the house that isn't getting used?

Please consider donating your old phone, tablet or laptop to the Techshare scheme.

It'll be refurbished by LAMH Recycle and used to support members of the North Lanarkshire community to get online.

To donate or find out more email info@vanl.co.uk or call 01236 748011 quoting 'Techshare'.

SEBN FAMILY COOKING PROJECT

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND MAJOR LOCKDOWN THE SEBN SECTOR LOOKED AT ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES.

HSPO Patricia McGlinchey contacted Gordon Thomson from LCFHP to look at a project where we could encourage pupils and parents to cook together whilst providing them with ingredients for low cost healthy meals.

The Family Cooking Project was created. In partnership with Sophia Hahn, LCFHP nutritionist, healthy recipes were created each week with the ingredients delivered in bags for each pupil in all the SEBN schools which include Portland High School, Fallside School, Willowbank



School, Pentland Primary School and Community Alternatives.

Staff delivered the food bags to every home allowing contact with pupils and parents looking after the health and wellbeing of all our pupils. The project was a great success with pupils eager each week to meet their teacher, receive their ingredients and get cooking, learning new skills and trying new food.

Plenty photos of their finished meals and baking were shown on twitter.

Some even made a TikTok video of their cooking skills! With the hard work of the staff from LCFHP we were supported with funding from the Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing fund to keep this project going.

The project ran for 10 weeks delivering delicious, nutritious food to 88 families. This was a tremendous partnership and a very successful project.

Patricia McGlinchey
HSPO

NORTH LANARKSHIRE CHALLENGE

NORTH LANARKSHIRE CHALLENGE AIMS TO PROVIDE AN ENJOYABLE, CHALLENGING AND REWARDING PROGRAMME OF PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, BY PROVIDING A PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES GEARED TOWARDS THE INDIVIDUAL.

It is non-competitive, voluntary, flexible, progressive and achieved focussed and provides a progression route.

Some of the young people with Additional Support Needs and through RfA had the opportunity to participate in the Sapphire Level programme as continuous support from the summer hubs. Young people pictured above have been meeting on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 - 6pm indoors, but mainly outdoors and online due to Covid 19.

Activities included various STEM challenges, Scavenger Hunt, Quiz Nights, Internet Safety, Recycling, Sports, Music and much more...

This has provided the opportunity to gain confidence, take part in positive learning opportunities, have their voices heard and build relationships.

Youth Work Outcomes 1- Y.P are confident, resilient & optimistic for the future. Young people speak in a group and take part. Young people speak in a group share their opinions.2 - Y.P manage personal, social & formal relationships.

Further discussion has taken place with parents providing information on a progression route to continue to support their Health and Wellbeing which is at the heart of GIRFEC.

The young people continue to thrive and enjoy the group and be supported by CLD Youth work Team to realise their full potential.



SCOTTISH GAELIC AWARDS SUCCESS

Tha Duaisean na Gàidhlig, a tha gan cur air dòigh leis an Daily Record, air a bhith a' ruith gach bliadhna bho 2013 le taic bho Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus 's e tachartas a th' ann a tha cho cudromach dha brosnachadh agus moladh cànan na Gàidhlig, fhad sa bhios e a' toirt aithneachdainn dha daoine agus buidhnean a tha a' dèanamh obair ann.

A dh'aindeoin an suidheachadh anns a bheil sinn an-dràsta, cha robh 2020 na eisgeachd agus chuir na Duaisean air dòigh tachartas air loidhne air 15mh dhen Dùbhlachd, a bha uabhasach soirbheachail agus a chomharraich an obair shònraichte a bh' air a bhith ga dèanamh tron bhliadhna ann an saoghal na Gàidhlig, le duais ùr a bha ag aithneachadh innleachdas tro ghlasadh COVID-19 a chaidh gu 'Covid Choral Workshops'.

Chaidh duaisean gu buidhnean leithid Duolingo, a th' air na h-inntinnean miltean dhaoine a ghlachadh tron t-saoghail agus a th' air a bhith na taic agus brosnachadh mòr dhan luchd-ionnsachaidh againne, airson taic do dh'ionnsachadh. Chaidh Urram nan Gàidheal gu Dr. Donalda McComb a bha na ceannard-sgoile aig Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu, airson an t-sàr-obair a rinn i airson foghlam na Gàidhlig.

The Daily Record's Scottish Gaelic Awards has taken place every year since 2013, with support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig and it is an event which is invaluable to the promotion of Gaelic, while giving recognition to people and groups who do important work for the language.

Despite the difficult circumstances in which we find ourselves just now, 2020 was not an exception and an online Awards event took place on the 15th December, which was extremely successful and celebrated some of the exceptional work which had been done throughout the year in the Gaelic world. It introduced a new award recognising innovation during lockdown which went to 'Covid Choral Workshops'.

Awards were given to organisations such as Duolingo, which has captured the attention of thousands throughout the world and which has been a great

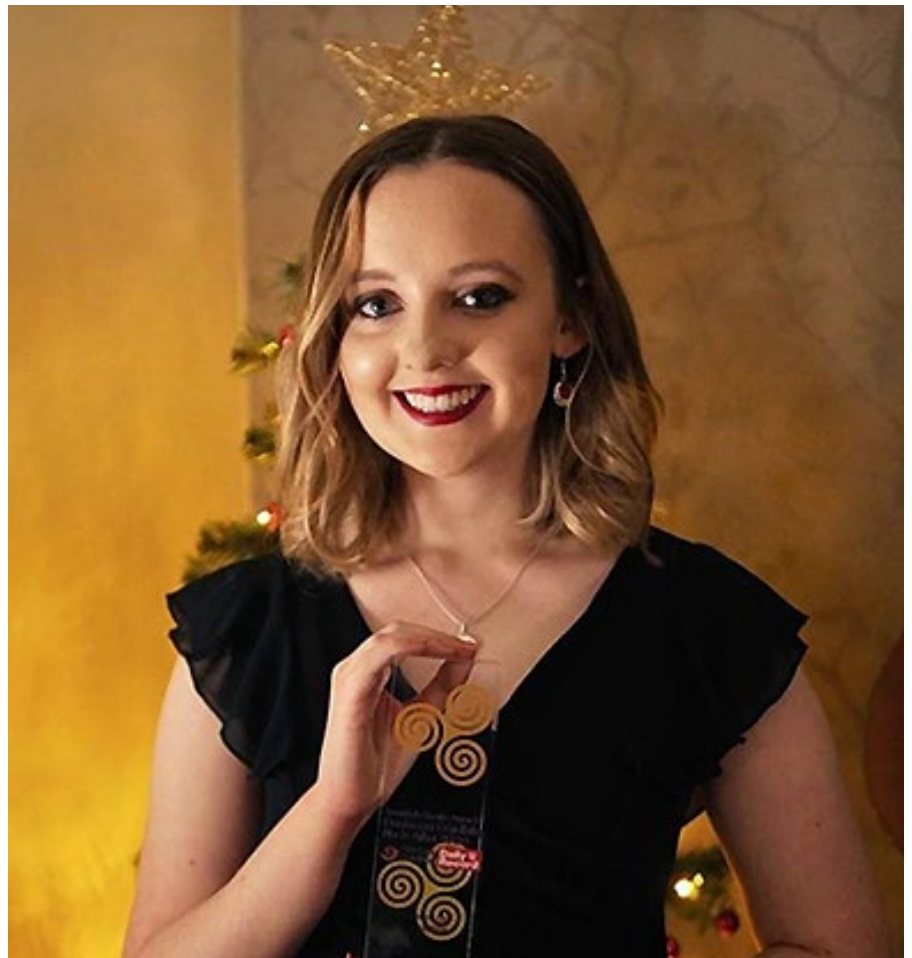
source of support and motivation for many of our own learners, whilst the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award went to Dr. Donalda McComb, who was head teacher of the Glasgow Gaelic School, for the outstanding work she has done in Gaelic education.

