


# Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Committee - 29 August 2024 Service Achievements

## 1. Care Home Olympics

## HIGHLAND AND ARGYLL & BUTE CARE HOME OLYMPICS 2024 UPDATE



Compiled by Gwen Harrison - Aug 24  
Independent Sector Lead Care Homes in Highland

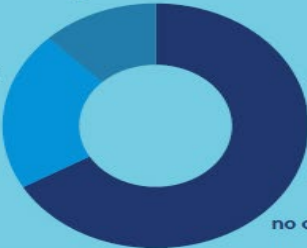
In collaboration with ISL colleague in Argyll and Bute, and with input from the Highland Meaningful activity network (which was initiated in collaboration with the CCHST earlier this year) we have hosted a Care Home Olympics tournament. The tournament was open to all adult Care Homes across Argyll and Bute and North Highland, both Independent sector and in-house, and all were invited to participate with information packs sent to all. Activities took place throughout the period of the Paris Olympics with homes being able to be flexible depending on theirs and residents` need within that period.

- 9 Care homes registered to take part from Argyll and Bute
- 12 Care homes registered to take part from North Highland
- **This update will focus on North Highland**
- There will be a full Highland wide impact report to follow
- Of the 12 North Highland homes taking part 9 were independent sector and 3 were NHS / in-house, 1 Care home had to withdraw due to staff illness.

staff and family involved  
70

no of residents involved in physical activities  
120

no of residents involved  
380



**NHS Highland** na Gàidhealtachd

**The Highland Council** Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

**A&B HSCP** Transforming Together  
Argyll & Bute Health & Social Care Partnership

**Partnership for Integration**

**ScottishCare**  
Voice of the independent care sector

The **tournament aims were to** provides opportunity to:

- build **connections** between and across homes
- promote **healthy competition**
- get **residents and families involved**
- help meet some of the **Care Inspector indicators**
- raise the profile of work in homes and **good news stories**
- meet some **CCHST outcomes**



Winners and runners up will win a **variety of prizes donated** from the following - the HHSCP CCHST / Scottish Care / Simpsons Garden Centre / Pets as Therapy / Fox and Friends / Arts in Nature (HTSI) / Harry Gow / Burns Gym / Northwood Care / Trophy Centre. The following Categories were available to enter:

- *Best decorated Home*
- *Runner up best decorated home*
- *Best team name*
- *Runner up best team name*
- *Activity 1 winner*
- *Activity 1 runner up*
- *Activity 2 winner*
- *Activity 2 runner up*
- *Highland Best overall competitor*
- *Best Highland and Argyll & Bute overall competitor*
- *Best individual step count*
- *Individual step count runner up*
- *Highest overall step count (Highland and Argyll & Bute)*

Also these categories were added in response to entries

- *Best joint event*
- *Best opening ceremony clip*
- *Furthest away Step count participant (a family member in Australia)*

Additionally Highland senior Citizen Network supported the following category and prizes

- *Best photo of Olympics activity – 1st*
- *Best photo of Olympics activity – 2nd*
- *Best photo of Olympics activity – 3rd*



*"I think this is a really great initiative and the staff have never been so motivated to get started on an activity challenge"*

*"Our residents had such fun and laughs! Big hit with our folks!"*

*"The Care Home Olympics brought everyone together. For us seeing the younger generation take control of our Olympic event was just wonderful"*

*"The community engagement was fantastic and now that the relationship has been created with the PE department, its something we are all looking forward to continuing"*

*"Most of the residents have been more motivated knowing they were competing against other homes. They are excited to see if they could win a prize"*

*"We picked local areas and had a creative writing session to make up our team names, They might not make sense but the residents enjoyed reminiscing about some of the areas and getting words to match the areas"*

*"We have a few resident who are blind, a member of staff shouted from the base of the pins, so they knew which direction to throw the ball"*

*"Resident participation rates increased"*

## 2. Rural Social Work and the National Care Service

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, Dianne Henderson, Children's Service Manager, representing Highland, and in collaboration with the Scottish Association of Social Workers, supported a facilitated session and a presentation to social workers and managers across Scotland to the Social Work Policy Panel. The theme was, 'Rural SW and the National Care Service'.

The SWPP partners are grateful to Dianne and her colleagues for the presentation and to our audience for the discussion. These contributions will be invaluable in the development of the NCS and the National Social Work Agency.

Here are some key points from the presentation:

- Social workers often have dual roles in rural communities: social worker and a member of the community they support.
- Close professional relationships across disciplines while retaining social work identity is a common feature.

- The best things about the work are the sense of community and relationship-based practice.
- The challenges are the lack of resources and easily accessible services, professional isolation, accessibility and housing costs.
- Rural fuel, food and financial poverty are exacerbated by seasonally affected housing costs and availability.
- Whilst a demand for better resourced services is common across social workers no matter where they work, the need appears to be more acute in rural areas.

**Discussion points included**

- Rural social work is creative out of necessity. There is much for social work systems in cities to learn.
- Digital support mechanisms proved to be very useful during COVID but cannot replace good relationship-based work delivered face to face.
- Pressure on housing is pricing out professionals such as social workers.



