
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	22 January 2019
Report By:	Corporate Director: Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/08/19/HS
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott	Contact No:	01475 715450
Subject:	Clyde Conversations		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Education & Communities Committee on the recent Clyde Conversations Event.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following on from the success of #Clydeconversations 1 and 2 and the initial consultation event as part of Clyde Conversations 3, Community Learning and Development Youth Work Services were tasked with planning and hosting #Clydeconversations3(b) in November 2018 as a follow on from the event held in February 2018. As 2018 is the Year of the Young Person, it was agreed to host two events in 2018 - an initial consultation conference in February (*We asked, You Said*) followed by a feedback event in November 2018 during National Youth Work week where partners could feedback to young people the results and actual outcomes achieved from the February #Clyde Conversations3 event (*We did*).
- 2.2 #Clydeconversation3(a) took place on Thursday 22nd February 2018 in Port Glasgow Town Hall and the follow up event, #Clydeconversations3(b) took place on Wednesday 7th November 2018 in Greenock Town Hall. It should be noted that both of these events were planned, delivered and evaluated by a steering group of young people who represented the Secondary Schools across the authority. Furthermore, a steering group of partners was identified and several meetings were held to ensure their input was agreed and that all relevant subject matters were identified.
- 2.3 #ClydeConversations3(b) brought back the majority of the pupils on 7th November 2018 from across our secondary schools who attended the initial event. The participants took part in a consultation on Children's Rights and identified some big actions to move forward with a feedback session from key service providers on progress made since the February event followed by a Q&A session between young people and a panel of key officials. It was identified during this session that a 5 year plan should be drafted with key actions aimed at taking forward proposals as a legacy to the Year of Young People which would include a commitment to hosting 2 Clyde Conversations events each year, similar to what took place in 2018.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the success of Clyde Conversations 3.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In March 2015, the first #ClydeConversations took place in Inverclyde with 130 adults and professionals from across the Inverclyde Alliance. In October 2016, #ClydeConversations2 was held for a further 100 pupils to get involved.
- 4.2 A steering group was established to plan the #ClydeConversations2 conference. This included members of staff from Inverclyde HSCP, Safer Communities, Sandyford and from Community Learning & Development (CLD). Crucially however, a number of pupils were selected from each secondary school to join the group. The young people determined the agenda and themes for the day. Their voices were central throughout, and, as such, some very strong messages were shared throughout the event.
- 4.3 Feedback from the first two #Clydeconversations events showed that young people and partners significantly value the event as a tool for engaging with young people on issues that affect them and developing meaningful plans of action to take forward some of these issues. Community Learning and Development took over the running of Clyde Conversations in advance of the event in February 2018. Two #Clydeconversations3 events were held in 2018, the initial conference and a feedback session.
- 4.4 In line with the Inverclyde Youth Participation Strategy, both of the #Clydeconversations3 events ensured young people were afforded the opportunity, and were given the choice to actively take part in decisions that affect their lives. The Strategy states that “Youth participation is extremely important for young people to feel they have a voice and are included and empowered to make changes to their own lives” and both the #Clydeconversations3 events achieved this.

Current Position

- 4.5 Feedback from young people, staff and partners indicates that the #Clydeconversations3 events were a huge success with young people reporting that they feel listened to and valued. A number of key actions were agreed with young people and the majority of them were in favour of hosting of 2 Clyde Conversations events in future years. In addition, young people were pleased to hear that the provision of sexual health services across Inverclyde was being reviewed to address young people’s concerns around appointment times and locations. The review currently taking place opens the doors for sexual health services to be offered to young people in the community rather than at the Health Centre which is a significant step forward for young people.
- 4.6 Furthermore, young people were delighted to hear that progress will be made in terms of improved training for staff around Mental Health and Mental Wellbeing in our schools; that a range of services including SDS and Police Scotland are reviewing how best to support young people in their respective areas; and that consideration is being made to involve young people more in decision-making processes and that the possibility of young people having a column in the “InView” magazine is being considered.
- 4.7 Outcomes achieved in line with the Youth Work Outcomes through #ClydeConversations and #ClydeConversation3(b):
 - Young people participate safely and effectively in groups,
 - Young people broaden their perspectives through new experiences and thinking,
 - Young people express their voice and demonstrate social commitment,
 - Young people create, describe and apply their learning and skills and young people are confident, resilient and optimistic for the future.
- 4.8 If additional funding is secured, officers will draft a proposed plan to ensure there is a lasting and appropriate legacy from the Year of Young People and that youth consultation and representation are at the heart of the plan through the Clyde Conversations agenda.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

5.1 One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/(Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

5.2 **Legal**

None

5.3 **Human Resources**

None

5.4 **Equalities**

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES (See attached Appendix)

NO - This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

5.5 **Repopulation**

None

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 There have been various consultations carried out by young people in relation to the Year of Young People with Clyde Conversations being an evident example to meaningful consultation.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None