
Report To:	Inverclyde Alliance Board	Date:	5 December 2022
Report By:	Ruth Binks Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott, Service Manager Community Learning and Development, Community Safety & Resilience	Contact No:	N/A
Subject:	Clyde Conversations 5 Report		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this covering paper is to present a conference report on Clyde Conversations 5.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 Community Learning and Development (Youth Work Services) supported young people to plan and deliver two events as part of Clyde Conversations 5. The first event for S1-S3 pupils was held on the 22nd of February 2022 and the second for S4-6 pupils on the 23rd of February 2022.

2.2 As part of the planning process, a consultation was carried out prior to the events in order to identify the top issues young people would like to discuss at this year's Clyde Conversations. S1-3 pupils indicated that, things to do in Inverclyde for young people, bullying and abuse, and alcohol, substance, smoking and vaping were the top issues affecting them. S4-6 pupils indicated that that the top issues affecting them were pressure to succeed in school and SQA qualifications, school canteen issues and LGBTQIA+ issues.

2.3 Programmes for both the S1-3 event and S4-6 event were developed based on the feedback to the consultation. Workshops were held on each of the key areas young people said they wanted to focus in order to explore these issues in greater detail. A total of 125 young people from across Inverclyde took part in the 2 events.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- a) Notes the success of Clyde Conversations and acknowledges the participation of young people at all levels of planning;
 - b) Notes the key actions as detailed in the event report (see Appendix 1); and
 - c) Continues to endorse Clyde Conversations as a means of engaging young people on issues affecting them.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director of Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In March 2015, the first Clyde Conversations event took place in Inverclyde to provide an opportunity for young people to come together to discuss issues affecting them. 130 young people took part in 2015 and a further 100 young people participated in the second Clyde Conversations in October 2016.
- 4.2 Extremely positive feedback was received from the first two events and it was agreed to continue using this model as a means of engaging young people on relevant issues. Community Learning and Development assumed the lead for this area of work and worked with young people to plan further Clyde Conversations events in 2018 and 2019. Clyde Conversations did not run in 2020 or 2021 as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 4.3 Clyde Conversations 5 was planned and delivered in line with Covid-19 recovery and due to restrictions it was agreed to run 2 events, one for S1-3 pupils and another for S4-6 pupils.
- 4.4 As in previous years, a steering group was formed to organise Clyde Conversations 5. The group consisted of young people from each local secondary school and was supported by CLD Youth Services staff. The steering group developed the initial consultation, planned and supported the events and assisted in the development of the Clyde Conversations 5 report.
- 4.5 As part of the planning process the steering group carried out a consultation to identify the top issues young people would like to discuss at this year's Clyde Conversations.

For S1-S3 the main issues were:

- Things for young people to do in Inverclyde & leisure facilities;
- Bullying & abuse;
- Alcohol/drugs/smoking/vaping misuse;
- Knife crime; and
- Health & wellbeing.

For S4-S6 the main issues were:

- Pressure to succeed in schools & SQA Qualifications;
- Secondary school canteen issues;
- LGBTQIA+ issues;
- Bullying & abuse; and
- Climate change.

5.0 CLYDE CONVERSATIONS 5 REPORT

- 5.1 The Clyde Conversations steering group have produced a report to highlight the key points and actions to arise from the Clyde Conversations 5 events held in February 2022.
- 5.2 The report provides details of the following:
- The areas of strength and actions that young people would like to see in relation to the key issues, themes and topics;
 - Information about the initial consultation, the programme each day, workshop summaries and participant feedback about the events; and
 - Information about feedback sessions held following the Clyde Conversations events, including details of what young people consider to be the top priorities moving forward.
- 5.3 The report is contained within appendix 1 of this report.