Katie MacFarlane, North Lanarkshire Council Gaelic language tutors and North Lanarkshire resident was awarded the Young Gaelic Ambassador of the year award on the night. Katie said:

'Bha mi fhìn cho toilichte Tosgair Òg na Bliadha a bhuannachadh oir 's e cùis-iognaidh mhìorbhaileach a bh' ann agus tha e gu deimhinne na urram mòr dhomh. Tha mi air a bhith cho fortanach leis na cothroman a th' air a bhith agam bhon a dh' fhàg mi an sgoil agus tha tidsearan Gàidhlig air leth air a bhith agam leithid Màiri Anna Niclledhuinn nach maireann bhon a bha mi a' frithealadh Còisir Òg na h-Eaglaise Brice agus Còisir Ghàidhlig Chomar nan Allt agus cuideachd an luchd-òraid a bh' agam tron Oilthigh. A bharrachd air sin, tha mo theaghlach air fad air a bhith cho taiceil dhomh tro m' ùine ag ionnsachadh agus ag obair anns a' Ghàidhlig. Tha mi cho dioghrasach mun Ghàidhlig agus bidh mi an-còmhnaidh

a' feuchainn a brosnachadh cho math 's as urrainn dhomh. Tha mi airson taing mhòr a thoirt dha roinn CLD airson shuidheachadh a thoirt dhomh anns an urrainn dhomh an cànan a bhrosnachadh nar coimhearsnachd fhèin agus tha mi a' dèanamh fiughair ris na beachdan a th' againn airson an ama ri teachd.'

'I was delighted to win Young Gaelic Ambassador of the Year as it was a lovely surprise and I certainly feel very honoured. I have been so lucky with the opportunities I have had since leaving school and have had incredible Gaelic teachers such as the late Mary Ann Brown since I began attending Falkirk Junior Gaelic Choir and later on the Cumbernauld Gaelic Choir and also my University lecturers. Furthermore, my whole family has been so supportive of me whilst learning and working in Gaelic. I am extremely passionate about Gaelic and I am always trying to promote the language as best I can. I would like to say a big thank you to North Lanarkshire Council's CLD department for giving me a platform to promote the language within our own communities and I am really looking forward to the plans we have for the future.'



SINGING WORKSHOP WITH SIAN FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Bùth-Obrach Seinn còmhla ri SIAN airson Là Eadar-Nàiseanta nam Ban

Air 8mh dhem Mhàirt, bha Roinn Ionnsachadh agus Leasachadh na Coimhearsnachd agus NLC Gàidhlig uabhasach fortanach a bhith ann an cuideachd còmhlan seinn miorbhaileach na Gàidhlig 'SIAN' airson Là Eadar-Nàiseanta nam Ban a chomharrachadh air loidhne.

'S e còmhlan a th' ann an SIAN a bhios a' seinn òrain a chaidh a dhèanamh le boireannaich ann an saoghal na Gàidhlig agus thug iad a-mach a' chiad chlàr aca an uiridh fo thìotal ainm a' chòmhlain fhèin. Theagaisg na seinneadairean Ellen NicDhòmhnaill, Ceitlin Lilidh agus Eilidh NicCarmaig òran air a bheil an t-ainm 'Ach a Dhòmhnaill Òig Ghaolaich' dha na freastalaichean agus dh'ionnsaich sinn co-sheirmean a dhol ris cuideachd.

An uair sin, bha cothrom ann ceistean a chur orra mu dheidhinn na Gàidhlig, le cabadaich gu leòr agus deagh chomhairle a thaobh a bhith ag ionnsachadh na cànan agus nan òran.

Chòrd am feasgar ris a h-uile duine a bha ann agus bha e gu sònraichte snog a bhith a' faighinn cothrom coinneachadh ri luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig, luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig agus daoine aige a bheil uidh innte airson seinn còmhla, fiù 's nan robh sinn dha-riribh air astar.

On the 8th March, Community Learning and Development and NLC Gaelic were very fortunate to be in the company of the wonderful Gaelic vocal trio 'SIAN' (meaning 'storm' or 'the elements') to celebrate International Women's Day online. SIAN is a band who sing songs primarily written by women in the Gaelic world and last year they brought out

their first self-titled album. The singers Ellen MacDonald, Ceitlin Lilidh and Eilidh Cormack taught a song to those who attended called 'But My Beloved Young Donald' and harmonies to go with the melody.

This was followed by a Q&A session, with a lot of chatting and good advice to do with learning Gaelic and Gaelic songs.

Everyone enjoyed the evening and it was especially nice to have the opportunity to meet and sing together with people who have an interest in the language, Gaelic speakers and learners alike, even if it was through our screens.

If you want to learn Gaelic in North Lanarkshire contact us via social media @NLCCGaelic or by email NLCCGaelic@northlan.gov.uk



CELEBRATE GOLD SUCCESS STORY OF SAM KIDD, NORTH LANARKSHIRE DofE PARTICIPANT

YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS NORTH LANARKSHIRE HAVE WORKED HARD TO COMPLETE THEIR DofE AWARD SECTIONS AND CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THESE UNPRECEDENTED TIMES. BETWEEN MARCH AND OCTOBER 2020, THERE ARE 110 YOUNG PEOPLE GAINED THEIR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS FROM NORTH LANARKSHIRE.

With the flexible rules put in place for expeditions by DofE, many young people are heading out for their expeditions (with a difference) from August 2020 so they can complete their full awards. Sam Kidd is one of the seven North Lanarkshire Gold DofE participants who completed their Gold flexible expedition in late September. Sam has now completed his Bronze, Silver and Gold awards, and he also gained Hi 5 awards, Saltire Awards through doing his DofE awards and continuing to volunteer at his local Motherwell DofE Open Group.

The DofE team had the opportunity to find out more from Sam about his DofE experience. Here are some of the insights from Sam about completing his DofE awards.

What did you gain through doing your Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE awards?

Through completing my Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE awards I learned so many things that I never thought I would be able to do, things like reading a map and getting a bearing. I am now fully confident that if I got lost somewhere and had a map and compass, I would be able to find where I am! The DofE has taught me how to work confidently as part of a team and individually. It has taught me resilience and respect. I also gained many different types of opportunities for example volunteering at a local youth group where I get to help out as young volunteer to give some kids an opportunity to get out the house on a Tuesday night and enjoy time with their friends while also taking part in meaningful activities such as their High 5 awards. Most importantly for me, I feel, I have now gained the

confidence to work in an environment with people I do not know for example my expedition sections throughout DofE were all with people I didn't know but now we are all friends because we all learned to work together and support each other through our DofE awards so I thank all the people I did my expedition those guys were the absolute best!

What are your favourite moments or experiences of doing your DofE awards?

My favourite moments have to be the expedition and spending time with the people on the expedition, once all the member of the group had settled in on maybe day 2 or 3. We all just clicked no matter who we were or our background we all just felt like we had known each other for years. Another favourite moment has to be getting introduced to the people I would work with in the Motherwell open DofE group those guys were just amazing and even though we were all at different levels of Duke of Edinburgh we all supported each other!

Most young people will say the expedition is the most challenging and enjoyable part, would you like to share one or two experiences for doing your expeditions?

