

**THE YOUNG
WOMEN'S
MOVEMENT**



IMPACT REPORT

2024-2025



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WELCOME

In 2024, The Young Women's Movement turned 100. Throughout the year, we marked our centenary with intergenerational gatherings, bold conversations, and joyful celebrations. We heard from women who shaped our movement decades ago and welcomed girls just beginning their own journey into leadership. In rooms filled with laughter, reflection and hope, one thing was clear – the spirit of our movement, rooted in sisterhood, equity and transformation, is very much alive.

This milestone year was more than a celebration; it was a declaration of intent. As we completed the second year of our five-year strategy, Re-Imagining Scotland for Young Women and Girls, we saw our programmes, research and campaigns deepen in impact and grow in reach. We listened carefully to young women, especially those furthest from power, and created space for their experiences to shape national conversations. We refined our digital infrastructure, strengthened our evaluation tools, and grew our collective capacity to drive change.

But this year also underscored why our work is more urgent than ever. In the face of rising misogyny, anti-women's rights rhetoric, and regressive politics that seek to silence marginalised voices, we stood firm in our values. As young women's human rights come under threat globally, our mission becomes clearer: to build a Scotland where young women, in all their diversity, can thrive, lead, and live free from inequality.

Our centenary reminded us that we are part of something bigger, a legacy of resistance, care and courage. It's a legacy we carry forward every day, alongside the young women who continue to reimagine what's possible.

Jenni Snell, CEO



2024-2025 IN NUMBERS

20

young women trained as researchers:
6 trained on peer-led research and **14** on oral histories

960

young women and girls engaged through research and policy work

466

participants on our programmes

796

people attended **18** events

Our research & policy team submitted **2** policy consultation responses and **9** parliamentary briefings; contributed to **3** Scottish Government policy groups; and gave evidence in **1** parliamentary committee meeting

37

young women were paid for their writing, artwork, training and consultancy

62

young women shared their experiences at external events, in blogs, press and podcasts

We launched **1** new website, and celebrated our **100th** anniversary

131

young women co-designed our research, campaigns and programmes

910,100+

social media impressions

2604

new social media followers

27

schools, colleges, youth groups, community organisations and national partners worked with

58

volunteers have supported our programmes, research, events and communications

41

pieces of press and media coverage. Our staff were interviewed by journalists **3** times

3

external blogs and podcasts featured our staff

67

events attended by YWM staff

25

events YWM staff spoke/exhibited at

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFLUENCING

2604 **41**

new social media followers

pieces of press and media coverage

BRAND NEW

communications strategy and website

910,000+

social media impressions

62 **37**

young women shared
their experiences at
events and in blogs,
press and podcasts

young women paid
for their writing,
artwork, training
and consultancy



30 Under 30

We celebrated 30 inspiring young women and girls through our ninth 30 Under 30 campaign.

The announcement date for 30 Under 30 2024 saw a huge spike in engagement across our social media channels and website, and the campaign was featured by press and media outlets across Scotland including The Press & Journal, BBC Radio Shetland and the Daily Record.

“It has definitely given me a confidence boost and made me feel like the things I’m doing are important.”

“I have had others in the community respect my work, that previously maybe didn't see its value.”

“It’s made my confidence go up and I feel like people recognise me more.”



Image: A group photo taken at the 2024 30 Under 30 event.

Young Women Work

We ran the Young Women Work campaign, funded by Rosa’s Voices from the Frontline, which sought to address workplace gender inequality in Scotland. The campaign was co-designed over three sessions with a group of young women.

The campaign reached an estimated 5,000 young women, and over 100 people attended our Young Women Work presentation at SCVO’s The Gathering.



Image: Promotional post for Young Women Work.



Image: Staff presenting Young Women Work at SCVO’s The Gathering

PROGRAMMES

466

participants on our programmes

130

sessions delivered across our programmes

5

programme outputs launched:
1 research report, 3 resources
and 2 articles

27

schools, colleges, youth groups,
community organisations and
national partners worked with

"Being part of this programme has shown me how powerful it is when young women come together with a shared goal. We brought our experiences, ideas, and passions into one space to create a resource that we hope will educate, inspire, and empower others."



