## Children and Young People's **Panel on Europe**



### **European Union Funding**

#### • Key Focus: Funding for Youth Projects & Services



Youth work is important because it has a big impact on children and young people as they grow up. Youth work funding has been reduced in recent years. Youth clubs and projects help young people learn new skills, make new friends and get support with their health and wellbeing. They also provide children and young people with opportunities to relax, be creative and have fun, an important right covered by Article 31 of the UNCRC

We feel that services for children and young people are always cut first and current funding for youth services isn't good enough. A lot of funding for youth clubs and projects in Scotland currently comes from the EU. Council budgets for youth services have already been cut and they can't afford to lose money from the EU.

The UK Government is developing a 'Shared Prosperity Fund' which will replace some money that youth services currently get from the EU. The UK Government is also planning to set aside £7 million for youth services but we don't know how much of this will be given to youth services in Scotland.



Artwork produced by pupils of Sciennes Primary School

#### What do we want?

- Youth services should get at least the same level of funding as they currently do from the EU through replacement funding.
- The Scottish Government needs to make sure that Scotland gets a fair proportion of funding for youth projects and services when a replacement fund is set up.
- The Scottish Government needs to give more information about where funding will come from for youth services.
- Funding for youth services needs to be spread fairly across the country.



**#YoungBrexitVoices** 

#### What are we doing?

We are contacting Scottish Government and Scottish Youth Parliament. The Coronavirus pandemic has shown that not having access to youth services can have a bad effect on children and young people and therefore this issue should be sorted immediately.

We are contacting youth work organisations to show our support.

# Scottish Government,<br/>LainburghScottish Government<br/>Riaghaltas na h-Alba<br/>gov.scotScottish Government<br/>halbaScottish Youth Parliament,<br/>LainburghScottish Youth Parliament,<br/>Lainburgh