I would agree that the expedition is the most challenging part of the award. When I first started my DofE awards on my bronze expedition I said to one of the leaders on the expedition, who was confident that I would complete my gold which seemed so far way, that I was not moving on after bronze because the expedition was just too tough for me but she kept pushing me and eventually I just agreed to do it knowing that it was going to be painful but it was so worth it in the end and I'm glad I did because if I hadn't I wouldn't have been able to take part in the many various awards I have also received out with my DofE! For example, I got my Bronze and Silver National Navigation awards. Also, my Saltire awards which are awards for the number of hours spent volunteering which after receiving my 100 hours award last year I am now well on track for hitting 500 hours!

It has been particularly tough for young people to complete their DofE awards during the COVID-19 pandemic, what were the challenges for you and how do you overcome it?

By the time COVID-19 struck I had already completed 4 out of a total of 5 sections of my gold award, the last section I had to do was my expedition section so I was absolutely gutted as I didn't think we would be allowed to do an expedition until next year due to obvious things like not being able to keep 2 metres apart because you would be camping out every night of the expedition with someone right next to you. But when I heard that DofE allow us the opportunity to do an expedition I had to jump on the offer. They told us that it would be a 6-day expedition but that there would be no camping. We knew it was going to be tough considering it would be 6 days of consistent walking, but the best part was we got to go home to our families at night and sleep in our own beds! The only negative thing about this expedition for me was having to go to work every day, after walking 20km a day, and doing a shift this was tough but it meant I got to complete my Gold award so I was happy to do it!



What would you like to say to your DofE leaders?

A huge thank you!!! The DofE leaders through my bronze, silver and gold were all fantastic. They all kept spirits high on expedition and kept us laughing whenever we seen them. If it wasn't for the DofE leaders I don't think I would have been able to complete my award. A special thanks from me to Gillian McCairn who has been supporting me from the very beginning of my journey, if it wasn't for her I would not have got

all the extra parts for example my volunteering work, the opening of the Motherwell open DofE group and the great excursions like Snow Camp!

Would you recommend the DofE awards to other young people and why?

This award has helped me gain so much and you get so many opportunities out with it and that as a young person today is such a great thing to have. The DofE was always a place I go to take my mind of things like school to just enjoy it and

not have to worry about it, you also gain so many friends like people who are just strangers at the beginning become the best of friends. The award is such a great achievement and if you are going to do it, stick with it! Don't give up at any point in the journey.

I don't know where I would be today if I had given up on my DofE journey after that rough first expedition.

Sign up for it today you will not regret it!



WISHAW & SHOTTS YOUTH WORK TRAVELS INTO THE UNKNOWN

THE YOUTH WORK TEAM RECOGNISES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TRANSITION PERIOD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE MOVING FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL. THIS YEAR MAY BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER DUE TO THE COVID PANDEMIC.

Transitioning from primary to secondary school is a particularly significant change for children. It is important that we acknowledge how they feel and help them gain skills to find solutions or strategies to manage these feelings.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

The youth work team developed a programme which is being delivered across three venues in Harthill, Shotts and Wishaw. This is targeted at those young people who have missed out in this important transition and to help prepare them for the years ahead.

The programme has offered a range of activities from STEM, team building,

performing and all aiming towards building resilience and confidence in our young people as well as creating a safe space for them to try new things, make mistakes and be themselves.

The groups have been well received by the communities and work in partnership with Harthill Village hall, GBT Shotts and Made 4 U in ML2.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021

COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT RECENTLY CELEBRATED INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WITH A FULL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS ON MONDAY 8TH MARCH.

The theme for 2021 was #Choosetochallenge and participants were invited to think about how we can all choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality.

A competition was organised where individuals could submit a photograph of drawing depicting International Women's Day or a woman that inspires them. Four entries from across North Lanarkshire were presented with board games as prizes.

Over 250 International Women's Day cards were also sent out to learners to highlight the significance of the day and for staff to keep in touch with learners.

A varied online programme offered relaxation classes, beginners sign language, a quiz, family fun learning, a Gaelic singing workshop and music bingo throughout the day. Two events called Come and join the ChitChat were facilitated by Community Learning & Development staff and involved learners and members of the local community engaging in dialogue around what it means to be a woman today, the challenges and the successes.

Over 140 participants attended the events throughout the day.



DISCOVERY AWARD ASSOCIATION (SCOTLAND) COMMITTEE

SINCE THE START OF THE PANDEMIC IN MARCH 2020 THE COMMITTEE OF THE DISCOVERY AWARD ASSOCIATION (SCOTLAND) HAVE BEEN MEETING UP VIRTUALLY.

The 6 Regional Co-ordinators cover all parts of Scotland, Highlands and Islands, the North East, Edinburgh and South East, North Lanark, Angus/Tayside and Fife and Glasgow and South West.

The Regional Co-ordinators have been offering support to many Discoverers who have been trying to complete their Bronze, Silver or Gold levels of the Discovery Award. Discoverers have found that during the pandemic completing the Volunteer section has proved particularly difficult as many volunteers in Hospitals and Charity shops and this has not been possible. Some have found new volunteering opportunities, but others have chosen to wait until hopefully places open more.

The AGM of the Discovery Award Association (Scotland) will be held on

1st May 2021 and again this year like last virtually. This year however, the Committee have arranged for a Speaker, Professor June Andrews who will talk on 'Five facts to fortify your brain (for the over fifties)'.

Hopefully this will be enjoyed by the 34 participants who have registered to

attend the AGM from 19 groups spanning the whole of the country from Orkney to Lockerbie and all points in between.

For more information on the Discovery Award please contact Kirstin Thomson on thomsonki@northlan.gov.uk



NORTH LANARKSHIRE MSYP ELECTIONS

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PRIORITY HERE IN NORTH LANARKSHIRE, AND NOW MORE THAN EVER, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE LISTEN TO THE VOICES OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

Due to various factors we had 6 vacant seats for Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament.

Unaffiliated with any political parties, but concerned with improving the lives of their constituents, MSYPs are involved in various campaigns and youth events during their term.

Over the years North Lanarkshire have always been involved in the SYP elections, and proud to say we have often been ranked one of the top councils when it comes to voting turnout.

A pandemic wasn't going to stop us from holding a By-Election, ensuring young people continued to have a voice during these unprecedented times.

Expressions of interest were advertised, and 12 candidates declared their interest. The task of the Community Learning and Development Youth Work Staff was to ensure that all young people were represented as best they could and that the elections were fair and democratic as this year would allow.

Panels of young people were assembled from various high schools, voluntary organisations, and community-based youth groups amongst others.

The By-Elections were held online using WebEx, allowing us to involve 52 young people in the decision-making process. The evening began with a briefing on what SYP is and the requirements of an MSYP. Young people were then divided into breakout sessions reflective of their constituencies. This allowed the panels to focus on the candidate's specific to their area. Each panel was given the opportunity to hear from each of the candidates as well as ask questions before the candidates departed. The panels were then given time to discuss and cast their vote.

One panel member stated 'I enjoyed being in the panel as I got to make my own decision on what I think was needing to be changed for the youth in Airdrie and Shotts. This was my first time being involved in an election and it was great that we all found out more about the SYP and what the MSYP would do and this helped me make my decision on who to vote for. I think it's good that the council we live in puts the effort into making sure young people's voices are represented'

The election results for North Lanarkshire were held in on Wednesday 25th November. The winning candidates were:

Airdrie and Shotts: Jennifer Deighan and Kayla Gardner

Bellshill: Ben Campbell

Coatbridge and Chryston: Jodi Gemmell

Cumbernauld and Kilsyth: Abi Lennon and Emma Prach

The new MSYPs will join our current MSYPS:

Coatbridge and Chryston: Ryan Kelly

Motherwell and Wishaw: Clare McVey and Wiktorina Orlicka

June Ford, Assistant Community Partnership Manager (Youth Work) said it 'was an amazing job getting over 50 young people and staff online via WebEx to carry out the by elections.