PROGRAMMES

Empowering Pathways

The Empowering Pathways programme was created in response to the needs of young women experiencing multiple obstacles to building and re-building their lives. This programme was co-created by our Glasgow Advisory Panel and is delivered in the community and online.

This intersectional feminist programme creates a safe space for women to have their voices heard, gain confidence and self-esteem, create positive relationships with other young women in their group and celebrate their achievements.

59

young women engaged

59

completed the programme

19

Kings Trust accreditations achieved

2

young women volunteers supported

5

programmes delivered over 50 sessions

7

partners

The course consists of four main modules: Empowering Women, Lifebooks, It's Your Glasgow and It's Your Parliament. There is also an additional module on Next Steps, which looks at choices and progression routes into college, volunteering, or other opportunities.

To deliver this programme, we partnered with Romano Lav, City of Glasgow College, ANYiSO, Sharpen Her African Women's Network, Skills Development Scotland, Volunteer Glasgow and Empower Women for Change.

"I love this course. I meet different people from country and different language."

"I make a lot of friends here and I get information about how I can start volunteering in the organisations."

"This course taught me how to believe in myself and my abilities."

"I've got to find some other people that I never knew before, get more information about women's in Scotland ... and just new information that I never knew existed... As well the positive and safe environment. I feel every time I come in here, I don't feel like anxious or nervous. I feel like home and at peace."

YEquality

YEquality is a five-week youth work programme that is delivered to children aged 10–11 of all genders in schools and youth groups across Scotland.

This year we delivered the programme in Our Lady of Peace Primary School, St. Mungo's Primary School, Holy Cross Primary School, Sandwood Primary School and St. Brides Primary School.

174

P6–P7 pupils engaged

7

programmes delivered
over 35 sessions

5

partners involved

“I have learnt that going to High School is not that bad and we all have a support network to help us.”

“It was very fun and something exciting for my last hour of school.”

“I like the ways YEquality can give ideas on how to be more confident.”

“I found it fun and interesting and learnt a lot from YEquality like leadership and staying safe online.”

Young Women Changemakers

We engaged 12 young women aged 16–18 in our Young Women Changemakers programme. The group created a resource and workshop for young women and girls to on ways to lead change within their communities and society.

“

Being part of this programme has shown me how powerful it is when young women come together with a shared goal. We brought our experiences, ideas, and passions into one space to create a resource that we hope will educate, inspire, and empower others.

”



Image: Group photo at a Young Women Changemakers session.

12

young women engaged

4

volunteers supported

6

participants have signed up to
volunteer at future workshops

Advisory Panel

Our Glasgow-based Advisory Panel work collaboratively to shape and co-design funding bids, review funding reports and design sessions for other young women with content relevant to their experiences of being a young woman in Scotland.

14

young women aged 15–18 engaged

3

sessions delivered between
April and June 2024

1

partnership with
Clydebank High School



Image: The Advisory Panel during a co-design workshop

Girls With Goals

Girls with Goals is a 6-week programme co-designed by and for young women aged 14-18, focusing on the issues that matter most to them.

In 2024, we worked with our Advisory Panel of young women in Clydebank High School to create the programme, which we are now delighted to be offering to high schools and youth groups across Scotland.

The programme provides a safe and brave space for young women and girls aged 14-18 to feel informed and empowered and explore issues that impact their day-to-day lives.

15

young women engaged

4

volunteers supported

6

participants have signed up to
volunteer at future workshops

Sleeping Giants

We worked with Sleeping Giants to provide 170 hours of support and mentoring for members of the young women's lived experience group which feeds into the NACWG. We have continued this relationship in 2025-26.

Young Women Thrive

Young Women Thrive is a series of wellbeing-focused workshops where young women can share their experiences, learn new skills and create positive change. This series is funded by the Glasgow Wellbeing Fund.

Our partners for the project include the Feminist Book Club Glasgow, WISE Women, Maya-Rose Edwards and Nadine Aisha Jassat, Glasgow Women's Library, Romano Lav/Roma Cultural Centre, Heart of Scotstoun Community Hub, Big Voices Childcare Services and Smithycroft Secondary School.

54

young women engaged

4

workshops delivered

9

young women
volunteers supported

- 49% of participants identified as belonging to a marginalised ethnic community.
- 16% of participants identified as having a disability.
- 42% of participants identified as a person of low income.
- 34% of participants identified as a member of the LGBTQ+ community.

