



Young Islanders Network

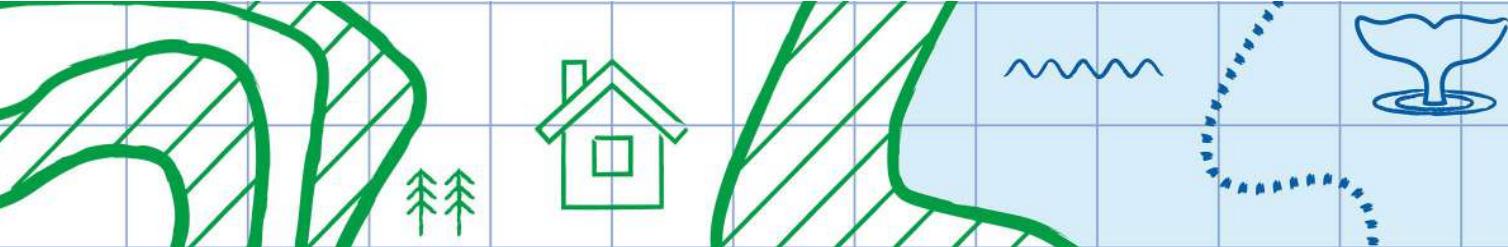
Youth Residential

13-15 March 2026

Delegate information pack



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Welcome

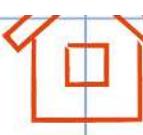
Hello and welcome to the Young Islanders Network Residential 2026!

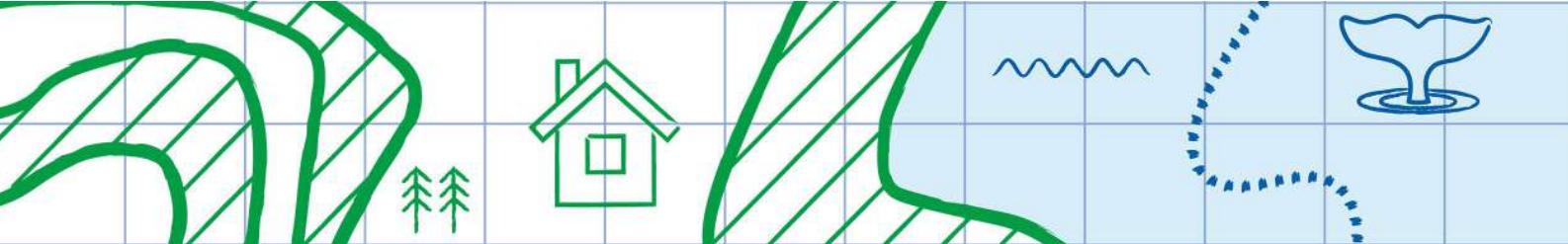
The Young Islander's Network (YIN) is hosts a residential weekend every year as an opportunity to bring together our Reps and other young islanders to connect and share experiences. It is all about having fun, coming together, meeting other young islanders and taking part in activities that give you the right to influence decisions being made on your island.

This event is aimed at young people aged 12-25. If you are younger and want to get involved with YIN and other activities, sign up here to receive our newsletters and opportunities <https://bit.ly/YIN-enews>

This information pack includes all the information you need for this weekend's event.

Date of Event	Friday 13 th March – Sunday 15 th March Day delegates Saturday 14 th March
Location	Orkney, various locations
Lead Member of Staff	Louise McQuaid 07498326690 louise.mcquaid@youthscotland.org.uk
Food/refreshments included	All meals provided. Please bring snacks. STRICTLY NO ALCOHOL TO BE CONSUMED.
Transport Arrangements	Your Youth Worker will be notifying you of transport arrangements. Alternatively, if you are 16+ and coming independently, you should organise your own transport. Please note: Youth Scotland is not responsible for delegates while they are travelling to and from the Event. If you have any difficulties, you should contact the lead staff member.
Consent Forms	We require a consent form for EVERY delegate. Young People under 16 must submit their consent form in advance with a completed declaration of consent by parent or guardian.