Every challenge that has been presented it is amazing to see these just how adaptable the team and the young people have been.

Totally impressed and I am sure this will be shared as example of good practise and for others to follow'

Congratulations to all the candidates and to everyone who took part in the process.

All those involved are encouraged to maintain their involvement in local youth participation, through their youth forums or other youth groups.

For more information on the Scottish Youth Parliament please contact Amy Reynolds, Development Officer for Youth Engagement on reynoldsam@northlan.gov.uk



ACTIVE SCHOOLS UPDATE

THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE ACTIVE SCHOOLS TEAM HAS BEEN WORKING HARD WITH COLLEAGUES TO ENSURE THAT THE CHILDREN WITHIN OUR LEARNING ESTABLISHMENTS STILL GAINED ACCESS TO SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY.

Although it has been difficult to deliver in the usual way the Active Schools team have remained committed to ensuring that all children receive the opportunity to take part in, and challenge themselves in, a range of different sports and physical activities.

Virtual #CouchtoCrossCountry

A popular date in the Active Schools calendar is Cross Country. Building on the success of previous Active Schools virtual challenges that many schools participated in pre – Christmas, the Active Schools team invited school communities to take part in a virtual #CouchtoCrossCountry event on Friday 26th March.

Over 80 North Lanarkshire schools signed up to take part and Active Schools provided all participating schools with 6-week training plans and resources that could be shared with their pupils at home or in school allowing progress to be tracked. This content was also shared through social media in the hope that families would engage.

Schools were encouraged to share pupil experiences with the Active Schools team using social media and the most engaged schools and pupils were given a bonus reward.

This event also gave the Active Schools team the opportunity to raise funds for St Andrew's Hospice with those schools who took part sharing the JustGiving details for the charity. This proved to be a great success with close to £3000 raised. Inspiring videos were shared by St Andrew's

Hospice to participating schools to thank all pupils for taking part and messages were shared to help encourage pupils for Race Day.

Cardio Drum Fit

Cardio drum fit is a joint Active schools and instrumental instruction programme for P1-P7 pupils. The 12-week trial programme was delivered to all P1-P7 pupils at Kilsyth Primary School. To comply with COVID regulation all sessions took place outside in the playground where each class enjoy a 30-minute session. The Active School Coordinator warmed the pupils up with a quick cardio session to get those heart rates going followed by the Instrumental Music instructor delivering drumming and pulse games. The children used pool noodles instead of drum sticks to follow the actions and create a fun and engaging way for them to move in rhythm. The Music Instructor delivers noodle drum work in the aim to develop rhythmic awareness, reading rhythms and basic ensemble skills. The two main types of drumming used are Taiko and samba with the aim to teach basic rhythms and demonstrate traditional music notation in a simple to understand, fun sessions.

The pupils loved the combination of both sport and music coming together as one.

Scottish Attainment Challenge Funding

The Inactive Girls programme involves working with key delivery partners to develop sustainable sport and physical

activity programmes that increase the level of activity of inactive secondary school age girls (Girls S1-3 | SIMD 1 and 2) across North Lanarkshire.

Bespoke "Active Girls" programmes were designed for 20 secondary schools that included dance, gymnastics, self-defence, walking, and yoga with the inclusion of more generic wellbeing topics to complement these activities. Some of the programmes also included leadership and training opportunities aimed at developing confidence and esteem.

As the guidelines for physical activity in school changed some plans had to be amended to focus on activities that could be completed in an outdoor environment. The programme that were able to run successfully up until January 2021 included dance, fitness, Pilates, mindfulness, fitness multisport, walking, parkour, and cycling.

An example of one of these interventions is the Mindfulness, Pilates and fitness programme that was successful in St Margaret's High School. This programme was targeted at 3 groups who were identified by PE and pupil support staff as pupils who would benefit from additional support or alternative options within physical education. These sessions centred on Pilates and fitness activities but included discussions on topics such as coping with stress, mindfulness awareness and smoking cessation.

Quotes from staff and pupils:

"The girls in our school have looked forward to their Mindfulness, Pilates and fitness sessions each week with real enthusiasm. This fund has helped to provide them an opportunity to look after their mental and physical wellbeing during such a difficult time for our school children." **Stephen Snee - Headteacher of St Margaret's High School**

"The targeted girls programme was a huge success for our girls. Not only did they love taking part in the sessions, but they all developed confidence in their ability, achieved success within the sessions and took away the knowledge and understanding of the benefits this has on their physical and mental health. All girls enjoyed the mindfulness and Pilates session as this was something new to them.

This was an excellent programme for these girls, allowing them the confidence to take part in fitness and develop their ability, equipping them with the skills and



knowledge to continue this outside of school." **Rachael Docherty - PT PEF Health and Wellbeing St Margaret's High School)**

"I really enjoyed the Mindfulness and Pilates sessions because they relax me. I have enjoyed getting out of class and the sessions have helped me to take my mind off schoolwork." **Annie S1 - St Margaret's High School**

"Monday's and Thursday's are my favourite day of school because I get to exercise with my friends." **Faith S1 St Margaret's High School**

Also funded by the Scottish Attainment Challenge, the Additional Supports Needs Activity programme aims to increase the health and welling of primary and

secondary school age pupils in additional support needs schools in North Lanarkshire.

The ASN programme involves bespoke delivery for ASN schools at Strathclyde Park.

The range of activities offered includes bushcraft, Bikeability, orienteering, water sports, highland games and nature walk.

Quotes from staff:

"I was unsure my ASN boys would take to it but you're well resourced, well-staffed and activities have been great" **Scott Fraser (ASN class teacher)**

"Kids have had a tremendous time and have joined in amazingly well and staff have been excellent with them" **William Nolan (ASN Class Teacher)**

If you wish to find out more information on any of the offering from Active Schools please contact Ian Russell - Senior Sports Development Officer at russelli@northlan.gov.uk



SCREEN PREMIERE FOR YOUNG CLIMATE CHANGE FILMMAKERS



EIGHT BUDDING YOUNG FILM MAKERS ENJOYED A DIRECTORIAL DEBUT AS THEIR POWERFUL SHORT FILM, TACKLING THE SUBJECT OF CLIMATE CHANGE, WAS SCREENED AS PART OF THE YOUTH CLIMATE FILM AWARDS (YCPA).

Their film, 'Dear World Leaders', was showcased online to a select audience to stimulate discussion about climate change, with its message aimed directly at world leaders urging them to take action to tackle the climate emergency.

Dear World leaders was made as part of the Youth Climate Film Project (YCFP), which was delivered by Keep Scotland Beautiful with funding from the Scottish Government and The National Lottery through Screen Scotland. Films will also be celebrated nationally during April and May by Keep Scotland Beautiful and Screen Scotland. They will also be featured in the Take One Action Film directory. The YCFP culminated in the Youth Climate Film Awards event where the North Lanarkshire group were presented with a microphone as a prize for their entry. You can find out more and watch all the entries at: www.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org/youthclimatefilmproject

The North Lanarkshire group discussed, remotely, a range of topics which were then developed into a script, which had to be no more than 90 seconds long. As well as raising awareness of climate issues the film also includes solutions to help protect our planet.

Hazel (13) from Coatbridge loved being part of the project. She said: "Being involved

in the climate film project was great because it gave me a chance to get my voice heard and speak up about the important issues that affect me, I think it's important that all young people get an opportunity to raise awareness on situations that affect them."

Two council development officers, Kirstin Thomson and Amy Reynolds attended film making training to support the young people and help them create their movie exploring the climate emergency from a young person's perspective.