"Please keep doing more like this workshop."

"This was my first time attending, I loved it! The club (workshop) provided a great break for my busy, anxious mind. Thank you!!!"

"Wonderful experience + community bonding."

"Please do more workshop about women self-confidence workshop, especially for people who came new to Glasgow."

"I am becoming more confident in myself since taking the course."

"My confidence was very low after having my son and I took things to heart about what people said about my parenting skills or how I should act. Through volunteering I learned to overcome this negative feeling by learning to love myself more and not listening to negative comments, as this is just their opinion, and I should live my life as I want to and not as others say I should. I am happier now and enjoy being a young single mum without worrying what other people think of me."

Activism Through Art

The Activism Through Art programme was made possible through the Youth Arts Open Fund, a Creative Scotland fund that is administrated by YouthLink Scotland and funded by the Scottish Government.

We worked with three artists to facilitate in-person and online workshops with young women and girls across Scotland. The participants explored the connection between arts and activism and responded to our strategy title of 'Re-Imagining Scotland for Young Women and Girls'.

To deliver this programme, we partnered with YMCA Paisley STEM Girls group, Clydebank High School and Clydebank Library.



Image: Participants displaying their art at an Activism Through Art workshop.

The work was exhibited in 3 venues: Edinburgh City Chambers, Paisley YMCA and Clydebank Library. A total of 76 people attended the exhibitions in Paisley and Clydebank. The artwork from this project was also shared online as a zine.

White Ribbon Scotland: 16 Days of Activism event

We were invited by White Ribbon Scotland to contribute to their 16 Days of Activism information stand at Glasgow Central and Edinburgh Waverley train stations in November 2024.

We showcased the photographic work of the Clydebank Activism Through Art group.



Young Women Lead

Young Women Lead is our flagship national project, attracting widespread interest from across Scotland. Young Women Lead gives young women aged 16–30 an opportunity to make real change while developing their leadership skills, knowledge and confidence.

In 2024, Young Women Lead ran in collaboration with Scottish Parliament, exploring young women's democratic wellbeing in Scotland. Guest speakers included Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament and representatives from ElectHer and Scottish Parliament's Participation and Communities team.



Image: Young Women Lead Democratic Wellbeing Group at the Scottish Parliament, September 2024

In 2025, the programme focused on Artificial Intelligence and its impact on young women and girls in Scotland.

Democratic wellbeing

20

young women engaged

140

applications received

9

sessions delivered between May and September 2024

1

launch celebration in the Scottish Parliament

2

published documents: a report on democratic wellbeing and a policy briefing

Artificial intelligence

21

young women engaged

35

applications received

2

sessions delivered between January and March 2025

1

national partner organisation (Scottish AI Alliance)

1

young woman engaged as a freelancer

Young Women Lead: Artificial Intelligence has continued beyond the reporting dates, concluding in August 2025.

Session feedback from participants when asked what they enjoyed the most:

“The flow of the session was really good, was very informative without being overwhelming.”

“Getting to know lots of interesting people and an opportunity to talk about technology. It was well structured and interesting. I enjoyed the presentation and discussion and collage activity.”

“The course felt like a reliable source to demystify the fears and hesitancy I had with thinking about and engaging in conversations about AI. Having completed it, the apprehension I had for this narrative of AI taking over our lives is gone, and I have a better understanding of its benefits and limitations. Before taking this course I would’ve said I had little to no knowledge in AI, now, I am able to confidently share facts and different perspectives on AI with friends, family and colleagues.”

“It’s been great to meet so many like-minded and passionate young women. I feel inspired and motivated about the future of positive changes – both in the world of AI and society as a whole.”

“I really wanted to develop my feminist journey and work towards getting more involved rather than just thinking about doing something.”



Image: Young Women Lead: Artificial Intelligence cohort at the Scottish Parliament

Young Women Know

Young Women Know was a partnership project between The Young Women's Movement, NSPCC Scotland and young women, designed to tackle unhealthy relationships and peer sexual abuse through peer-led campaigns.

The importance of youth-led activity in educational spaces continues to be a key focus for us, driving the co-creation of toolkits for use by professionals and parents and carers.

To broaden our impact, in 2024 we launched the national Young Women Know campaign. The campaign resources have been designed by young women for their peers, as well as parents, carers and professionals. They are freely available on our website.

