

ENABLE Scotland



Central Fife ACE Youth

Annual Report 2017



An equal society for every person who has a learning disability



ACE is an **A**ctive **C**ommunity of **E**mpowered people who have learning disabilities.

ACE challenges the barriers to an equal society for every person who has a learning disability across Scotland.



A stands for **Active**.

ACE members take action to make things better for people who have learning disabilities.



C stands for **Community**.

This because ACE is about bringing people together.

E stands for **Empowered**.

Empowered means having the chance to speak up about things that matter to you.



Central Fife Youth Groups



In Central Fife ENABLE Scotland facilitates two ACE Youth Groups.

We have the Kirkcaldy Youth ACE Group

We meet on a Saturday morning from 10am until 1pm.

We meet at the Templehall Community Centre in Kirkcaldy.

We also have the Glenrothes Youth ACE Group.

We meet on a Wednesday night from 7pm until 9pm.

We meet at the Lomond Centre Glenrothes.

We always welcome new members.

January to March 2017



In January to March we spent a lot of time working hard to get ready for the local elections.



This is when we vote for who we would like to speak up for us in

#ENABLEtheVote Fife tried to solve two big problems local members told us.

They didn't know how to vote.

They didn't know who to vote for.

We did 2 things to make this better.

We held local workshops in Fife to help people better understand the voting system.

January to March 2017



We spoke about the way we vote in the local elections.

To help people decide who to vote for we planned a hustings event to meet local politicians in April.



To get ready for our hustings we spent March working on our own Fife manifesto.

Our manifesto listed the important issues for us. And our ideas for change.

These were:

- **Community Centre and Facilities**
- **Public Transport**
- **Parks and Open Spaces**
- **Roads and Pavements**
- **Schools**
- **Support and Housing ...**

April—June 2017



In April we held our Fife ACE Youth hustings.

This was an event to meet local politicians. To ask them questions. And think about voting.



We had 9 people at our hustings event.

We asked the candidates questions about local issues important to us and then presented them with our local manifesto.

We also had a surprise UK General Election in June. We had a workshop about this. There is a different way of voting in this election. We spoke about the issues decided at the UK parliament and what was important to us.

#ENABLEtheVote Campaign



In 2017 there were two elections in Scotland: the local council elections and the UK General Election.



Our #ENABLEtheVote campaign was about voting.

We know that the number of people who have a learning disability who vote is low.

But we know that lots people who have learning disabilities want to vote.

But we also know that too many people with learning disabilities find the process of voting too difficult.

#ENABLEtheVote changed that.

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#ENABLEtheVote Campaign



ACE held hustings events in 18 local council areas.

We made easy read guides on how to vote. We worked with the Electoral Commission to do this.

Nearly 200 people took part in the campaign.

91% of people who took part in #ENABLEtheVote said they used their vote.

96% said the campaign had helped them to do that.

Everybody said they had the chance to talk to politicians about an issue important to them.



Going to a voting place to vote



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National ACE Youth



National ACE Youth is a meeting of the elected reps from every ACE Youth group.

We speak up about what our members think. We make decisions about ENABLE Scotland's campaigns.



Other things National ACE Youth has worked on this year:

- Planning ENABLE Scotland's anti-bullying campaign for 2018.
- Making plans for Year of Young People 2018

We also had training on public speaking, campaigning and team working.

This year Rachael Page was elected as National ACE Youth rep for Fife. Well done Rachael!

Here are some pictures from National ACE Youth 2017:



Summer Spectacular



The group were able to take part different outings during the Summer Holidays along with young people from other ACE Youth groups in Scotland also attended.

These included trips to:

- St Andrews, doing putting and going to the beach.
- Treasure Hunt and Lunch in Arbroath.
- The Scottish Deer Centre
- A walk around Ravenscraig Park in preparation for the Kiltwalk.
- Fun Day in Kirkcaldy, including playing rounder's.
- RYZE in Edinburgh, a trampoline park.

It was a great summer programme!



Fundraising Update



The Kiltwalk is a sponsored walk in Scotland that happens 4 times a year in different locations.



On Sunday 20th August, 5 young people from the group; Shaun, Jennifer, Jordan, Chloe and Rachael plus Stacey, Ross and Lorna all took part in the Kiltwalk Dundee.

The money was raised went ENABLE Scotland for ACE!

We got very lucky with the weather, it was a beautiful day.

We together raised an amazing £2,244.60



Year of Young Person 2018



Next year Scotland is putting Young People fully in the spotlight. The Theme of 2018 in Scotland will be Celebrating Young People.

This is something we are fully behind and we have already started planning how we will celebrate.

