



# Young Islanders Network

## Young Islanders is back!

What did we do through the Young Islanders Challenge?  
The Young Islanders Challenge was created to give a voice to young people living in our island communities. We wanted you to tell us:

- ❁ Issues that affect your lives.
- ❁ What are the good and bad things about island life?
- ❁ What would you change if you could?
- ❁ What would you like a Young Islanders Network to do and achieve?

You told us that life on the islands is rooted in your communities – which you felt were safe – surrounded by beautiful scenery and great access to outdoor activities and local events. But...  
Some of the issues you identified were:

- ❁ There's a lack of things for young people to do.
- ❁ Cost of living is a barrier, including travel on/off/around the islands and in housing.
- ❁ Connectivity is a challenge, online and in person.
- ❁ Education has issues with less opportunities and specialism locally.

Lots of you also achieved a Hi5 Award or Dynamic Youth Award and the people working with young people were supported to access training and develop their skills.

So what now?...

# Now we keep the momentum going!

Your voices have been heard and people are listening.

We are excited to work with you, using all we have learned so far, to build the next stage of the Young Islanders Network. Together, we can build a network and community for young people to play a meaningful part in making the National Islands Plan work for Young Islanders!

## What's next for the Young Islander's Network?

- ❁ Young Islanders Champions will keep learning together and take part in fun activities.
- ❁ Young people will be supported to increase their understanding of Scotland's National Islands Plan, so that they can offer genuine and meaningful contributions to its delivery.
- ❁ Young people will come together and implement change through community challenges and social action funding opportunities in their local areas.
- ❁ The Young Islanders Champions will put youth voice into action by working with Youth Scotland and Scottish Government to implement changes in policies and outcomes for Young Islanders.
- ❁ Young people and those working with young people across the islands have gained the confidence, skills and knowledge they need to support their mental health and wellbeing through training opportunities and youth awards.

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