This year we offered interactive workshops for young women in schools as well as presentations for professionals on how to use our resources. Where possible, these workshops were facilitated by our National Champions (young women aged 16–20).



Image: A print made as part of a YWK session

Resources include:

- Information to help young people understand what consent is, and where to go for help if needed
- Guidance for professionals in support services on how to best support young people on issues surrounding healthy relationships and consent
- Guidance on teaching consent in schools for teachers
- A toolkit on how to create safe spaces to facilitate open, healthy conversations about relationships
- A series of videos exploring the support services available to young people
- Top tips on starting a campaign group

Young Women Know was shortlisted in the Participation & Youth Voice category for the National Youth Work Awards 2024. A huge achievement of the project was the inclusion of materials from the campaign on the RSHP Scot website.



Image: Young Women Know participants at a Parliamentary reception

5

sessions delivered

2

training sessions held with Cllr Holly Bruce and journalist Eve Livingston

21

young women engaged

2

young women from Bold Girls Ken group spoke at the Festival of Politics in the Scottish Parliament

19

meetings with partners and relevant stakeholders to promote the resources

15,000+

people reached through our bus stop ad campaign

250

services and youth clubs as well as every school in Scotland received digital copies of the resources

200

leaflets shared on 'What is Consent?' through Fife Violence Against Women and Girls networks

1000

physical copies of the resources shared to individuals and organisations across Scotland

1

participant spoke at a Scottish Parliament event, sharing their experience of YWK, the impact this project had on their life and their hopes for the future of the project resources

50

individuals and organisations attended a lunchtime online learning session for professionals

1

YWK Champion interviewed along with our CEO for STV News in April 2024

1

YWK Champion appeared in the Inverness Courier to share the work of YWK and her experience of the project, supporting the reach of the project in the Highlands where young women have limited access to much needed resources and support



Image: Our Research and Policy Lead being interviewed by STV

GirlPower

In 2024, No Knives, Better Lives published 'The Lassies Are No Feart' – a report on girls' and young women's experiences of interpersonal violence.

Following this, we were commissioned to work with a group of 14 young women aged 15–18 in Glasgow to develop a toolkit to help address violence between girls, as well as a campaign to support young women experiencing violence.

The toolkit (available on our website) aligns with youth work outcomes, and takes practitioners through:

- Why and how violence between women and girls is different to violence against women and girls
- How to create a brave space to enable discussions about violence between girls
- How to begin and facilitate conversations about violence between girls.
- What young women and girls want practitioners to understand about violence between girls in the online world
- Examples of how they would like violence between girls to be dealt with.
- Short icebreakers and longer activities to build trust, promote safe and healthy discussions, and support disclosures surrounding violence between girls.

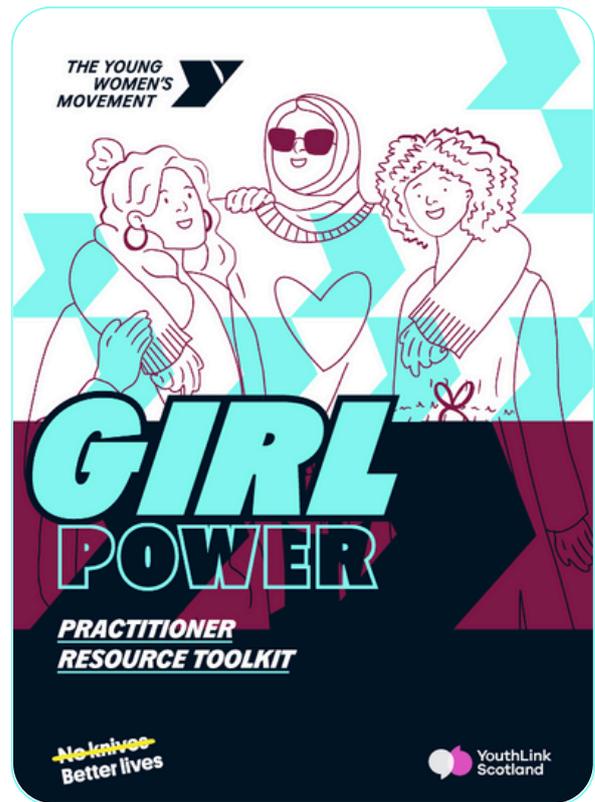


Image: The cover of the Girl Power resource

14

young women engaged

1

partner, PEEK (Possibilities for Each and Every Kid)

