
Need to engage with children & young people?

Are you...

DEVELOPING POLICY? DESIGNING SERVICES? PLANNING CONSULTATIONS?



CONTACT US

Participation Network
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We are here to help...

TRAINING • ADVICE • EXPERTISE • CONSULTANCY SUPPORT • RESOURCES • GUIDANCE

Who we are

Participation Network is supported by OFMDFM to help the Public Sector engage effectively with children and young people. We support central and local government personnel to listen to the views of children and young people during the development and review of policy and services that impact on their lives.

Services

All our services are delivered **FREE** of charge to the Public Sector.



We offer a number of **Training** modules including:

- Why engage with children and young people?
- How to engage with children and young people?

We also offer training which is tailored to the specific needs of a particular Department, Council or Agency.



Our **Consultancy Support** service is designed to help decision-makers in specific tasks, such as:

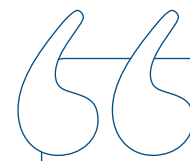
- Designing a consultation exercise
- Developing an engagement policy or strategy
- Recruiting young people to take part in a working group
- Seeking the views of younger children
- Organising a participative event



We can **Signpost** Public authorities to our Directory of Practitioners. They work with specific groups of children and young people and have skilled staff who can facilitate your engagement.



Our website offers a range of **Resources** and information in relation to child and youth participation, including details of practitioners, guidance, and standards of good practice.



What they said...

" We don't expect children to know what adults need so why do we assume that adults know what works for children? If we involve children and young people in the design of policies and services that affect them we are much more likely to get it right first time. "

CAROLINE EVANS - OFMDFM

" I think it is only now that we are all beginning to fully understand the importance of listening to the voices of Children and Young People and the contribution that they can make to policy development and service improvements. "

WENDY JOHNSTON - DARD

" The strongest examples of active leadership that I have seen at any time in my career have been from people who are too young to vote. Don't be put off by your perceptions of the difficulties. Young people will help you develop better policy. "

EDDIE ROONEY - PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY

" By listening to young people we can do better in providing services that address their needs. Very often you'll hear (children and young people) telling you things that you may not be comfortable with hearing, but they're telling you things that you need to listen to, and that you can do something about. "

FERGAL BRADLEY - DHSS&PS

" You need to try it for yourself... I tried and it resulted in better policy making. "

EILIS MCDANIEL - DHSS&PS