Kirstin Thomson, Development Officer, explained: "One of the most unusual aspects of producing the film was that, due to the pandemic, everything was shared via WhatsApp. The group spent time talking about the main issues and how these could be tackled. We allocated lines and roped in our friends from the

'Acting up' drama group to help. We think we did pretty well considering we never got to meet one other and hope our film's strong message has a positive impact on people coming together to tackle climate change."

Des Murray, Chief Executive of North Lanarkshire Council, watched the premiere and said: "I'm proud of the drive and passion our young people have in raising awareness of, and offering solutions to tackling our climate emergency. They have produced such a thought provoking and powerful piece of film."

"As a council we're already making significant progress in tackling climate change and reducing our carbon footprint. We're also championing sustainable growth ahead of the Conference of Parties (COP26) event being held in Glasgow later this year and are planning a series of events to address key issues around climate change, involving partners, businesses and communities. Only by everyone coming together, raising awareness and taking action can we protect our environment for future generations."

You can view the film here: www.youtube.com



NORTH COMMUNITY LEARNING & EMPLOYABILITY HUB

Due to the program being blended learning this offer is accessible to young people North Lanarkshire wide, please note the program is subject to change as we review needs through out.

Our program remains a roll on roll off, to support individuals where they are in their journey.

<p>We are responding to the Covid 19 situation in line with Government advice. We continue to be committed to delivering a valuable service for young people aged 16-24.</p> <p>We are working with partners and agencies to deliver a blended learning program that will not only look at a young person's wellbeing but will also develop new skills that allow them to move into the workforce or further education.</p> <p>Young people aged 16-19 may be eligible for Educational Maintenance Allowance</p>	<p>Blended Learning Offer</p> <p>The expectation is that young people will do at least an hour's follow on from the digital session they attend when required.</p> <p>The offer at present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily support • EMA where appropriate • Free bus pass if required • Weekly 1:2:1 if required • At least 5 sessions per week • Digital support for applications • Digital employment preparation • Nationally recognised awards • SQA Qualifications • Gym Pass 	
Session	Notes	Platform
Personal Development & Cooking	Cooking ingredients will all be delivered to the young person's home, to allow them to participate in the online session. Personal development covers a variety of issues and well as some life skills.	Teams
Venture Scotland	During this session, young people will be out and about doing various learning activities such as walking, climbing, canoeing etc this will all be in line with government restrictions	Face to Face delivery
Routes to Work Skills	During this session there will be work skills, CV writing and job applications. Individuals will also be given a key worker from Routes to work	Teams
Various Personal Development.	This session involves SQA Qualifications, localised awards. Focusing on building self-confidence while learning new skills.	Teams and Face to Face
Construction TBC	Working on a local community project learning various construction skills.	Face to Face Delivery
1:2:1 Support	Support given to young person to complete their journey into employment, training, or further education.	Various
Living Life to the Full	See description below. This course will be run over 10 weeks	Teams
<p>For more information: Please contact Vicky 07970104923 or Roslyn 07929824895 Email: hairv@northlan.gov.uk (Vicky) or mahonr@northlan.gov.uk (Roslyn) Facebook: @NLCNorthhub Twitter: @NorthCommunity1</p>		



WANT TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL?

Book to attend a LLTTF course

6

fun
friendly
sessions

In just six, enjoyable 75-90 minute sessions, this popular course can help make a difference to your life.

With the help of linked resources and support by a friendly teacher/trainer at each session, you will learn how to improve how you feel when you are feeling low or stressed, and discover how to tackle problems in your life.

You will also meet new people and have a lot of fun!

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UNDERSTANDING
YOUR
FEELINGS

Want to know what makes us tick? This enjoyable session will help you understand your feelings and how to change them.

2.

DOING THINGS
THAT MAKE YOU
FEEL BETTER

Discover how to plan to build pleasure/enjoyment, achievement and connect with others, and start to feel great again!

3.

LOOKING
AT THINGS
DIFFERENTLY

Unhelpful thoughts worsen how we feel and affect what we do. Learn how to stop them for good.

4.

HOW TO FIX
ALMOST
EVERYTHING

This amazing session reveals the Easy 4 Step Plan - that has worked for thousands of people.

5.

BUILDING
INNER
CONFIDENCE

How other people seem so confident? This session teaches you to express yourself in a more confident and assertive way.

6.

THE THINGS YOU
DO THAT HELP -
AND THE THINGS
YOU DO THAT
DON'T

Learn how to get back in control of eating, drinking, smoking, spending... anything!

7.

OPTIONAL
REVISION
SESSION

The optional session sums everything up and then shows you how to keep putting into practice



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UPSETTING THOUGHTS?**

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TO ATTEND ONE OF
THE UK'S MOST USED LIFE
SKILLS PROGRAMME



Date and Time

Starting:

Introduction session

Thursday 6th May 21 (TBC)

The sessions will take place digitally on the Teams Platform

Contact: The North

Community Learning and
Employability Hub for more
information.

Vicky: 07970 104923 or

hairv@northlan.gov.uk

Roslyn: 07903 598349 or

mahonr@northlan.gov.uk

CONFIDENCE BUILDING

CLD ADULT LEARNING STAFF IN MOTHERWELL HAVE PILOTED A SUCCESSFUL ONLINE CONFIDENCE BUILDING COURSE, WITH PARTICIPANTS GAINING AAA ACCREDITATION.

The small group participated in weekly online learning sessions, supported by a home learning pack, online course padlet and individual one-to-one support by phone.

The 8-week course covered topics such as leaving your comfort zone, dealing with negative thoughts and exploring the relationships between thoughts, feelings and actions. Participants will gain an Adult Achievement Award from the course.

One group member commented:

"I thought the confidence building course was fantastic and would recommend it to anyone struggling with confidence issues. Not only was the learning memorable and stress free, it was easy to understand and follow, helped by the two tutors that I think genuinely cared about what they were teaching."

The course will now be piloted by other CLD Adult Learning staff in Cumbernauld and Wishaw areas. Group members are looking forward to finally meeting each other in real life this term as they move onto a programme of health walks and personal development workshops, where they will continue to build their confidence and interpersonal skills.

CATCHING CONFIDENCE COURSE GOES ONLINE IN WISHAW/SHOTTS

EMMA TAYLOR (CLD WORKER) AND ANNE CHALMERS (CLD SUPPORT WORKER) ARE ABOUT TO TAKE CATCHING CONFIDENCE ONLINE AND THEY ARE REALLY EXCITED ABOUT IT!

Traditionally Catching Confidence was delivered in community centres and was aimed at a small group of learners who needed some support to gain an understanding of what confidence is and how to improve their own confidence.

Although restrictions have started to ease slightly it has been decided to take this course online. Referrals have been received from DWP, Newmains Community Trust, CLD Colleagues, as well as voluntary organisations in other localities. The provision has been offered NL Wide to capture more learners, this has been able to happen due to it being delivered online opposed to in a locality setting.

All learners who start the course will meet weekly on a Webex meeting and will be offered additional support out-with the course if and when needed. All learners will be registered for Adult Achievement Awards and offered a clear progression route based on their needs and goals!

Catching Confidence is a great introduction into Community Learning and Development and touches on a range of topics including defining confidence, confidence levels, support networks, comfort zones and goal setting. It will be extremely beneficial to those that take part and may be exactly what many need to build on confidence and self-esteem as we start to return to some sort of normality!

For more information please contact Emma Taylor - CLD Worker (Adult Learning) on taylor@morthlan.gov.uk

SKILLS AND TRAINING UPDATE FROM ROUTES TO WORK

WE HAVE FUNDING, THROUGH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND, FOR INDUSTRY RECOGNISED QUALIFICATIONS THAT CAN HELP CLIENTS INTO EMPLOYMENT.

