

Workshop 2 Children & Young People's Voice

Issues to Explore

Using Harts ladder discuss where you feel your own organisation sits in relation to involving Children & Young People?

Notes / Comments

- All agreed not consistent & limited involvement with YP which impacts on organisational direction. Also agreed that it is crucial to give YP a voice as they have great ability to focus on needs.
- Similar to managing politicians
- Need to engage young people with a range of activities in different areas. Essential to recognise that YP move on regularly. Impressed with Young Carers Group.
- Level 5 (but inconsistent)
- Depends on young persons age/circumstances.
- Health: average = 6 however can range to 8 with LTC
- Police: Issue dependant from 0-4
- Education – at Primary Schools mainly 7/8?
- CAHMS doing well – have own children's group
- Police signed up to children's charter as are; YMCA/ CAMHS
- School perspective depends on issue our organisation varies 4-6.
- Agreed most organisations have seen an improvement since the Strategy was first produced

As a GROUP come to a consensus as to where you feel the CURRENT CYPSP sits in relation to involving Children and Young people?

Notes / Comments

- 4 – “Assigned and informed”
- Are we using the Youth Cabinet because it's easiest method?
- Training issue for people within organisations who do not understand YP well. We should have conversations day to day to keep up to date.
- As strong as our weakest partner
- We need to define our minimum core offer
- CYPSP reflects partnership membership: Schools are much improved so 7-8
- Shouldn't the “Youth voice” be asked how involved they are?
- This questions should be asked to all children's groups
- They don't contribute to the plan; tend to just invite them once a year. Don't sit on any of the working groups.
- Children are instrumental in the plan but should they be involved in 'strategic' discussions?
- It will always be at this level therefore tokenistic.
- This becomes important on task & Finish groups for more operational input

Discuss what you would like to see develop/improve upon over the next 12 months?

Notes / Comments

- Focus on YP accessing services and come up with a development plan for each organisation. 11 Million Takeover should become a partnership commitment and ongoing rather than a one off. Each organisation should come up with clear targets which can be achieved and measurable.
- Learn how organisation such as young carers works effectively with youth – (7/8 on Hart's ladder).
- Explore District Councils approach – youth council/cabinet/focus groups etc.
- County wide forum? Building on best practice. Is democracy best process? May not be most representative.
- Use formal as well as informal settings.
- Members of CYPSP could talk directly to young people – knowledge, skills' & attitudes should be appropriate.
- Peer training; incentivise YP to deliver training to CYPSP.
- Need learning & development for participation & share best practise across partners
- CYP should be engaged in commissioning process
- We should monitor the effectiveness of each others agency
- Review the TAC policy
- Task & Finish Groups - needs to include views of CYP. Go out to groups to discuss/seek views, observe.
- Good example is "See me talk to me group"
- Ensures that members of TAC meet with CYP before TAC Meeting and discuss/agree how Childs voice will be heard.
- Active engagement with CYP
- Use of social media e.g. anti bullying to allow anonymous discussion etc.
- Opportunity to tap into how CYP talk together – e.g. why not have a CYPSP TWITTER account?
- Identify who & how many YP groups have been consulted with.
- Use of existing groups beyond CYPV eg. Scouts/ Girl Guides, Sports groups, princess trust. Target 'the Unclubables'