### 3. Refugee Week Events – Comraich brief Evaluation

# Comraich

Refugee week 17th - 21st June 2024

Brief evaluation of events

## Eden Court cinema event

On the 17th and 18th June we had screenings of the film 'Limbo'. Four screenings were scheduled for schools in the local area, and one for the public.

The school events were attended by 129 students and teachers, with the public event attracting an audience of approximately 55.

The school feedback for the cinema screening was that it was thought provoking, students expressed an interest in willing to help and wanting to understand the asylum process.

Suggestions were made for future events to be targeted to older pupils, utilising reflective exercises after screenings and collaborative working.



## Storytelling and Ben Nevis climb

We held a storytelling event for those within the Comraich service on 19th June. This was a taster session to an expressive activity and may be built on in future.

A group climbed Ben Nevis on 20th June. It was a great event, providing new experiences for young people, particularly as the weather was fantastic!



## Stalls

Stalls were in place in foyer area of Eden court for after the cinema screenings. Approximately 15 local organisations were represented.

The purpose of the stalls was to provide information to the young people to raise awareness of resources in their area. There was feedback from stall providers with regard to levels of engagement, itinerary of events and administrative instructions. This will be considered for any future stall events.

## Eden Court Talk

On 20th June, Approximately 50 people attended a talk facilitated by Colin Turbett. Kaukab Stewart (Scottish Minister for Equalities) opened the event via video message. Colin then provided an insight into rural social work and was joined by colleagues Salih Roza, Jen Ange, Carrie Yusef and Jacquie Hutchison who all shared their experiences of asylum seeking young people.



For further comments or questions please contact  
[Tracey.Taylor@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Tracey.Taylor@highland.gov.uk)

#### 4. Staff Awards

The staff awards were held in Strathpeffer in June 2024. I am pleased to advise that several nominations were put forward from our services - across different categories - illustrating the positive impact they are having in a variety of different settings. These nominations included:

- **Family Nurse Partnership Team**
- **Family Group Decision Making Team**
- **Home to Highland Programme**
- **HLH Archive and Records Management Team**
- **Highland Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM) Interviewers**
- **Children's Social Work - Inverness Family Centre**
- **NDAS, Health and Social Care – Jasmin Fraser-Allan, Trainee**

#### **Tackling Inequalities and Improving Health and Wellbeing Category (Home to Highland Programme: Winner)**

This category highlights teams who have made a difference to individuals or groups of people to address inequality and improve their health and wellbeing. The winning social work team, Home to Highland Programme vision is to return young people to Highland from costly Out of Area placements, enabling Highland children to remain in the communities they know, as opposed to living hundreds of miles away from their families, friends and schools.

Since 2018, 96 children have returned to Highland, improving educational, health and wellbeing outcomes for the returned young people. This also avoids costs of over £17 million pounds, which is invested in the development of new services in the Highland area enabling children to remain in the communities they know.

#### **High Life Highland (HLH) Partner Award Category (HLH Archive and Records Management Team: Winner)**

This is a new Award this year in recognition of our partnership with High Life Highland. The award recognises a project, team or individual from High Life Highland that has demonstrated particular achievement.

The High Life Highland Archive and Records Management Team won this category. The team and the Council's Health and Social Care Records Support team have a very close relationship which has developed particularly over the last three years.

The Council's Records Team receives numerous subject access requests throughout the year from individuals who were formerly in care seeking to find out information on their past. These requests have increased greatly in recent years with the advent of the Scottish Government's Redress Scheme which offers redress payments to people abused in care as children in the past, and some next of kin. The joint work

with and professional support of the HLH's Records Management Team is essential to deal effectively with these enquiries.

Whilst I am delighted with our winners named above, it is important to recognise all nominations – regardless of final outcomes. Well done all.

## 5. Vision 26

Vision 2026 will take place on Friday 30th August 2024 from 10.30am-2.30pm at Inverness Leisure, Bught Park, Inverness. We would like you to join us to celebrate the launch of Highland's Children and Young People Participation Strategy and to celebrate what has been achieved in the 1st year of the Children's Service plan in Highland.

We encourage everyone to sign up and come along to the launch which will see over 60 local groups and organisations highlight the work they do to support children, young people and families in Highland. Come along and contribute to another successful event, bringing services working with children and families together.

The event is free and you don't need to attend the whole day, Very light refreshments will be onsite, Just sign up [Book your place here for Vision 26](#) and pop along at a time that's convenient for you.

**Highland**  
Community  
Planning  
Partnership

Com-pàirteachas  
Dealbhadh  
Coimhearsnachd  
**na Gàidhealtachd**

**Integrated  
Children's  
Service Board  
Event**

**Booking NOW OPEN!**  
**VISION 26**  
**30th AUGUST 2024**  
**10.30am- 2.30pm**  
**Inverness Leisure Centre, Bught Park**

<https://hcpc.scot/courses/vision-2026-year-2/>

**Book  
here**