



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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The collective youth voice for Scotland's Young Islanders

Making space, providing an audience and giving voice to influence island policy

Through our membership network, we create opportunities for young people across Scotland's inhabited islands to share what matters to them. Through partnerships with local authorities and action groups, individual membership and youth reps, we give young people a voice and influence.



Why join us?

We're the collective voice for young people on Scottish Islands

- Key stakeholder of the Scottish Government Islands Team to inform policy with a young islander lens
- Conduit to policy, decision making and research
- We amplify local island youth voice through opportunities to share nationally
- We connect the shared challenges of islands, whilst celebrating our uniqueness

We offer collaboration and sharing of opportunities

- Opportunities to meet online with other young islanders
- We host residential events on and off island to meet in person
- We share opportunities to have your voice heard on policy consultation and research

We build capacity for young islanders and youth workers

- Accredited awards are available for taking part in challenges
- We build capacity through our events and meetings to equip young people with skills
- Opportunities for youth workers to build capacity

Membership tiers

Youth Membership

Young people aged 5–25 living on, or temporarily away from, Scotland's islands, engaging as individuals to share their views, connect with others, and shape the future of island communities.

Anchor Organisation

Organisations that anchor the Young Islanders Network into local communities, connecting young people to opportunities and ensuring youth voice is rooted in local experience and reflected in decision-making.

Action Group

Individual groups or organisations delivering standalone community or youth-led projects, taking practical action locally while contributing to a wider network of shared learning and impact.

Affiliate member

Organisations aligned with our aims and supporting delivery of the National Islands Plan and youth voice, contributing through collaboration, insight, and shared priorities.

Membership tiers

Youth Membership

Open to young people aged 5–25 who live on, or are temporarily living away from, Scotland's islands.

Youth Membership is at the heart of the network. It offers young people the opportunity to take part as individuals sharing their views, shaping activity, and influencing decisions that affect their lives and communities. Our members meet at Island Voice meetings, full group meetings and 18-25 groups, as well as the option to take part in working groups.

As a Youth Member, you will:

- Join online meetings and sessions to connect with other young islanders
- Share your views, ideas, and experiences on issues that matter to you
- Take part in activities, challenges, and discussions linked to island life
- Access opportunities to become a representative, helping to influence local and national decision-making
- Build confidence, skills, and connections with other young people across island communities
- Gain accredited awards
- Meet other young people both in person and digitally

This membership is flexible and accessible, allowing you to engage in a way that suits your interests and availability, whether that's joining a session, contributing to a discussion, or stepping into a representative role.

Membership tiers

Anchor Organisation

Anchors are organisations that are actively embedded within island communities and deliver youth group activity or support youth engagement at a local level.

Anchor Organisations play a key role in grounding and strengthening our work by connecting it directly to young people's lived experiences. They act as a bridge between local youth voice structures and wider regional or national activity, ensuring that engagement is meaningful, representative, and responsive to community context.

As an Anchor Organisation, you will:

- Facilitate access to local young people through existing youth groups or networks
- Support young people to engage with opportunities, consultations, and decision-making activity
- Share insights from your community to inform priorities, policy influence, and programme delivery
- Integrate relevant activity into your existing youth work, avoiding duplication and strengthening impact
- Act as a consistent local link for communication, collaboration, and feedback

This membership is suited to organisations that are not only delivering for young people, but are committed to embedding youth voice within community development and decision-making structures.

Membership tiers

Action Group

Open to individual youth groups who want to design and deliver projects within their own community.

Action Groups are youth-led or youth-focused groups that take forward practical activity at a local level. Unlike Anchor Organisations, their role is not to connect wider systems, but to deliver standalone projects that reflect the interests, needs, and ideas of the young people involved.

As an Action Group, you will:

- Develop and deliver youth-led or youth-informed projects in your community
- Take part in national or shared challenges where relevant, while maintaining your own local focus
- Provide opportunities for young people to build skills, confidence, and leadership through action
- Share outcomes, learning, and impact from your projects to contribute to the wider network
- Engage with opportunities that align with your group's interests, without the expectation of ongoing coordination or facilitation roles

This membership is suited to youth groups who want flexibility to take action locally, while still being part of a wider network that shares ideas, opportunities, and collective impact.

Membership tiers

Affiliate member

Open to any organisation that aligns with our aims and supports the delivery of the National Islands Plan and youth voice activity.

Affiliate Members are partners who share a commitment to strengthening outcomes for island communities and ensuring that young people's voices are reflected in policy and practice. While they are not directly delivering youth engagement or projects through the network, they play an important role in supporting, amplifying, and aligning activity.

As an Affiliate Member, you will:

- Stay informed about priorities, activity, and opportunities across the network
- Share relevant opportunities, consultations, and information
- Engage in collaborative opportunities, partnerships, or events where there is mutual benefit
- Contribute insight, expertise, or strategic input to support wider impact

This membership is suited to organisations that want to stay connected, contribute to shared goals, and support coordinated delivery, without a direct role in facilitating or delivering youth activity.

How to join

Young People can register their interest here

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/bCCHRjXmSX>



Organisations can find out more

email info@yin.scot

Join us as a YIN youth work volunteer

email info@yin.scot



Young
Islanders
Network

**A connected youth voice for
Scotland's Islands**