6

sessions delivered

1

podcast with CLD Talks

40

practitioners engaged through a lunch-time webinar to launch the resource

1

young woman freelancer employed

PARTNERSHIPS AND EVENTS

25

events that our staff spoke/exhibited at throughout the year

796

people attended **18** events run by The Young Women's Movement

8

events volunteers have supported our programmes, research, events and communications

28

young women represented us at events, either by attending, speaking or supporting at exhibition stalls

137

attendees for our 100th anniversary event in City Chambers

85

attendees aged 16-25 for our 100th birthday party at The Boardwalk

40+

pledges obtained from MSPs during a exhibition in Scottish Parliament. We spoke to **44** MSPs about our work and Monica Lennon MSP raised a motion in Parliament for our 100th birthday

67

events attended by The Young Women's Movement staff

We also hosted joint events with Smart Works Scotland and Project Change.



100th birthday

To start our year of centenary celebrations, we hosted an exhibition at the Scottish Parliament and a reception at Edinburgh City Chambers in April 2024. We engaged with MSPs over the course of three days and our reception saw a performance of a specially commissioned poem by Nadine Aisha Jassat and a keynote from Fatima Ishaq.



Image: Celebrations inside Edinburgh City Chambers

“It was brilliant to come together with so many inspiring women and speakers in person, in a single space - when politically and in the media things feel quite hopeless and hostile, this was a wonderful safe space of solidarity and hope.”

“Seeing and meeting so many engaged young women. Getting together with a number of other YWCA Scotland women from some years ago. The ethos of the event - inclusive, diverse, but also feminist, lots of positive energy and 'can do' feeling, joy.”

To sign off our centenary, we held a birthday party for young women at The Boardwalk in Glasgow. This event brought together young women to take part in a silent disco, massage therapy, collaging, dance class and exhibition.

“From making friendship bracelets, collage, 360 camera, etc. The whole event was amazing. The effort to put forward such an event is really appreciated. Absolutely loved every single bit of the event.”

“I enjoyed being surrounded by so many girls and women, it felt like such a safe space for me and the air was full of joy.”

Other events

We hosted partnership events with Smart Works Scotland and ProjectChange. These were opportunities for young women to come together to network, learn and build connections.

We worked with other organisations to provide opportunities for young women to share their lived experience and expertise at high-level events at Scottish Parliament: with 3 events at the Festival of Politics in August; partaking in the 25th anniversary of the Scottish Parliament; and attending the 11th Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians conference for the British Islands and Mediterranean Region at the Scottish Parliament.

RESEARCH AND POLICY

In 2024/2025, The Young Women's Movement continued to amplify young women's voices through our participatory research projects and policy influencing work. Our community-based and collaborative research and policy projects ensured we reached young women from all backgrounds, particularly those often underrepresented in strategic and decision-making discussions.

This year, the Research and Policy team engaged with just under 1,000 young women and girls, discussing a variety of issues affecting their everyday lives in Scotland, including their experiences of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, their knowledge of and access to human rights, and their access to high quality healthcare, among many other rights-based issues. We also strengthened our partnerships and connections with key stakeholders and decision-makers in Scotland, ensuring young women's voices were amplified in spaces where decisions are deliberated and made.

On our website, we launched Scotland's first and only research and policy hub for young women and girls, where we published 2 new participatory research reports and 11 new policy papers along with an archive of many more.

Thanks to generous funding by The National Heritage Lottery Fund, we also launched our new heritage research project, Young Women Remember which, led by a steering group of 14 young women, will explore the 100-year history of YWCA Scotland through oral history interviews and archive research.

By engaging with our research and policy work, young women and girls continued to shift public perception, influenced policy and legislative changes in Scotland, and raised awareness around their unique experiences.