6.0 NEXT STEPS

- 6.1 The feedback from the Clyde Conversations 5 process will be shared across the Inverclyde Alliance, enabling partners and stakeholders to take cognisance of relevant information/themes.
- 6.2 Partners will be asked to provide comment with regards to proposed actions that will be taken forward through an action plan in order to address the issues raised by young people. It is expected that progress will be reported at agreed intervals with partners invited to directly engage young people, where possible.
- 6.3 Progress will be fed back to young people using different methods and approaches including:
- Input at school assemblies;
 - Focus groups/workshops;
 - Social media; and
 - Padlets/newsletters.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Legal: none at present
Finance: none at present
Human Resources: none at present
Equality and Diversity:
Population: The Clyde Conversations 5 report will contribute to the achievement of the population priority.
Inequalities: The Clyde Conversations 5 report will contribute to the achievement of the inequalities priority.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 Clyde Conversations 5 Report.

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Clyde Conversations

2022

Introduction



**Clyde Conversations 5 Steering Group with Ruth Binks,
Corporate Director, Education, Communities &
Organisational Development**

Clyde Conversations is an integral part of Inverclyde Council's Youth Participation strategy and seeks to support youth voice across the Local Authority Area. Clyde Conversations has been running in Inverclyde since 2015, with a break in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Inverclyde Council was therefore keen to work with local young people again to plan and deliver Clyde Conversations in February 2022. At this time, the event was delivered slightly differently but with the same anticipated outcome: to improve the health and wellbeing of young people in Inverclyde.

Clyde Conversations 5 (CC5) took place in Gamble Halls in Gourock over two ½ days on 22/23 February 2022 with young people from S1-3 and S4-6 attending on each respective day. In total, 125 young people attended. 60 young people (33 females and 27 males) attended the S1-3 event and 65 young people (41 females and 24 males) attended the S4-6 event.

In line with previous events, 2 young people from each school were nominated to be part of the Clyde Conversations steering group, one from the S1-3 cohort and one from the S4-6 cohort. The steering group met regularly in the Greenock iYouthZone to plan and prepare for the event and were supported by Inverclyde CLD Youth Work Services.

This report, written by the Steering Group, provides a summary of the approach taken to Clyde Conversations 2022; workshop feedback from the conversations which took place; and the actions to be taken forward in order to create positive changes for the young people of Inverclyde.

The Steering Group would like to thank CLD Youth Work Services for its continued support throughout the planning process and the workshops facilitators from Inverclyde Council, Police Scotland and The Healthier Inverclyde Project. Thanks are also extended to school staff who coordinated and supported young people's attendance, senior officers who attended and the Gamble Halls for its practical support in hosting the event.

Finally, the steering group would like to thank the young people who attended this year's Clyde Conversations to represent the views of young people across Inverclyde.

Planning Process

As part of the planning process the steering group carried out a consultation to identify the top issues young people would like to discuss at this year's Clyde Conversations. They designed 2 different short, quick questionnaires asking young people to choose the five most important issues to them as a young person in Inverclyde. The steering group anticipated some differences between the S1-3 and S4-6 cohorts. These questionnaires and their results form Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to this report.

For S1 to S3, the main areas focus were:

- **Things for young people to do in Inverclyde & leisure facilities**
- **Bullying & Abuse;**
- **Alcohol/Drug/Smoking/Vaping misuse;**
- **Knife Crime; and**
- **Health & Wellbeing**

For S4 – S6, the main areas of focus were:

- **Pressure to Succeed in schools & SQA Qualifications;**
- **Secondary school Canteen Issues;**
- **LGBTQIA+ Issues;**
- **Bullying & Abuse; and**
- **Climate Change**

These results gave the steering group the focus for workshops on each of the days.

Event Structure

Each day was designed to allow young people to provide their views on the topics that mattered most to them by participating in 3 workshops, each attended by 8-15 young people. The structure of each day is provided as appendix 3 to this report.

Every workshop was facilitated by a representative of the youth services or by a representative from Police Scotland or The Healthier Inverclyde Project.

The event also had a number of information stalls including one run by the Youth Council and Local MSYPs Maya McCrae and Keziah Rugumya. They promoted the Youth Council and encouraged new members by engaging with the young people that attended the event. They also gave out leaflets and pen drives to young people with more information about the Youth Council and Youth Voice in Inverclyde.

