

Young Sea Changers Scotland

Scotland's seas are at a tipping point: competition for marine space and resources is at an unprecedented level and, coupled with climate change, our marine wildlife and habitats are under threat. We need immediate and bold action to bring our seas back to health for the benefit of nature and people.

Scotland has both the opportunity and responsibility to provide global leadership on marine recovery. Young Sea Changers Scotland believes that for this to happen we need to harness the energy and creativity of young people to demand a change in approach towards this path.

Our vision is for young people in Scotland, regardless of background or experience, to be empowered to take action for healthy seas and have their voice heard on marine policy.

We will deliver this vision by:

1. Supporting young people to take action for our shared seas

We will run workshops and events to increase young people's awareness and understanding of marine policy and conservation issues and opportunities to engage in decision-making. We will offer bespoke training and resources on how to influence policy. We will broker relationships between young people and marine experts.

2. Amplifying youth voices in marine decision making.

We will work with marine authorities and stakeholders to secure opportunities for greater youth involvement in decision making and help young people feel confident participating in these processes. We will respond to consultations to ensure young people's views are taken into account where necessary.

3. Creating spaces for young people to connect and share knowledge and skills.

We will build a strong community of marine advocates by organising regular national and regional events. We will create an online platform for ongoing learning and peer-to-peer exchange.

Young Sea Changers Scotland will be guided by the following **key values**:

- 1. Hope:** we believe that recovery of the health of Scotland's seas is possible.
- 2. Collaboration:** we work collaboratively with young people to design and deliver solutions.
- 3. Respect:** we treat each other and the natural environment with respect.
- 4. Passion:** we approach challenges with passion and courage.
- 5. Perseverance:** we do not give up when the going gets tough.