

An **invitation** to join us for **Tending the Light** in the North, a Festival of Care and Connection, sparked in Shetland, igniting in Inverness 17th and 18th February 2023.

Tending the Light in the North is a major showcasing, learning and development event with its heart at The Town House in Inverness.

Bringing together Care Experienced young people and Corporate Parents we will explore what we learn from true co-design alongside those with lived experience, and how imaginative approaches create transformative change. To get a feel for this exciting event please check out our <u>Tending the Light, Invitation Film</u>.

In a wider programme of activity there are three bookable events for Corporate Parents:

Tending the Light

Care Day, Friday 17th Feb 1-5pm The Town House, Inverness

- A focussed Care Day afternoon of collaboration, bringing Care Experienced leaders, corporate parenting colleagues and partners together from across the North
- You will leave feeling energised, better connected and better equipped in your work to #Keepthepromise right alongside your care experienced community
- Tending the Light in the North will be an important milestone in building a community of positive change across the North
- It builds on the Festivals of Care, the Care Convention and co-creation across the North to #Keepthepromise

Our key messages for the year to come will be showcased at 3.30pm on the Saturday, please also join us then if you can. To book a place https://hcpc.scot/courses/tendingthelight/

The Salt Made Marks

Friday 5.15pm - 6.15pm The Town House, Inverness

The Salt Made Marks is a beautiful, experimental film exploring the meaning of home and belonging with a group of care experienced young people from Shetland.

To book a place https://hcpc.scot/courses/saltmademarks/

Showcase

Saturday 3.30-4.30pm The Town House, Inverness

Bringing Corporate parents and Care Experienced young people back together to showcase our learning and key messages for the year ahead. To book a place https://hcpc.scot/courses/ttlshowcase/

To book a place, click on links above or email **Gillian.Macpherson2@highland.gov.uk**

FULL PROGRAMME

Friday 17th Feb

Care flags	10.00 am Northwide	Care flags designed by Care Experienced young people will be raised in Inverness and across the North to mark the start of Care Day
My Lighthouses Look Out For Me	10.00 - 11.00am Online	How we are keeping the promises we made. An event for senior strategic leaders hosted by Maggie Sandison, Chief Exec of Shetland Islands Council and Care Experienced young leaders the #SHETLANDCREW.
Tending the Light	1.00 - 5.00 pm The Town House	A focussed afternoon of collaboration, bringing Care Experienced leaders, Corporate Parent colleagues and partners together from across the North.
The Salt Made Marks	5.15 - 6.15pm The Town House	A beautiful, experimental film exploring the meaning of home and belonging with a group of Care Experienced young people from Shetland.
Saturday 18th Feb		
Being the Light Care Convention	10.00am - 3pm The Town House	A series of workshops including arts activities and virtual reality bringing Care Experienced young people together to connect, consider and create around the Festival themes.
Better Meetings	10.00am - 3pm Findhorn	Care Experienced young leaders in Moray working with Sheriff Mackie and partners responsible for the Hearings System redesign. With a live link to the Care Convention.
Showcase	3.30 - 4.30pm The Town House	Inviting all young people and Corporate Parents to come back together, sharing the learning and key messages for the year ahead.
Closing Celebration Prom	7 - 9.30pm The Town House	A closing celebration event and Prom for Care Experienced young people from across the North. Hosted by Highland CHAMPS

Home and Belonging Exhibition

The Home and Belonging Exhibition at The Town House provides the backdrop to the Tending the Light programme. It features the honest and powerful work of Care experienced young people and explores what Home and Belonging means to them. The exhibition has been funded by the Life Changes Trust and created in partnership with UHI.