Stephanie from the CLD Team attended each event, with a stall offering free sanitary products and information on Period Poverty. Young people could access information on how to get free sanitary products across Inverclyde. Some of the young people in attendance also filled out a period poverty consultation.

Appendix 4 provides information on all the issues discussed at the workshops. The following section provides a summary of feedback, actions and good practice.



Maya from Inverclyde Youth Council.



Stephanie from CLD Services.

Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking & Vaping Misuse:

Area of Strength	Most young people are aware that vaping is new and are concerned about the potential impact on them and younger children.
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For PSE in school to be informative/up to date. Participants across all three groups felt it needed to be more current; • The dangers of vaping should be taught in primary school. All young people felt vaping is a big problem in all schools & this was the same discussion in all 3 focus groups; • Young people felt strongly about being taught 'keeping safe' information, first aid, what to do in an emergency situation, identifying drugs/spiking and preventing spiking; and • Information needed for young people who are struggling with substance misuse about how they can access services

LGBTQIA+:

Area of Strength	Some schools have introduced gender neutral toilets.
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of awareness and education on the subject was consistently identified as one of the main reasons that homophobia & transphobia exist. One adult who who attended commented they felt there could be better training for teachers on these subjects; • Pronouns seem to be poorly understood, it was agreed the LGBT Pronoun door poster could be used in schools; • Teachers need to consistently 'call out' phobic or disrespectful behaviour in classes around LGBT subjects; and • Promotion of and access to helplines/online chats for support would help young people.

Knife Crime:

Area of Strength	There was a general awareness of MVP (Mentors in Violence Prevention) but acknowledged that it could be more consistent.
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people feel that Fearless.org needs to be promoted more; and. • All young people would like to be taught about Knife Crime by Police Scotland and/or those with lived experience coming into the school during PSE Classes.



Actions & Good Practice.

Things for young people to do in Inverclyde:

Area of Strength	Lots of things in Inverclyde for young people to do (waterfront/clubs/Inverclyde Leisure/Beacon) but most of the time they are too expensive or you can only do 1 thing as the cost adds up.
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better lighting in areas that young people congregate (between 5pm-9pm); • Skatepark needs lights; and • Youth Groups/iYouthZones should serve café style food & drinks.

Health and Well-being:

Area of Strength	There is evidence of Mental Health Ambassadors in some schools
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced waiting lists for CAMHS and other mental health services; For all schools to teach, through PSE, how young people should respond if someone discloses that they are struggling:. • That challenging stigma, language & gender stereotypes has the same approach as MVP in schools; and • Mental Health check-ins and support groups are provided in all schools

Climate Change:

Area of Strength	Most young people are concerned about climate change and are active in trying to improve the environment
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of use single use plastic that is not recyclable in schools;. • More recycling bins being available in schools; and; and • Climate change being a key feature across the curriculum;

Pressure to Succeed in School & SQA Qualifications:

Area of Strength	Good practice - Port Glasgow High School's exam studying booklets/packs were identified as good practice. Others felt this should be replicated in all schools.
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people feedback that they feel pressure all through school to succeed and make choices that affects their future; • Training and information is needed for parents and teachers around the impact of pressure on young people; • More support and time needed around picking subjects, exam prep and planning for the future; and • Schools need to provide more information on life skills and coping strategies etc in PSE.

Secondary School Canteen Issues:

Area of Strength	Young people enjoy the range of different meals on offer but they feel schools should offer feedback through a suggestion box/pupil inputs.
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All young people agreed that labelling of food needs to be addressed; • Young people raised the issue with pricing and quality of food; and • Young people wish to know menus and prices in advance

Bullying & Abuse :

Area of Strength	Some schools already have QR codes/text service, where they can contact a teacher for help. Another example of good practice was MVP & Mental Health Ambassadors
What young people would like to see	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people feel teachers and non-teaching staff need training to be more confident and competent; • All young people said that they would want to get taught in PSE classes about discrimination/bullying/mental health; • School's Bullying Policy needs to be clearer to young people; and • Over 50% of senior phase young people attending Clyde Conversations expressed the need for a safe youth space in schools and

Developing the Actions

Recognising that there were a lot of issues discussed on the day, the steering group then worked with young people to get their views on what they thought the main issues raised on the day were. This was done throughout May and June 2022 and engaged 40 young people.

