

REGIONAL SUMMARY

MID SCOTLAND AND FIFE

FEBRUARY 2026





ABOUT THIS SUMMARY

Dear Scotland's Future is SYP's manifesto 2026-2031. It has been developed by young people, for young people and sets out the agenda for the changes they want to see over the next five years. Based on a consultation with nearly 5,000 young people across Scotland, this summary highlights the responses from young people in Mid Scotland and Fife.

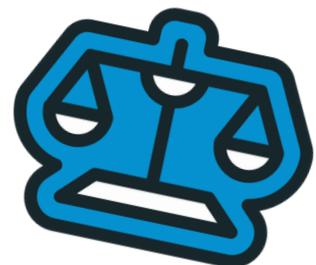
The region of Mid Scotland and Fife is based on the regional groupings used within the Scottish Parliament and contains the following constituencies:

- Clackmannanshire and Dunblane
- Cowdenbeath
- Dunfermline
- Kirkcaldy
- Mid Fife and Glenrothes
- North East Fife
- Perthshire North
- Perthshire South and Kinross-shire
- Stirling

DEMOGRAPHICS

This summary is based on 151 responses, 16 of which were from group responses.

- The majority of individual respondents were from **Clackmannanshire**.
- Most individual respondents were **aged between 14-17**.
- Most individual respondents identified as **female**.





TOP 10 MOST AGREED POLICIES

The following ten policies received the highest agreement by young people in this region. Percentages were rounded to two decimal places. Note, this does not equate to being the most urgent issues for young people.

- **Close the gender pay gap - 92% agree**
Compared with 87% Scotland-wide
- **Barriers to accessing further and higher education - 91% agree**
Compared with 91% Scotland-wide
- **Prevention and early intervention for mental health - 91% agree**
Compared with 91% Scotland-wide
- **Accessible and affordable sports and leisure facilities - 90% agree**
Compared with 91% Scotland-wide
- **Accessible and reliable public transport - 89% agree**
Compared with 91% Scotland-wide
- **NHS protected from privatisation - 87% agree**
Compared with 83% Scotland-wide
- **Reduce time for prosecution of sexual assault - 87% agree**
Compared with 90% Scotland-wide
- **Maintain and expand free travel for young people - 87% agree**
Compared with 87% Scotland-wide
- **Universal free school meals - 87% agree**
Compared with 70% Scotland-wide
- **Respect the views of children and young people - 86% agree**
Compared with 83% Scotland-wide



YOUNG PEOPLE IN MID SCOTLAND AND FIFE SAY...

"My political views are very different to my parents and that is okay."

- Young person aged 18-21, Stirling

"I can't imagine how awful and difficult my life would be living with medical conditions if it weren't for the NHS. I worry that I wouldn't be able to afford to live if we didn't have it."

- Young person, Stirling

"There isn't a lot of social spaces for teenagers, and it really shows as it makes people restless and want to push into adult spaces."

-Young person aged 14-17, Cowdenbeath

"Misogyny is joked about a lot by young people and a lot of people don't take the issue seriously. Many girls/women face both discrimination and discomfort/unwanted advances by men, and many men/boys don't understand the leverage of their actions."

-Young person aged 12-13, Clackmannanshire and Dunblane

"I believe the Scottish government should try ask young people under the voting age to ensure they still have a say on what will affect them."

-Young person aged 14-17, Kirkcaldy

"Exams must go. They're not representative of true intelligence or knowledge."

-Young person aged 14-17, Perthshire South and Kinross-shire

"Financial education is crucial for young people like us to understand personal finance ,taxation and economy. By providing financial education the government is empowering us to make well informed financial decisions about our money. It could help us learn about budgeting, saving and investing."

-Young person aged 14-17, Clackmannanshire and Dunblane



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