Research and Policy in numbers

5

presentations delivered on young women's issues to Scottish Government civil servants and members of the public

960

young women and girls engaged in research and policy work

9

policy briefings published. We also responded to 2 policy consultations

538

young women and girls across Scotland were surveyed on their views around their human rights as part of Status of Young Women in Scotland 2024-25

1 'Insights Day' with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds on getting into research and policy work

Evidence given at 1 parliamentary committee on increasing young women's political representation with Talat Yaqoob

1

parliamentary debate made reference to our work in empowering young people and tackling violence against young women and girls

1

media interview on STV News, interviewed on 2 external podcasts, and cited in 1 op-ed article about the rise in misogyny amongst young men and boys

1

national heritage research project launched, engaging 14 young women on the Young Women Remember steering group

5

letters written to politicians about our cost-of-living report

12

organisations/experts engaged on our SYWS 2024-25 advisory group

2

academics partnered with us to develop 3 participatory research projects with young women

5

articles published on our website

4

discussion groups with 48 young women and girls about their human rights in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dumfries and Galloway

1

published research report on young women's experiences of the cost-of-living crisis, engaging with over 300 young women and girls across Scotland

15

meetings attended with Scottish Government policy teams

Research and Impact

Young women's experiences of the cost-of-living crisis

We published a research report which highlighted young women's experiences during the cost-of-living crisis in Scotland.

This research project, conducted jointly with Scottish Women's Budget Group, explored young women's experiences of housing, income and debt, taxation, food security and more over a series of months in 2024, focusing on how living costs specifically impacts young women.

We co-produced this research with a Cost-of-Living Advisory Group, consisting of 9 young women aged 15-30. In total, 309 young women and girls from 29 local authorities took part in this national survey and participatory research project.

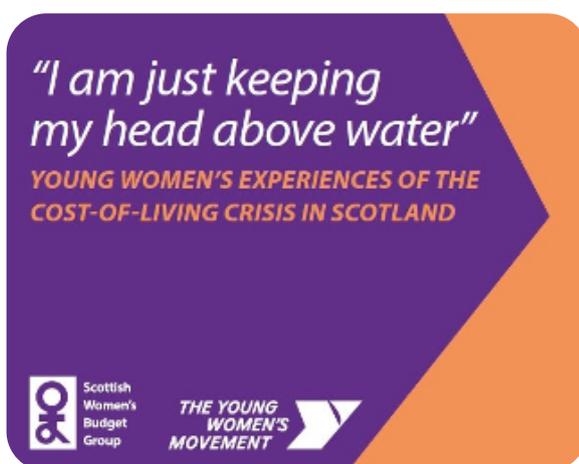


Image: Report on young women's experiences of the cost-of-living crisis, The Young Women's Movement and Scottish Women's Budget Group

We used the findings of this research to advocate for young women's needs during the cost-of-living crisis and beyond in Scotland.

This included sending 5 letters to key politicians and speaking on STV News about young women's mental health during the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

We were also invited by the Scottish Government to join the Social Security Benefit Take-Up Reference Group to offer our perspectives on barriers to accessing Universal Credit/Department of Work and Pensions, and how to improve the system for young women, particularly those from marginalised communities.



Working collaboratively with this group of likeminded young feminists has been a privilege. Hearing and reflecting on both our shared and differing experiences has been very eye-opening, and I am proud of the Cost-of-Living Advisory Group's hard work, despite [the] difficult subject matter. Although the results from this report are worrying, I am confident that the brave and bold recommendations included will be a powerful tool in combatting the impacts of the cost-of-living crisis on young women and girls in Scotland going forward.



Status of Young Women in Scotland 2024-25: Gender justice and young women's human rights

We launched the seventh iteration of our national research project, the Status of Young Women in Scotland. Our 2024-25 (SYWS 2024-25) research explored how young women understand, access and advocate for their human rights in Scotland, uncovering what barriers they face when attempting to access their human rights, and asking what can be done to help young women realise the full extent of their human rights.

Our participatory research project engaged with nearly 600 young women and girls across Scotland.

538

young women engaged via our national survey

48

young women engaged with us in their communities

6

peer researchers received training to interview other young women

Our expert advisory group also engaged 12 human rights organisations and experts, including 4 young women peer researchers.



Image: Discussion group with the Young Women's Network in Dumfries and Galloway as part of the SYWS 2024-25 research

The Status of Young Women in Scotland research report was published in April 2025.