In terms of thinking about the main issues, young people reached the following consensus:

- All young people that attended the presentations agreed that all school staff (teaching and non-teaching) should have training and become more confident and competent in terms of dealing with mental health and wellbeing and bullying and abuse. They feel staff should be trained so as to approach these issues using different methods and solutions as well as how to respond. They felt training on what is discrimination and building positive relationships was important.
- Young people felt that PSE Classes and learning relevant life-skills were very important. They felt strongly that life-skills should be facilitated by those with experience and knowledge on the topic and/or by teachers with specific training rather than sticking on a video or going through pre-made presentations.
- Young people also felt the issue around accurate labelling of food in school canteens was a key issue. In terms of school canteens they also want to know what options they have for lunch and/or snacks in advance.

The sessions for developing the main action points provided an opportunity for youth services staff to feed back to young people the number of actions that were already underway. These included:

- LGBTQIA+: The Scottish Government introduced Transgender Guidance which every school in Inverclyde had endorsed & adopted and will now implement.
- Things for Young People to Do in Inverclyde: IYouthZones are currently reviewing their services and seeking to increase the numbers accessing the facilities. As part of that they are also looking at serving cafestyle food & refreshments to young people.
- School lunch service: In secondary schools menus have already changes and the choices have increased. More healthy snack options have already been introduced which are priced attractively and available as meal deals. There is also more variety available daily to suit life-style choices. Pricing structures have been reviewed to make budgeting easier with everything rounded to the nearest 10p. We hope to install pre-order systems in secondary schools.

Next Steps

It is the intention to share the information/themes recorded as part of the Clyde Conversations process across the Inverclyde Alliance, enabling partners and stakeholders to take cognisance of relevant information/themes.

Partners will be asked to provide comment with regards to action to be taken with an action plan developed. It is expected that progress will be reported at agreed intervals with partners invited to directly engage young people, where possible.

Progress will be feedback to young people using different methods and approaches including:

- Input at school assemblies;
- Focus groups/workshops;
- Social Media; and
- Padlets/Newsletters



Knife Crime workshop



Health and Well-being workshop



LGBTQIA+ workshop

Future Planning

Clyde Conversations 6 (CC6) is scheduled to take place before end of the current academic year. Covid-19 restrictions forced a different approach to facilitation as well as use of another venue.

Based on feedback, it is proposed that CC6 will offer separate consultations and events for young people in S1-3 and those who are in S4-6 in cognisance of how priorities can vary at different ages and stages.

It is the intention that CC6 will move back to Greenock Town Hall as it offers a more central location as well as more space than the Gamble Halls. This will enable facilitators to take a more interactive approach to workshops as well as giving participants more space to move about.

It is the intention to broaden the range of facilitators at CC6 to enable partners to hear first-hand about the issues that are important to young people.

More space will allow for more information to be available to young people on the relevant topics and themes. A market place will be given consideration as part of the planning process.

Consideration will be given to whether it purposeful to offer a full day event as opposed to a ½ day.

In terms of planning CC6 partners will be asked to identify issues that they would like to consult young people on. This will be presented to the steering group for consideration in terms of inclusion in their initial consultation exercise. Partners who have areas included will be expected to support any workshop facilitation at CC6 where necessary.

A consistent approach to recording workshop feedback and outputs will be developed for facilitators to comply with at CC6 allowing for specific actions to be weighted. Use of digital technology will be encouraged to offer participants a more interactive experience.