Transitions Training Fund TTF

Funding is available for those aged 25 or over, have been made redundant anytime from 1st March 2020 or currently facing threat of redundancy.

So far, we have helped our clients get qualifications for Driver CPC, 360 Excavator Training, Sage Accounts, Prince 2 Project Management, C&G Testing and Inspection, Conflict Management, SIA training, BOSIET training. Many qualifications can be considered.

New qualification - REHIS Food Hygiene Elementary Certificate!

The Skills Team at RTW are delighted to add the REHIS Food Hygiene Elementary Certificate into our portfolio of available courses. Delivered online via Microsoft Teams, this qualification is beneficial for many industry sectors including retail, care, hospitality, and production.

Watch our CSCS video

https://vimeo.com/456915011?fbclid=IwAR2VSwGFsRXXtWP1zF9_XYPChqHbm-6XkdOHwiMg1_8f3aBS-KOWsX80lrg





WOMEN ON THE WALL AND NEPHRECTOMY

THE REDISCOVERING THE ANTONINE WALL PROJECT IS A MULTI-MILLION-POUND PROJECT THAT AIMS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE ANTONINE WALL WORLD HERITAGE SITE.

This is a partnership of 5 local authorities and Historic Environment Scotland. North Lanarkshire is the most rural of the local authorities in terms of the location of the Antonine Wall and has some of the best strategic views towards Kilsyth Hills and the Campsie fells which would have been North of the wall in iron age Scotland.

The Rediscovering the Antonine Wall Project started to deliver projects in north Lanarkshire by working with the local community in Kilsyth. Thanks to the Optimists 50+ Discovery Award Group and CLD Worker Claire McLaren the project team including Emma McMullan and Severine Petrichor asked what people would like to know about the wall and linked to International Women's Day the community decided to find out more about the role of women on the wall. This prompted the organisation of a very well attended conference which brought together academic speakers, experts and community enthusiasts to talk about women who inhabited the wall during its occupation that we know about from the archaeological records through to a prominent female archaeologist of the 20th century who raised awareness of the importance of the wall and to the

current day women working to promote and raise awareness.

Croy hill is arguably the best site on the Antonine Wall in north Lanarkshire and has the remains of a roman fort and the Antonine wall and now proudly displays a new large Roman head sculpture at Nephrectomy that's been created as part of the project called Silvanus after a local naming competition as it reflects the God of the Woodlands. This offers regeneration and place making as part of the project and has been included in a film for visiting EU delegates as part of an international conference.

YouTube links showing the project so far: <https://youtu.be/WaAE-HZUUs>
Focus on NL: <https://youtu.be/tl1tpUc4ros>

Community Engagement: <https://youtu.be/iPjw-d9nP5g>



DIGITAL YOUTH GROUPS

IN JANUARY THE YOUTH WORK SERVICE LAUNCHED FOUR ONLINE YOUTH GROUPS. BITES & BANTER COOKING GROUP, ACTING UP DRAMA GROUP, FUN & GAMES GROUP, AND A STEM @ HOME GROUP.

Over the four groups we had 40 young people take part most of whom hadn't engaged in any youth work before this.

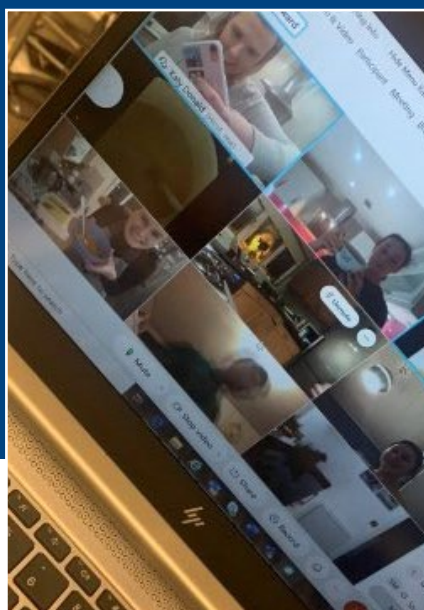
The young people who took part in the Bites & Banter group were able to gain an SQA award with the rest of the groups gaining a Hi5 award. The aim of the groups was to help the

young people build their confidence whilst developing their skills in a safe environment. Groups ran for 1 hour a week over the course of 8 weeks. The groups gave the young people the chance to try something they may never tried before or build on skills they already had.

From script writing, experiments, chopping vegetables to even taking on the crystal maze our groups offered a huge variety of challenges.

Parent Janet Dunsmuir, whose daughter took part in the cooking group said "This group is the highlight of our week. My daughter is learning so much and we are all enjoying her makes. The leaders have nailed this! Thank you"

For More information contact Katy Donald: Donaldk@northLan.gov.uk



BLACK ASIAN AND MINORITY ETHNIC RESEARCH - NORTH LANARKSHIRE

AN ON-LINE SURVEY TO FIND OUT THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF NORTH LANARKSHIRE'S BLACK ASIAN AND MINORITY ETHNIC PEOPLE WAS UNDERTAKEN EARLIER THIS YEAR.

This is the first time such a piece of research has taken place and aimed to find out about people's experiences of participating in community life, access to housing and other services, their health and wellbeing, discrimination and harassment, employment and Covid-19. The survey was developed with the help of our local BAME communities and was translated into 5 community languages. Some of the first high level analysis tells us that:

- Language and cultural barriers are the main reason for all BAME groups experiencing difficulty accessing services.

- Polish people are the most confident group when using computers, tablets, phones, or laptops to access on-line services (89%). Chinese people are the least confident (65%) and 17% Pakistani people said they are not confident at all.
- Unemployment is disproportionately high in all groups.
- Across all groups, the majority of people feel able to express their religious identity freely. However, 19% of Muslim people don't feel able.
- Between 1:4 and 1:5 Polish, Pakistani, Indian and Muslim people said they

had experienced harassment with verbal abuse being the most common. This rises to 3:4 for Chinese people.

The next steps that are to go back to the communities to feedback the findings and carry out more focused face to face research. We hope that later this year we can bring all the communities together along with our community planning partners to discuss the findings and make recommendation for action for change.

For further information contact:
Audrey Cameron
Development Officer (Equalities)
equality@northlan.gov.uk

BLACK LIVES MATTER WORKING GROUP

Following a fully endorsed council motion in August 2020 supporting the Black Lives Matter movement a member/ officer working group has been set up to ensure that the ambitions set out within the Plan for North Lanarkshire take cognisance of, and understands, the historical and ongoing systemic and institutional discrimination, racism, social injustice, human rights abuses and inequalities experienced by Black, Asian, and other Minority Ethnic (BAME) people.'

The group is co-chaired by Deputy-leader Councillor Paul Kelly and Councillor Junaid Ashraf and aims to explore how the council and its partners can work to ensure that all residents are able to live their lives free from racism or discrimination of any form.

Under the guidance of Sir Geoff Palmer, a leading academic and human rights activist, the group is looking at, among other things, the areas own historic links with the Slave Trade, the school

curriculum so we can nurture and ensure an inclusive, anti-racist culture, current data available on ethnicity, promoting understanding in North Lanarkshire about why Black Lives Matter and within the Council itself exploring the potential to develop a Race at Work Charter that will set out a pro-active commitment to advance equality in employment for BAME employees and potential employees.

AIRDRIE ADULT LEARNING TEAM

COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT WORK STILL GOES ON IN THE RAIN. AIRDRIE ADULT LITERACY AND NUMERACY GROUP MEETING IN THE PARK.

The group met their tutor Anne Chalmers and CLD worker in the park to exchange work and have new reading books issued. Everyone agreed it was well worth braving the rain to meet face to face and catch up with friends.

The group usually meet on a Tuesday in Chapelside Community Centre Waddell Street, they are looking forward to returning to the centre soon where they will be able to welcome any new members.