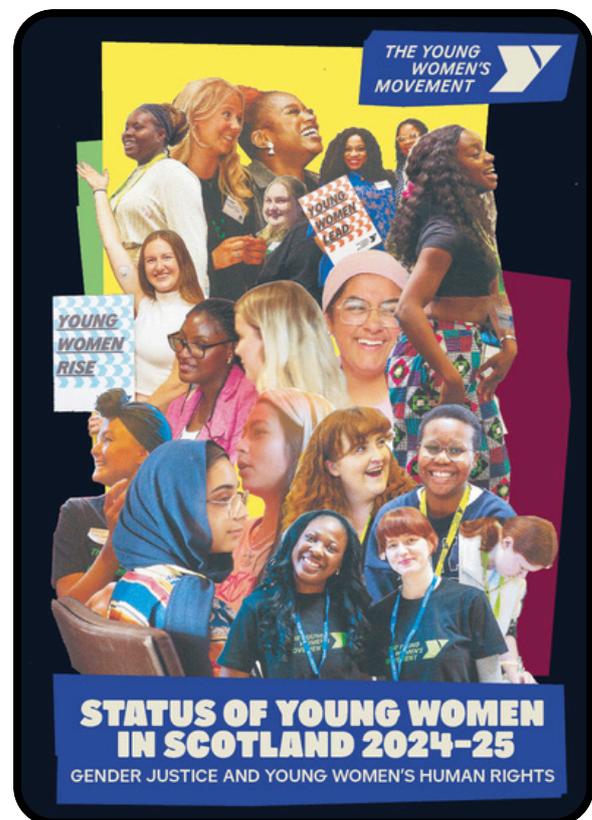


Image: The front cover of The Status of Young Women in Scotland report

Young Women Remember

This year we launched our participatory heritage research project, funded by The National Heritage Lottery Fund.

Led by 14 young women from across Scotland, Young Women Remember collects, records and shares the stories of support, connection and activism linked to our organisation over the past 100 years. Young Women Remember runs until July 2026.

To kick off the project, we hosted a two-day residential in Stirling in August 2024 where the young women had the chance to meet in person, undertake oral history training with the help of an academic historian, and work with two designers on the project branding and logo.

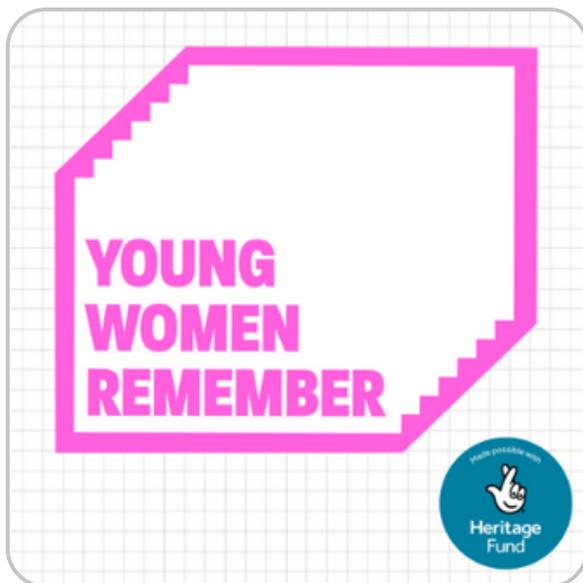


Image: The Young Women Remember logo, which draws inspiration from archive files

We also took oral histories from previous staff and volunteers and delved into our impressive archive in the National Library of Scotland. This has led to the discovery of important information about our organisation, such as the reasons we seceded from YWCA Great Britain in 1924; a book of our history written by previous YWCA Scotland staff; and key dates that have now been compiled into an organisational timeline of our history.



Image: The Dundee International Women's Group at the opening of their centre on Church Street, supported by YWCA Scotland, 1970.

"Loved the emphasis on our group agreement and how everyone made sure to respect it and create a brave space."

"Very interesting to learn about oral histories what to consider, ethics and different approaches - very helpful!"

Policy and Influencing

In 2024/2025, we continued to work with policy makers and decision-makers to highlight young women's inequality in Scotland. We made recommendations to ensure that young women's voices and experiences shape the decisions that affect them and create systemic change.

This year, we responded to 2 policy consultations, published 11 policy papers, spoke with key Holyrood and Westminster-based politicians to discuss young women's rights, and met with key policy teams in the Scottish Government. We've also continued to advocate for young women's healthcare needs and rights by sitting on the Scottish Government's Women's Health Plan Steering Group and Abortion Policy Advisory Group.