Bullying and Abuse Workshop



Consultation

As part of the planning process the steering group carried out a consultation to identify the top issues young people would like to discuss at this year's Clyde Conversations. They designed 2 different short, quick questionnaires asking young people to choose the five most important issues to them as a young person in Inverclyde. The steering group anticipated some differences between the S1-3 and S4-6 cohorts.

Workshop ideas for Clyde Conversations S1 – S3

School: _____ Year Group: _____

What is important to you as a young person of Inverclyde? Please circle your 5 choices:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Alcohol/Drug/Smoking/Vaping misuse | Lack of the right education in PSE Classes |
| Period Poverty | Equal Sexual Health Education within All Schools |
| Bullying/Abuse | LGBTQI Issues |
| Secondary school Canteen Issues | Leisure facilities i.e. Football Pitches |
| Climate Change | Pressure to succeed in school |
| Health & Wellbeing | Social Media issues & Cyber Bullying |
| Knife Crime | Things for Young People to do in Inverclyde |
| Other—Please specify: _____ | |

Are there any questions that you would like answered about your school/community/other?

Workshop ideas for Clyde Conversations S4 – S6

School: _____ Year Group: _____

What is important to you as a young person of Inverclyde? Please circle your 5 choices:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Alcohol/Drug/Smoking/Vaping misuse | Lack of the right education in PSE Classes |
| Period Poverty | Equal Sexual Health Education within All schools |
| Bullying/Abuse | LGBTQI Issues |
| Secondary school Canteen Issues | SQA Qualifications |
| Climate Change | Pressure to succeed in school |
| Teenage pregnancies | Health & Wellbeing |
| Knife Crime | Things for Young People to do in Inverclyde |
| Youth Employment | Finances |
| Police | Wardens |
| Other—Please specify: _____ | |

Are there any questions that you would like answered about your school/community/other?

Consultation Results

The Steering Group received **302** responses from pupils.

262 paper responses from St Stephen’s High School, Port Glasgow High School, Inverclyde Academy and Clydevew Academy.

40 online responses from St.Columba’s High School .

Results from S1-3 Consultation:

denotes that some young people in S1-3 were asked to fill in the S4-6 consultation in error. The steering group felt it important to still consider this data in terms of the overall consultation

Things for young people to do in Inverclyde/Leisure Facilities - 116	Bullying and Abuse - 116	Alcohol/Substance/Smoking/Vaping misuse - 113
Knife Crime - 103	Health and Wellbeing - 96	Climate Change - 93
Social Media issues/Cyber bullying - 89	Pressure to succeed in schools - 79	LGBTQIA+ Issues - 77
Period Poverty - 72	Equal Sexual Health Education in ALL Schools - 61	School Canteen Issues - 57
Lack of the right education in PSE Classes - 38	* Police/Wardens - 35	* Teen Pregnancies - 31
* Youth Employment - 23	* Finances - 22	

Results from S4-6 Consultation:

Pressure to succeed in school & SQA Qualifications - 239	School canteen issues - 100	LGBTQIA+ Issues - 98
Bullying and Abuse - 96	Climate Change - 93	Youth Employment - 86
Period Poverty - 84	Equal Sexual Health Education in All Schools - 82	Knife Crime - 74
Health & Wellbeing - 69	Alcohol/Drug/Smoking/Vaping misuse - 65	Finances - 61
Police/Wardens - 60	Lack of the right PSE Education - 58	Teen Pregnancies - 48

Other issues determined by respondents:

Pressure to succeed in school & SQA Qualifications - 239	School canteen issues - 100	LGBTQIA+ Issues - 98
Bullying and Abuse - 96	Climate Change - 93	Youth Employment - 86
Period Poverty - 84	Equal Sexual Health Education in All Schools - 82	Knife Crime - 74



Programme - S1-S3 Event

- 09.15** Registration and Breakfast
- 09.40** Event Opening
- Welcome and Introduction – Hugh Scott, Service Manager, CLD, Community Safety and Resilience and Sport
- Background – Steering group members Hannah Brady & Erin McEleny
- 09.50** Workshop 1 choice *
- 10.20** Workshop 2 choice *
- 10.50** Break & Stalls—Period Poverty & Inverclyde Youth Council
- 11.15** Workshop 3 choice *
- 11.45** Evaluations
- 11.55** Round Up & Thank you by Steering group members Eve Louden & Hannah Brady
- Final remarks from Ruth Binks, Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development

* Workshop arrangements detailed below

Young people take part in 3 of the 5 workshops listed below:

Young people assigned their workshops at registration.