In August, 2 of our members travelled to Glasgow to take part in Consultation Event and put forward their ideas and hear the view of others then feed these back to our group.

These have been discussed again at National Youth ACE Meetings and plans are being put together.



year of young people
bliadhna na h-òigridh
2018

Next Year is going to be very special!

Accessible Gigs Campaign



Rachael has been very passionate about things changing for people who use wheelchairs, who want to access gigs and go to concerts with friends like everyone else can. Rachael has shared her own experiences and keen for things to change, the rest of the group are in agreement with this.

In Summer National ACE Youth had campaigns training. We worked on a campaign plan for a campaign about gigs.

It was great news that National Youth ACE group in August voted for this to be taken forward as a national campaign for ENABLE Scotland.

This is part of our plans for Year of Young People 2018.

Well done Rachael!

Schools Campaign Update



Our schools campaign, *#Included in the Main?!*, has made a big change.

#Included in the Main?! was a chance for ACE members to tell everyone else what it's really like to be left out at school because you have a learning disability.

More than 800 people took part in the campaign.

The campaign said 22 things should change to make school better for young people who have learning disabilities. We call these the 22 steps to inclusion.

Our campaign has had four big successes this year:

1. The Scottish Government has written new Guidance for all



Schools Campaign Update



councils and schools to make sure people with additional support needs are properly included.

This is the first Guidance on inclusive education ever published!

ENABLE Scotland worked on this with the Government.

2. The Scottish Government has promised to make new training for teachers on inclusion.
3. The Scottish Government will do more research to listen to how pupils who have learning disabilities feel at school. This will happen before summer next year.
4. The Scottish Government is going to start a new group to



Schools Campaign Update



think about training for classroom assistants.

These were all big things the campaign said should change

In November, the Parliament had a long debate about schools for young people who have learning disabilities.

They talked about all the problems our campaign had told them.

Our campaign was talked about 32 times. By 14 different politicians. Politicians talked about ACE telling them about these issues.

Everyone should be very proud of what we have changed. We will keep campaigning to change things and make schools better.

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Glenrothes Youth Group



In September a new Youth Group started in Glenrothes

ENABLE Scotland are working in partnership with Community Learning and Development (CLD) in Glenrothes. The new group happens to be at the same place as the Lomond Centre Youth Group and the Glenrothes LGBT Group.

This means that Wednesdays Nights offers the chance for young people at our group to meet and spend time with other young people in the community. As well as getting to use youth club facilities such as the computers and dancing in the DJ area.

So far since we've started, 19 young people have engaged with this new group. We look forward to taking this group forward and making it a success.

Looking forward to 2018



Thank you for taking the time to read through this report and finding out what we have been up to in 2017!

Thank you to all of the young people who have attended the two groups in Central Fife this year and for all their hard work. They have made it so enjoyable, fun and brought brilliant energy and enthusiasm.

Thank you as well to parents/carers for bringing their son/daughter(s) along to the groups.

ENABLE Scotland has a new campaign called #BeTheChange. The campaign is to stop bullying. Lots of our members tell us this is a problem.

Fife ACE Youth groups are looking forward to taking part in the campaign to change things.

And to great opportunities and lot of fun in the new year—Year of Young People 2018!

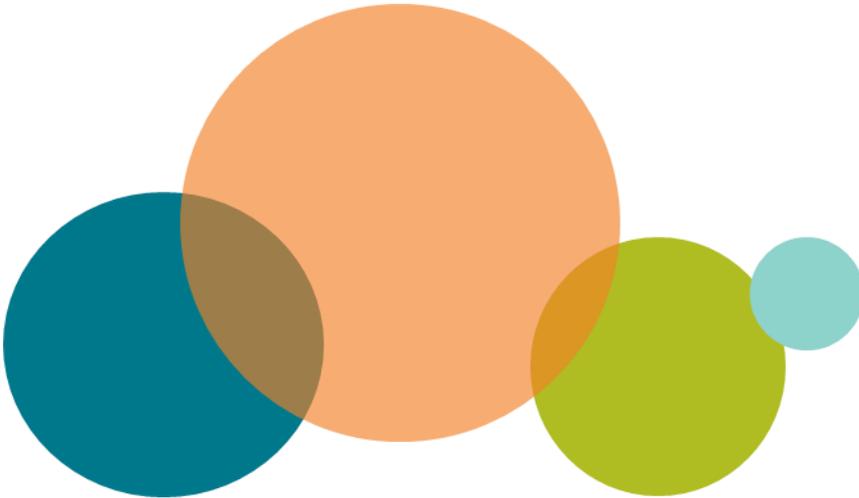


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