Accommodation

Accommodation will be available for delegates travelling to Orkney for the weekend, and for Outer isles delegates. Hostel accommodation will be available at Orcades Hostel in a range of dorm rooms and twin rooms. Bedding is provided. Delegates need to bring their own towels. Requests for single rooms will be taken on a case-by-case basis.

Mainland Orkney delegates are invited to join us for workshops on Saturday 14th March.

Travel

Travel will be subsidised by YIN to attend the weekend event. Once you have signed up, arrangements will be made for ferry travel.

Dinner and entertainment

All meals will be provided for weekend delegates. We will have arrangements to allow for various arrival times on Friday 13th to ensure dinner is available for everyone. Those arriving on the late ferry from Shetland should eat before arrival.

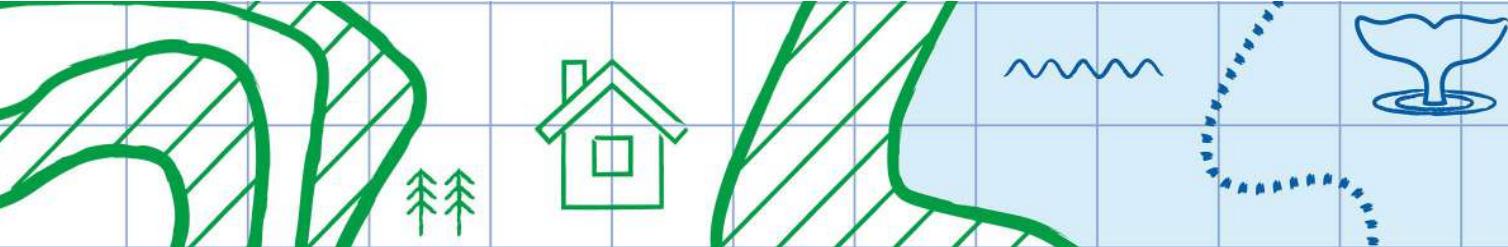
Entertainment will be across various locations over the weekend, with evening activities and dinner at the hostel, bowling alley and dinner in Kirkwall.

Day delegates

Young people from Orkney Mainland and those who can travel from Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre, Hoy and Shapinsay are invited to join us for our workshops held at The Old Library on Saturday 14th March. Lunch and drinks will be provided on the day.

Our field trip will be on Sunday 15th. Day delegates can sign up to join this but will need to make their own travel arrangements to Skara Brae.





Workshops and activities

Our workshops will be focussed on youth voice in policy making, the National Islands Plan and what it really means to be a young islander. You will be given the opportunity to express your opinions through a rights-based approach, sharing this with policy makers. There will be field trips and social opportunities to meet with other islanders across the weekend.