1. Alcohol/Drug/Smoking/Vaping Misuse - Facilitated by Louise Gray, Healthier Inverclyde Project
2. Things for Young People to do in Inverclyde - Facilitated by John Chapman, Youth Work Services
3. Knife Crime - Facilitated by PC Kirsty Boyd & PC Laura Stewart, Police Scotland
4. Health & Wellbeing - Facilitated By Jac Kinninmont, Youth Work Services
5. Bullying & Abuse - Facilitated By Michelle Adamson, Youth Work Services



Programme S4-S6 Event

- 09.15** Registration & Breakfast
- 09.40** Event Opening
- Welcome and Introduction – Tony McEwan, Head of Service, Communities & Educational Resources Education, Communities and OD
- Background – Steering group members Hannah Brady & Erin McEleny
- 09.50** Workshop 1 choice *
- 10.20** Workshop 2 choice *
- 10.50** Break & Stalls—Period Poverty & Inverclyde Youth Council
- 11.15** Workshop 3 choice *
- 11.45** Evaluations
- 11.55** Round Up & Thank you by Steering group members Eve Loudon & Hannah Brady
- Final remarks from Ruth Binks, Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development

* Workshop arrangements detailed below

Young people will take part in 3 workshops out of 5 listed below:

Young people assigned workshops at registration.

1. Bullying & Abuse - Facilitated by Beth Doherty, Youth Work Services
2. Pressure to Succeed & Exams - Facilitated by Michelle Adamson, Youth Work Services
3. Climate Change - Facilitated by Ailee Burns & Callum Neeson, Youth Work Services
4. LGBTQIA+ - Facilitated By Jac Kinninmont & John Chapman, Youth Work Services
5. Secondary School Canteen Issues - Facilitated By Paul McGrath, Youth Work Services

S1-S3 Event Workshop Summary

Things for Young people to do in Inverclyde—Lots of shops have closed down across Inverclyde and there needs to be better shops with more choice for everyone. Different places are closing early and there needs to be more street/outdoor lighting in different areas from 5pm-9pm, including the Skate park. School pitches are also secured/locked or young people are being kicked off them during times they would use them most (school holidays and evenings). Youth Zones need to be improved with activities, promotion, serving café style food and drinks and specific workshops and activities. Travelling to places/activities can be difficult as although young people now have National Entitlement Cards that cover bus travel, bus drivers need to be trained on how to use them. Young people also prefer using the train, is there anyway that the cost could be reduced for young people?

Health & Wellbeing—Mental health is still so important, and more so because of the pandemic. There are many great supports in the community and in schools but it isn't the same for everyone. It was clear that young people weren't aware of Action for Children's Counselling Service and how to be referred to this. Young people feel that all school staff need to be trained better on early intervention, confidentiality and how to respond to situations/disclosures from young people. Young people feel that they would go to any school staff as long as they had a positive relationship with them as they are aware that teachers and guidance staff have a heavy workload. They feel that it would be beneficial for information, support and techniques be relayed to parents on mental health in young people, the stresses of school and other pressures young people face. Mental Health check-ins and support groups are needed in schools and there is a lack of information on what support is already out there. Young people would also like to be taught coping strategies as part of PSE classes every year.