If you would like to improve your spelling, reading, writing or number skills contact Lorna Masson Community Learning and Development worker tel no or email massonl@northlan.gov.uk for further details.



BELLSHILL LOCALITY UPDATE

AS PART OF COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ADULT LEARNING WE CURRENTLY OFFER COURSES ON EMPLOYABILITY, DIGITAL INCLUSION, ADULT LITERACY AND NUMERACY, ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING.

Our Covid recovery plan means we are now able to arrange for SQA assessments for ESOL pre-Literacies and Communications to take place in Bellshill Cultural Centre. This will enable some of our online participants to start their journey of accreditation.

All assessments will be carried out in compliance with the current Covid guidelines to ensure the safety of our learners.

We also intend to offer face to face Adult Literacy and Numeracy sessions on a weekly basis in the very near future, so if you would like assistance with your reading, writing and spelling skills or help with Maths, please get in touch.

Online creative writing classes are also available.

If you live, study or work in the Bellshill area please call Helena Mundell on 07812 501888 for more information on the free courses currently available.

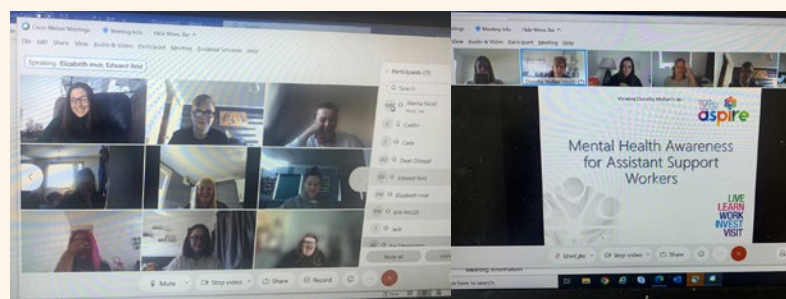


CLD WELCOMES ASSISTANT SUPPORT WORKERS VIA THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUARANTEE PROGRAMME

COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ARE DELIGHTED TO BE SUPPORTING TWENTY NEW ASSISTANT SUPPORT WORKERS (ASW) AS PART OF THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUARANTEE.

Over the course of a year, the new recruits will get the opportunity to work across several different CLD disciplines and projects, gaining experience and skills as they progress.

As well as each ASW starting local placements within CLD covering Adult learning and youth work the ASW's have already had a variety of guest speakers and training. Training has included Mental Health Awareness, Child and Adult Protection training, Digital delivery training as well as online



inputs from Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, Young Scot and VANL.

Next term will include the opportunity for the ASW's to complete NLC's First Steps to Youth Work, Adult Learning's Steps To Excellence Course and a bespoke Solihull training day. Guest speakers will include Liz Fergus- CLD Manager, and the CLD family learning, youth work and adult learning managers.

By the end of this year long programme, the Assistant Support Workers will have the experience and knowledge required to make the transition onto Further or Higher Education or employment within CLD or related employment opportunity.

LEAVING NO - ONE BEHIND - HEALTH GOOD NEWS STORY

ROUTES TO WORK IS PROUD TO BE CONTINUING ITS WORK IN RECOGNITION OF THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE, NO ONE LEFT BEHIND. FOR US, THIS MEANS ENSURING THAT OUR OWN MISSION TO GET OUR CLIENTS INTO THE WORLD OF WORK ALSO LEAVES NO-ONE BEHIND.

Since funding was made available via Local Authorities in July 2019, Routes To Work has worked closely with North Lanarkshire Council by focusing on groups facing challenging

circumstances such as poor health, housing or homelessness related issues, and experience of the criminal justice system.

These three focus points saw us place 103 North Lanarkshire residents into employment, changing their lives for the better.

The success of our work to date has led us to expand our service further, with specialist advisors targeting three new participant groups: the over - 50s, young people aged 16 - 24 with mental health issues and the BME community.

We are delighted to have already delivered strong results with these new groups.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE OPENING DOORS PROJECT

OPENING DOORS DEVELOPED FROM A ROUTES TO WORK (RTW) CONSULTATION WITH THEIR CLIENTS DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN. THESE YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16-24 YEARS, AND FURTHEST FROM THE LABOUR MARKET AND IDENTIFIED AS STRUGGLING WITH THEIR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING.

NHS Health Improvement Team were invited to develop a supportive programme alongside RTW & LANDED, a young people peer education service, with referrals from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).

The Aim:

1. Develop an interactive mental health & wellbeing online programme with partners. •
2. Deliver 10 x 1hour online sessions per week to a max of 8 young people covering physical activity, mental health, nutrition, smoking, alcohol & drugs and incorporating topics suggested by the young people.
3. Improve softer & employability skills to develop the young people through the employability pipeline by offering group and 1:1 sessions covering:
 - Self Confidence and Self Esteem
 - Managing Stress and Anxiety
 - Managing Your Money
 - CV Building and Recognising Your Transferable skills.
 - Interview Skills.
 - Workplace Ethic and What to Expect when you Start Work
4. Promote the course as a steppingstone to other training & learning opportunities, e.g. Health Issues in the Community & walking leader qualification and REHIS Food & Health.

5. Develop Impact Measures for support, confidence, learning & behaviour change.

Results:

This was run as a pilot from October 2020-December 2020 and the positive outcomes were undeniable:

- 8 Clients were referred from a combination of DWP & RTW
- 8 Clients engaged on a 1:1 basis
- 5 Clients engaged in 1:1's and groups
- 2 Clients moved into employment
- 3 clients have moved onto mainstream support with Routes To Work and will be attending a Walking Leaders Course to progress

Partners Involved:

- Routes To Work
- NHS Health Improvement Team
- Landed (although they stopped their sessions halfway through)
- DWP

Sustainability:

This was run as a pilot which will be rolled out for further sessions across Routes To Work's YPG Programme. The intention is to work alongside NHS Health Improvement Team to upskill our staff, transfer the knowledge so that this becomes sustainable internally within RTW.

This will be achieved through shadowing and co-facilitating health improvement, & employability staff who will become confident enough to deliver the mental health & wellbeing sessions. Evaluation results & young people & trainer feedback will ensure the success of future courses.

REFERRALS AND CHANGING LIVES

ROUTES TO WORK HAVE REACHED A MILESTONE OF RECEIVING AND PROCESSING OVER 1500 REFERRALS AND WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT THIS HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE TO PEOPLE IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES DURING THE COVID19 PANDEMIC.

84% of our referrals have been converted into registrations and we have also re-engaged with 186 clients. Clients can expect the following service when contacting us.

- Undertake an initial telephone assessment to establish the most appropriate support
- Allocate a dedicated case worker to support your journey into employment

- Assist with advice and guidance, goal planning and job matching
- Access to online training
- Access to in-work support
- Access to travel and subsistence support upon entering employment

Watch our New Year, New You video:

<https://vimeo.com/500819578?fbclid=IwAR0RRn1bgJYiFzFRxxzZQ>

Since 2003 Routes To Work have changed the lives of nearly 20,000 North Lanarkshire Residents, we are expecting to achieve this in May and will be celebrating this on our social media platforms and with all of stakeholders and partners when we can return face to face.

Visit us at www.routestowork.co.uk



PATHWAYS PROGRAMME

THIS IS LOGAN AND ROBBIE, THEY'VE BEEN WORKING WITH NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL & ROUTES TO WORK SINCE LAST SUMMER ON OUR PATHWAYS PROGRAMME.



Pathways has enabled both boys to step out of a conventional education environment like school and prepare for the world of work by gaining vocational skills and qualifications that are aligned with their career goals.

