COVID-19

What young people have told us...
Our Mission...

Is to support young people to make informed decisions and choices, connecting them to opportunities and empowering them to share and hold power in the design of services and policy.
Renew: Insight from Young Scots


+ Codesign Digital Session held 5th May 2020 with 49 diverse young people from across Scotland.

+ Both reports available.
Over two fifths (42%) were Extremely or Moderately concerned about *school, college and university closures*. Respondents expressed more concern regarding *exams and coursework*, with around half (49%) stating they were Moderately or Extremely concerned.

Over a third (36%) were Moderately or Extremely concerned about their *employment situation*.

Almost a third (30%) said that they are Moderately or Extremely concerned about their *financial situation*.
Almost two fifths (39%) felt Moderately or Extremely concerned about their own mental wellbeing. When asked about the mental wellbeing of others, 46% were Moderately or Extremely concerned about the wellbeing of others.

When asked about the impact on their social relationships with family or friends, two fifths (40%) were Moderately or Somewhat concerned.

When asked about their ability to access their rights as a young person, over half of the respondents (58%) stated that they had some concern over their rights.

Almost two thirds of respondents (61%) were Moderately or Extremely concerned about the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on their future.
Respondents were asked if they knew how to access information about certain topics during the coronavirus outbreak. The topics that respondents were most confident in accessing information about were Information, advice and updates around lockdown (90%) and Activities to do while inside (82%).

The topics that respondents were least confident in accessing information about were Support for mental health and wellbeing (40%) and Financial support that may be available to them (61%).
This workshop aimed to explore the following key areas of discussion:

- The **medium and longer-term impacts** of Covid-19 on Scotland
- The **positive reforms and shifts emerging** from the crisis. This includes both:
  - **positive changes** to behaviours or practices made in response to Covid 19 that **we want to keep or harness**, and
  - **opportunities to drive change** as a consequence of the crisis
- The **recovery responses that are most relevant for Scotland** in light of the impacts and opportunities, including both **priorities and early policy ideas**.
Codesign Digital Session

+ The young people were asked to share how they had been affected during the Covid-19 crisis.
+ The most common response at 28% felt that they do not have space to themselves.
+ 26% shared that they have not been able to easily access healthcare services that they would usually access, and a further 26% found it difficult to get online due to poor internet connection.
+ Other key issues declared included: their parent or guardian having lost their job or work (19%); it being more difficult than usual to afford food (14%); them or their family struggling to paying rent, mortgage or bills (14%); being alone at home for long periods of time (12%); and a health condition that they live with has gotten worse (12%).
"I am still working at a supermarket and although many people are no longer working my work has increased substantially. I have been doing 50 to 60 hour weeks, 12 hour days to help with the demand of food."

"I am due to graduate in June. All the jobs I had applied for have been put on hold and in the sectors I am interested in have suspended the vast majority of recruitment. I have moved back in with my parents for the foreseeable until places start recruiting again."

"My stress levels have just skyrocketed, it’s hard for everyone with so many unknowns but so much of my life was meant to stand on the next few years of my life."
Codesign Digital Session: Gold Stars

+ The NHS/AttendAnywhere/#ClapForCarers
+ Recognition of key workers – carers; supermarket staff etc.
+ Kindness and community spirit
+ Positive leadership from First Minister; National Clinical Director etc
+ Support from third sector organisations highly valued
+ Free access to learning; cultural activities etc online
Codesign Digital Session: Building Blocks

Opportunities to drive change positively ...

- Healthcare
- Community spirit
- Education
- Transport & the environment
- Employment
- Futureproofing
- Technology
- Active Lifestyles
- Wellbeing
Young people wanted the Scottish Government and others to prioritise:

- Mental Health
- Environment
- Education
- Rights and Equality
- Health
- Transport
- Employment
Digital Information

- Over 93,000-page views in 5 months
- Over 115,500 engagements on social media
Young Carers Package: COVID-19 Response

+ Launch of digital package of opportunities
+ Includes: Headspace subscription, mobile top-ups, entertainment/beauty e-vouchers, clothing store e-vouchers
+ Bespoke information created for young carers: PPE, mental health, Covid-19 updates
+ “Do I look like I care” social media campaign
+ Reach: 774 young carers signed up – with 317 during lockdown
Data Wellbeing Fund: COVID-19 Response

Scottish Government Wellbeing Fund

Data packages (Mi-Fi and mobile top-ups) for 12-18 year olds experiencing poverty and disadvantage

Reach: 460 young people – 12 months of data

Information provided via Young Scot Membership

Local Authority partnerships with Stirling, Glasgow and Inverclyde – supporting allocation of data packages
Thank you...

@YoungScot  |  @KirstenUrquhart