Knife Crime—All of the young people that took part in this workshop, really enjoyed it and they felt it was very informative. Young people felt that they learned so much from the workshop that they would like more education on knife crime in schools during their PSE classes and youth groups but having Police Scotland and/or ex-offenders being the ones to educate them. They learned about positive peer pressure and using the By-stander approach. Many young people hadn't heard of MVP and when told about it, felt that this should be used across all schools up to the same standard. Additionally they learned about Fearless.org, which they felt needs to be advertised and promoted more.

Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking & Vaping Misuse— Drug and alcohol inputs differ between schools, young people feel that they need better and up-to-date education every year on all 4 topics and shouldn't be just 1 session. Young people felt strongly about being taught keeping safe information, youth substance first aid, what to do in an emergency situation, identifying drugs/spiking and preventing spiking. It was echoed again that these life skills should be taught every year and PSE class should be every year as they need to be taught life skills in general. Vaping is also very new, and more information and education needs to be given to young people, especially primary school age as many young people are using vapes at a very young age. Young people felt that it was important to have information on support services for young people who struggle with substance misuse as young people aren't seen as being addicts.

Bullying & Abuse — This workshop echoed points/suggestions from the Health & Wellbeing workshops, of support groups and information for parents on how to talk to their teenager and support. The young people across the board, did not know what their schools bullying policy/procedure was in their school and felt that their policy/procedure should be broad enough as it shouldn't be a 'one size fits all approach'. A 'safe youth space' in school and or youth buildings was a thought that young people felt would be beneficial. Additionally, they felt that all school staff need better training and to challenge young people when they hear offensive comments instead of brushing off as banter.

S4-S6 Event Workshop Summary

Climate Change—Young People know how important climate change is for the youth of today and aware of the threat it is posing to them as the next generation. At Clyde Conversations the young people are already starting to make changes themselves towards helping climate change but felt there was more that Inverclyde could do. Schools don't seem to be doing enough and the young people came up with great ideas such as: Separate bins for recycling, removing plastic packaging from school meals, reducing single use plastic being used, having sources of renewable energy such as solar panels and wind turbines, school clothing swap shop and being educated more on climate change not only in PSE classes but by integrating the subject in more subjects to normalise it and make it part of our everyday lives.

Pressure to Succeed in school & SQA Qualifications —This workshop was the busiest and most popular and of all. Young people feel pressure all through school to succeed and make choices that affects their future. They feedback that parents/carers and teachers put excessive and additional pressure on young people and suggested some training/support packs/webinars/information sessions to remind them of the amount of pressure young people are under and how they can best support them. They felt that more support and better advice/time for choosing subjects, exam prep and planning for the future in general. TEAMS is a great resource that teachers/students can use but it isn't used to its full potential by many of the teachers, so some further training on how to use TEAMS for teachers would be beneficial. The importance for PSE Classes is a common theme in all the workshops. The young people felt that they need to be better equipped for life; study techniques/skills, relaxation/de-stressing techniques, positive mental health practices and support, life skills, money management, positive relationships.

LGBTQIA+ — *"We would like the people of Inverclyde to remember that we're human"* - Clyde Pride Group. The Clyde Pride group also had their say on this workshop topic as it relates specifically to their own experiences. The young people feel that there should be a strict policy in schools for homophobic behaviour with serious consequences. Safe youth spaces, better education, promotion of helplines/online chats to get support are ways that young people think will help combat these issues throughout Inverclyde. The education of LGBTQIA+ in schools is different in all schools, but young people feel that this should be taught so that young people can be better informed. It was highlighted that gender neutral toilets are not being used in schools the way they should and this needs addressed. There is a lot of homophobic behaviours taking place in the P.E. changing rooms which is putting people off taking part in P.E.

Secondary School Canteen— There are many issues in the school canteen that were raised including pricing, lack of quality and quantity, no vegan/vegetarian options, not displaying what the food/options are along with allergies, etc. Young people want to have more of a say in the school canteen through either feedback meetings/focus groups/partnership meetings. Could siblings get it cheaper? Young people would like a water fountain in the canteen and to bring back pre-ordering. Seeing the menu and prices in advance would encourage young people to stay in.