Young women and girls' rights

- Responded to the Scottish Government's Equality and Human Rights Mainstreaming Strategy consultation.
- Engaged with nearly 600 young women and girls to discuss their access to human rights as part of our Status of Young Women in Scotland research.
- Sat on the Scottish Government's Abortion Policy Advisory Group, advocating for the modernisation of abortion law and young women's reproductive rights.
- Published a policy briefing on young women's access to cultural rights in Scotland, amplifying our Young Women Remember project.

Youth work

- Responded to Martin Whitfield MSP's consultation on introducing a legal right to youth work for young people in Scotland.
- Published a policy briefing on empowering young people's voices in tackling violence against young women and girls, which was cited by Maggie Chapman MSP in the parliamentary debate.
- Gave feedback on the Scottish Government's Gender Equality Taskforce in Education and Learning 'Improving relationships and behaviours in schools' Action Plan.
- Met with Deirdre Brock MP to discuss youth work and young women's rights.

Young women's health

- Sat on the Scottish Government's Women's Health Plan Steering Group, advocating for young women and girls' health needs and concerns
- Presented our healthcare research to the Women's Health Plan team at a Development Day in December 2024, focusing on abortion, menstruation, and mental health.
- Presented our healthcare research to clinicians and members of the public on International Women's Day in March 2025 in Inverclyde.
- Published a policy briefing on the Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) Bill, advocating for MSPs to pass the Bill at Stage 3.
- Published a briefing on young women's access to rural healthcare to inform a parliamentary debate, which received a response from the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care.

Political representation and leadership

- Published our Young Women Demand manifesto in June 2024 in the lead up to the UK General Election.
- Gave verbal evidence to a parliamentary committee in the Scottish Parliament on increasing young women's political participation and leadership.
- Collaborated with the Learning and Engagement team on the Young Women Lead 2024 project on Democratic Wellbeing.

Tackling misogyny

- Interviewed on Zero Tolerance's podcast about misogyny's impact on young women and girls.
- Cited in an op-ed piece in The Ferret about tackling the spread of misogyny amongst young men and boys in Scotland.
- Co-published a policy paper with YouthLink's 'Imagine a Man' team on healthy masculinity and engaging young men in youth work.

We responded to 2 consultation responses:

- Proposed Youth Work (Scotland) Bill.
- Scottish Government's Equality and Human Rights Mainstreaming Strategy.

We published 9 policy briefings for parliamentary debates:

- Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) Bill – Stage 3 debate.
- Scottish Government debate on urgent action to tackle climate change.
- From toxic to positive masculinity: Can Scotland lead the way in reframing masculinity?
- Challenge Poverty Week, young women's experiences of the cost-of-living crisis.
- Young women's democratic wellbeing.
- Members' Business debate on improving access to health and social care in rural Scotland.
- The Women's Health Plan 2021-2024: Progress and next steps.

- Empowering young people's voices in tackling violence against women and girls.
- Young women's access to cultural rights in Scotland.

We were signatories on six letters:

- Open letter from the Scottish Rewilding Alliance about introducing a Rewilding Nation Charter, advocating for feminist climate justice.
- Open letter from Human Rights Consortium Scotland to the First Minister about the delayed Human Rights Bill.
- Open letter from WEAll Scotland to the Deputy Minister on the Wellbeing and Sustainable Development Bill.
- Open letter from Human Rights Consortium Scotland to the UN Committee on economic, social and cultural rights ahead of their 77th session.
- Open letter from Oxfam to the First Minister on creating a fairer tax system in Scotland.
- Open letter from equality sector to Chancellor on UK Government's plans to cut social security for Disabled people.



Image: Our Research & Policy Lead giving evidence in Scottish Parliament

THANK YOU

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our work from April 2024 to March 2025, including:

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We'd also like to thank our generous and loyal supporters who have given donations throughout the year, from birthday fundraisers, to programme alumna paying it forward – your support means the world to us!

If you would like to support our work, head to youngwomenscot.org/donate or get in touch at hello@youngwomenscot.org.





***THE YOUNG
WOMEN'S
MOVEMENT***

youngwomenscot.org
hello@youngwomenscot.org
@youngwomenscot

Registered office: The Melting Pot, 15 Calton Road, EH8 8DL
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