JDN Property Services had 2 apprenticeship opportunities in joinery and plastering. We were delighted to get the opportunity to work in partnership with the business to fill both these roles and got to work quickly pre-screening and scheduling interviews.

As a business in North Lanarkshire, JDN Property Services were able to access a subsidy of 50% of the boys' wages for a 12-month period through North Lanarkshire's Working.

This financial support is vital, more now than ever, to encourage local businesses to recruit local people into sustainable and progressive job opportunities.

Jon Short, Surveyor and Contracts Manager at JDN Property Services had this to say:

"At JDN Property Services, we know what it's like to start from the bottom and work our way up. We have a focus on helping prepare the younger generation for the workforce by teaching them important professional skills that they will need in the future. We teach with a hands-on and practical approach, helping the younger generation engage with our organisation, therefore creating a mutually beneficial relationship.

Businesses, both big and small, need to utilise the creativity and energy that the younger generation have and give them opportunities that will benefit all involved.

With the comprehensive support from Routes to Work and North Lanarkshire Council this allowed to give two people the opportunity during these tough times, allowing us to grow tomorrow's trades people. I encourage any business that's looking to recruit to reach out to Routes to Work and form a partnership."

PROSPECTS FOR PARENTS (PES)

The aim of Prospects for parents is to help families in North Lanarkshire become better off, by supporting them to get into work and to support those in low paid work to increase their wages. We offer a range of support including money, debt and childcare advice, access to funds such as the childcare development fund and the discretionary fund, as well as health interventions and training.

To be eligible for PFP you must meet one of the following criteria:

- Lone parent
- Disabled parent, or the parent of a disabled child
- Parent with more than three children
- Parent with youngest child under 1
- Parent under the age of 25
- From an ethnic minority

Watch our video:

[www.facebook.com/NLan Working/videos/692706594917585](https://www.facebook.com/NLanWorking/videos/692706594917585)

To find out more, or to sign-up:

Tel: 0800 0730 226

Email: griersonle@northlan.gov.uk

If you work with parents and there is someone you would like to refer, please email: [Leea Grierson: griersonle@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:Leea.Grierson@griersonle@northlan.gov.uk) or [Adele Muir: muirad@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:Adele.Muir@muirad@northlan.gov.uk)

*This project is also open to NLC employees who are earning less than the current real living wage per hour.



SCOTTISH YOUNG PERSON'S GUARANTEE PROGRAMME

THIS PROGRAMME WILL SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF THE **SCOTTISH YOUNG PERSON'S GUARANTEE** ALIGNED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF NO-ONE LEFT BEHIND, BY PROVIDING FLEXIBLE, USER-BASED EMPLOYABILITY SUPPORT AND TRAINING TO YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16-24 YEARS.

The SYPG is intended to provide young people, aged 16-24 years, with an opportunity, based on their own personal circumstances and ambitions, of going to university or college; joining an apprenticeship programme; undertaking training; accessing fair employment including work experience; or participating in a formal volunteering programme.

Routes to Work are playing a key role in the delivery of the Young Person's Guarantee in North Lanarkshire and their contribution to supporting young people in our communities is invaluable to the efforts of North Lanarkshire Council in supporting the economic

recovery of our area." Paul Kane - Business Manager at NLC

Jai began her journey with Routes To Work (RTW) joining the Young Persons Guarantee Programme and engaged with her Caseworker Jade and Training Team, Brenda & Lauren.

After attending some employability training sessions, the team quickly identified that Jai was struggling with her own self-belief & confidence and advised her to attend a course which would work on her wellbeing.

Jai's confidence grew, and it was obvious to everyone that she had taken some huge steps forward.

In discussions with her Caseworker, Jai decided that she was ready for a voluntary post which would be a great starting point for her.

After liaising with Jean with support with employer engagement, she soon secured a voluntary post with BHF which she started in mid-April 2021.

She is now currently working 3-4 days a week and is enjoying the experience immensely.

She now feels ready to take the next step in her journey and has begun planning for a permanent post in the future and feels that through RTW she has been able to equip herself with the skills, tools and knowledge to aid her in reaching her winning positive destination.

Jai said "I am so pleased that I attended the online courses with routes to work, they are great. I feel very supported by Brenda & Lauren and I feel that without Routes to Work I wouldn't have had the courage or confidence to move into a positive destination."

GOOD NEWS STORY - IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH

RACHEL WAS REFERRED TO ROUTES TO WORK IN FEBRUARY 2019. RACHEL HAD AN EXTENSIVE WORK HISTORY AND HAD BEEN A MIDWIFE FOR MOST OF HER WORKING LIFE, SHE WAS SUFFERING FROM POOR MENTAL HEALTH WHICH HAD RESULTED IN HER LEAVING EMPLOYMENT AND IT WAS AFFECTING ALL AREAS OF HER LIFE.

Through assessment and action planning Rachels Mental health was the priority and she was referred to one of RTW training providers Caroline Brown who offered Map/Path counselling and life coaching. She engaged with the face-to-face sessions and was supported to share her issues and work through the process of learning coping mechanisms and work on a plan for moving forward.

Rachel is now engaging with her Caseworker (Anne Marie) at Routes To Work to search for suitable employment and is being supported to apply for health worker posts as she feels that the progress she has made and the coping skills she learned have been invaluable.

The partnership working between the Case Worker, Life Coach and Rachel allowed us to provide the intensive support that she required to turn her life around.

Rachel says "They have the skill set to help many, gain employment, with the aim to

give them back confidence & self-esteem to fruitfully contribute within society".

Chelsea started on PFP in October 2020, she is 25 years old and a lone parent with a 5-year-old daughter. Chelsea's confidence was very low, she was shy and struggled to meet other people and build relationships. She has suffered with her mental health for many years with her anxiety and depression.

Chelsea has worked with her Caseworker at Routes To Work to identify her goals and develop an action plan. She received support to manage her anxiety and build her confidence through a range of interventions including 1:1 appointments and group sessions.

As Chelsea's confidence grew and as part of PFP she began working with an Employability Development Officer at NLC to support with job matching, this coupled with advice on welfare rights, childcare advice and skills training prepared her to take the next steps to actively apply for

jobs. Accredited training was sourced virtually where she completed her Health & Safety, COSHH and Food Hygiene certificates.

Gaining support with interviews she started to believe in herself again and in February 2021 gained employment as a Domestic role for the first time. This was a role that the Employability Development Officer at North Lanarkshire Council managed to negotiate a start with the company for, by offering them financial assistance and aftercare as well as access to any in work training that Chelsea might need.

Chelsea says "So grateful for the help as I couldn't have done it without the support from everyone"





How to become a Young Scot Member



HAVE YOUR SAY YOUR VIEWS ON COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES IN YOUR AREA

Please get in touch with your comments by emailing YourNLCommunity@northlan.gov.uk or by calling 01236 812598

You can also Tweet us: @YourNLCommunity

Or contact any of our locality offices:

AIRDRIE CLD AREA OFFICE

Chapelside Centre
Waddell Street
Airdrie ML6 6JU

BELLSHILL CLD AREA OFFICE

c/o Bellshill Academy
Bellshill Main Street
Bellshill ML4 1AR

COATBRIDGE AREA CLD AREA OFFICE

Coatbridge Community Centre
9 Old Monklands Road
Coatbridge ML5 5EA

CUMBERNAULD CLD AREA OFFICE

c/o Baird Memorial Primary School
6 Avonhead Road
Cumbernauld G67 4RA

MOTHERWELL CLD AREA OFFICE

c/o Our Lady's High School
Dalzell Drive
Motherwell ML1 2DG

WISHAW CLD AREA OFFICE

c/o Calderhead High School
Dyfrig Road
Shotts ML7 4DH

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