Bullying & Abuse — Many pupils would not go to the hubs available and suggested provision of a breathing space & to get support/advice re bullying and other issues? They suggested a system in place to report bullying to professionals with the choice of it being anonymous. Some schools already have a system in place but feel that it isn't used to its full potential and teachers use it as an excuse to not see pupils face to face. Most of the schools have a mentoring programme but most young people feel that they are tokenistic. The programmes need improved or all schools using the same model to create a standard, networking, continuous training & more use of the programme. Teachers require additional training for different approaches and methods, cultural/discrimination seminars and building positive relationships as well as ones for young people. Need to raise awareness of bullying policy and processes are in school and how young people use these

Evaluation

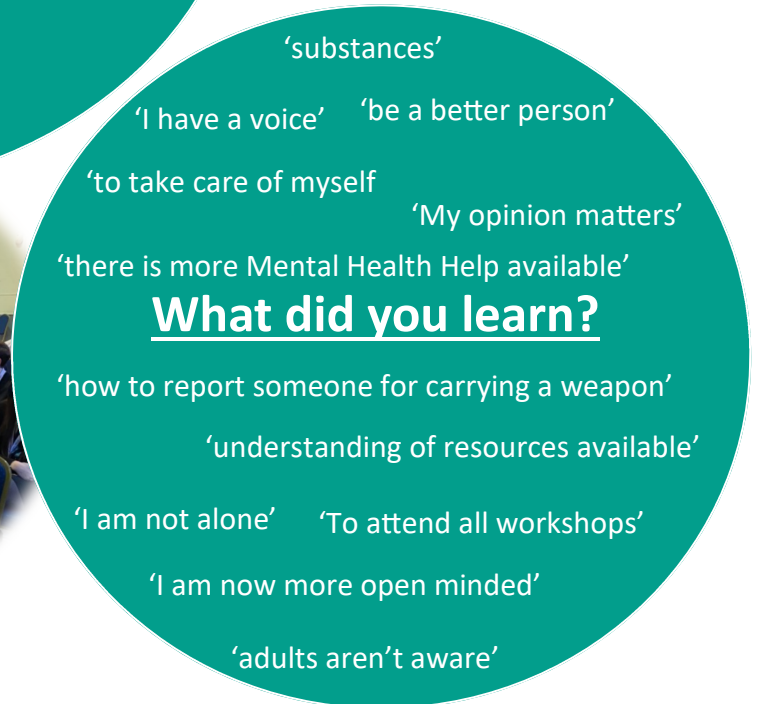
At the end of each event, young people were asked to answer three questions as part of the evaluation exercise. These responses will shape future Clyde Conversations events and give the steering group valuable feedback for moving forward.



‘People my age’
 ‘Good information’
 ‘The youth workers’
 ‘Empowering for everyone’ ‘Food’
 ‘stalls at break’ ‘Listening to others opinions’
What did you enjoy?
 ‘Open LGBT talk’ ‘Everyone had a chance to speak’
 ‘information & solutions, open & honest’
 ‘That it was a discussion, not teaching’
 ‘Meeting pupils from different schools’
 ‘Workshops’




‘more interactive’
 ‘More educational’
 ‘Quite crowded’
 ‘The way it was presented’
 ‘full day event’ ‘More discussion time’
What would you change?
 ‘a bit more help answering’ ‘more workshops’
 ‘Being separated from friends’
 ‘No Vegetarian/Halal Food’
 ‘ all day event with lunch’

‘substances’
 ‘I have a voice’ ‘be a better person’
 ‘to take care of myself’ ‘My opinion matters’
 ‘there is more Mental Health Help available’
What did you learn?
 ‘how to report someone for carrying a weapon’
 ‘understanding of resources available’
 ‘I am not alone’ ‘To attend all workshops’
 ‘I am now more open minded’
 ‘adults aren’t aware’



Clyde Conversations

Supported by:



For more information regarding Clyde
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