



Argyll and Bute Council - Community Learning Service update

Scottish Youth Parliament Elections 2021. Any young person in Scotland aged 14-25 can stand as an election candidate. Expressions of Interest will open on 1 April until 30 June and will be done directly on the SYP elections portal. While the perception may be that a young person has to be politically minded to be an MSYP, this is absolutely not the case. They just need to be passionate about a subject such as climate change, young people's rights, LGBTQ+ etc. SYP are producing a short promotional video called "Passion over Politics" which will be available once they have completed the final edit.

Community Learning Services and current MSYPs are promoting the elections using the local area social media channels and through the schools, and delivery inputs into PSHE, House time and Modern Studies as this will be crucial to enthuse and inspire young people to stand as candidates. Also we will be utilising any school daily bulletins, newsletters and websites to help with the promotion. Once SYP have additional promotional materials available. There will be Q&A sessions with the three current MSYP's around May/June for any interested young people.

Dates and Phases:

- 1 April – 30 June 2021 – Phase 1: Expression of Interest.
- 1 July -31 July 2021 – Phase 2: Confirmed Candidacy.
- 1 September – 30 October 2021 – Phase 3: Promote the Vote.
- 8-21 November 2021- Phase 4 – Elections.

On a local level, all MSYP's have been involved in the Youth Advisory Panel for the CYPSP and in the Youth Participation Group around youth voice in Argyll and Bute and ensuring young people's voices are heard in regard to COVID-19 and lockdown. The next SYP Election will be in November and expressions of interest are now open for any young people interested in standing.

SYP AWARDS 2021 – CONGRATULATIONS!! Goes to Cameron Garrett Argyll and Bute MYP, who won the MSYP of the Year 2021. 18 year old Cameron who is from Ardrishaig has represented Argyll & Bute at the Scottish Youth Parliament since being elected in March 2019. Cameron is also the Convener the Education and Lifelong Learning committee and a member of the advisory panel to SQA, feeding back young people's views on exams and the impact of COVID-19 to the exam diet. Cameron was awarded MSYP of the year award at 74th National Sitting on 27 & 28 March for his commitment to the inspirational work of the Scottish Youth Parliament. Cameron is supported in his role by Community Learning to carry out consultations across Argyll & Bute on SYP National Campaigns, Members Motions, and Youth Parliament sittings and has represented Argyll & Bute at the Northern Alliance Youth Conference in Inverness.

Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2021 -2024

[Argyll and Bute CLD Plan 2018-21](#). Work continues on the development of the next plan which has to be completed by September 2021. Desktop Research is underway and a working group is in place developing the consultation exercise for a number of local consultation exercises and focus groups to take place which will shape the content of the plan. We will continue to report back to the Area Community Planning Groups on progress.

Coming out of Lockdown Restrictions – We continue to follow the Government Guidelines and as restrictions lift we will start the process of resuming face to face provision and Service Delivery around Recovery and Transition. We will still be maintaining a blended model of delivery which see provision still being delivered online/digitally. We will be in touch with Partners as we move through this transition and will continue to report back to the Area Community Planning Groups.