Friday 13th March

9:00-3:00 Day trip for local young people

Trip to Scapa Flow Museum on Hoy & workshops

Weekend delegate arrivals from 4pm

Check in to accommodation

Evening – dinner and welcome activities at the hostel

Saturday 14th March

8:00 Breakfast and welcome at hostel

10:00 – 4:00 Meet at Old Library for a day of workshops

4:30-6:00 Bowling

6:30 Dinner

8:00 Activities at hostel

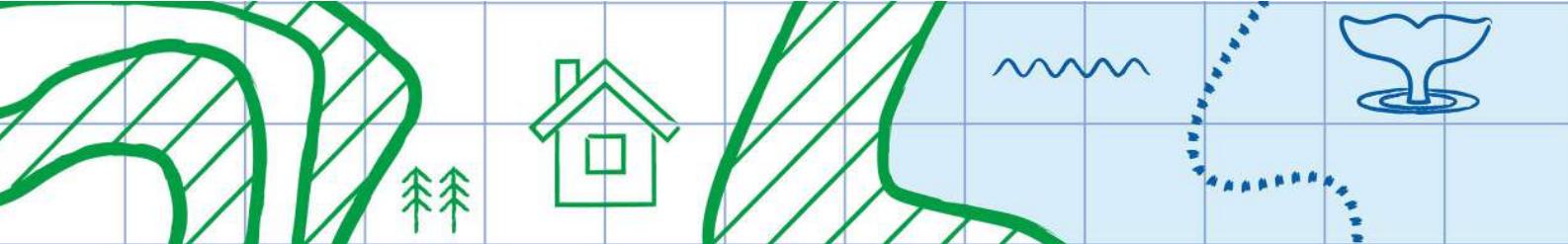
Sunday 15th March

Pack and leave accommodation

Day trip to Skara Brae

Young people dropped off for departures





What to Prepare

The team have prepared a fantastic range of activities for you that will push you to try new things, work as a team and develop as a leader. For most sessions, there is nothing to prepare, just come with an open mind and a positive attitude!

A few ideas on what to bring might include the following:

- Comfortable clothing
- Overnight clothing including pyjamas and underwear & socks
- Toiletries (shower gel, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant) etc.
- Fleece / warm jumper
- Waterproof coat – we will be outside for some activities.
- Trousers / jeans / tracksuit
- Dirty clothes bag
- Snacks
- Any medication you may need (please note this on your consent form)

Mobile Phones

You are allowed to bring your mobile phones, at your own risk, and you will be able to use it when activities are not taking place.

Money

You do not need any money as everything is provided. However, there may be occasions when you can buy snacks so you may want to bring a small amount for the shops on site.

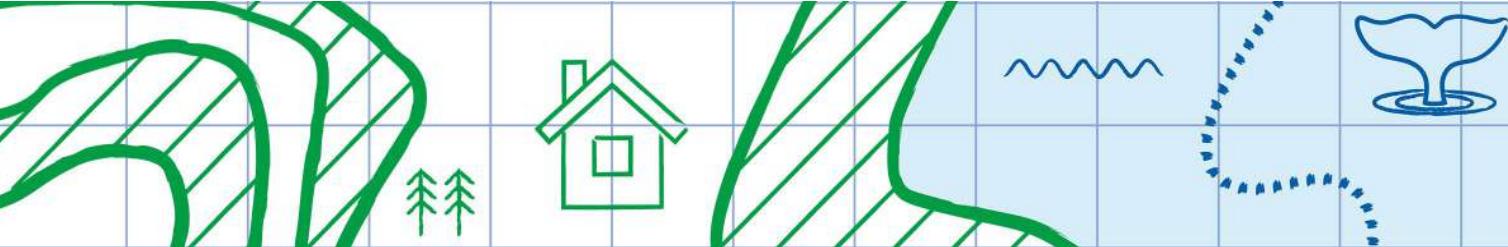
Medication

If you require medication e.g. inhalers – please bring a spare and ensure it is in date. Security will be provided for your medication where required.

Support

Please tell us if you have any special needs before the course so we can make your participation as comfortable, enjoyable and safe as possible.





Valuables

There are no lock-up facilities available at the venues, so please don't bring anything valuable (such as a laptops, jewellery, etc.). Youth Scotland cannot take responsibility for any loss.

Smoking

Participants are not permitted to smoke inside the venues or bedrooms at any time. This includes e-cigarettes. There will be an allocated smoking area on the day.

Alcohol & Illegal Substances Policy

No alcohol or illegal substances are to be brought or consumed by any participants or staff during the course. If you are found with any alcohol or illegal substances you will be sent home. This applies to both adults and young people.

The YIN Residential Code of Conduct

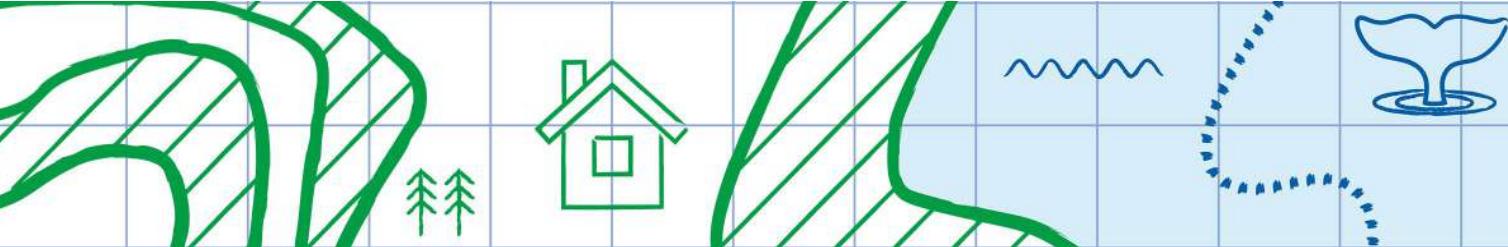
All participants are asked to comply with Code of Conduct which is to:

- Treat everybody as you would like to be treated yourself.
- Set an example to fellow participants. Remember actions speak louder than words.
- Arrive on time to all sessions, wearing the necessary clothing to participate or bringing the appropriate equipment (e.g. water bottle, folders, or pen).
- Be polite to activity staff, deliverers, venue staff and volunteers.
- Respect the decisions of the course staff and deliverers on the activity at all times.
- Respect the rules regarding no alcohol or non-prescriptive drugs.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all fellow participants regardless of their ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.

LGBTQ+ Friendly Event

In addition to the above, we would like to clearly state that Big Ideas and all Youth Scotland events are LGBTQ+ friendly





Interested?

If you are new to YIN and not a member, that's no problem.

Register your interest here and we will get back to you with more details about joining us.

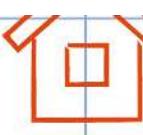
[**YIN Residential 2026 - I'm interested! – Fill out form**](#)

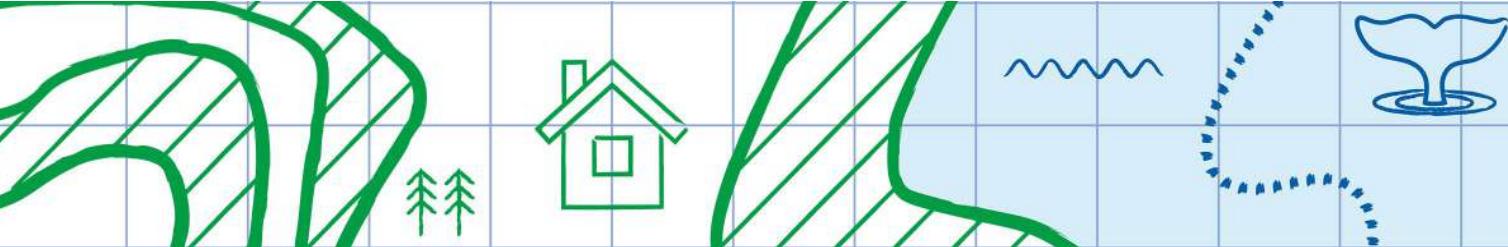


Thank You

Thank you to the Scottish Government for their continued support with the Young Islanders Network.

And of course, a huge thank you to all of you for coming and for making this residential weekend!





About Us

Youth Scotland is Scotland's network for community-based youth work.

The aim of the Young Islanders Network is to build on the success of the Young Islanders Challenge and ensure that the voices of young islanders are heard.

In 2021 Young islanders took part in the pilot project: [The Young Islanders Challenge](#). Working in partnership with the Scottish Government and the [National Islands Plan](#), Youth Scotland's Young Islanders Challenge was created to represent the views and opinions of young people living and growing up in Scotland's island communities.

This laid the foundations for the Young Islanders Network.

Since then, Young Islanders Network has played a fundamental role in shaping and influencing island policy, led by young people. The [Transport Challenge Report](#) and [Housing Challenge Report](#) have highlighted some of the barriers faced across the islands.

YIN is partnered with local youth groups and organisations and has individual young members that attend our monthly meetings to shape the direction of work.

Find out more [yin.scot](#)

Get involved by [telling us your island story](#)

[Sign up](#) for our newsletter, latest events and opportunities

For workshop delivery and Challenges with Hi5 awards that can be delivered through school or youth groups email louise.mcquaid@youthscotland.org.uk

