

Participation in Public Decision Making: What Works?



Introduction

The Participation Network held a networking seminar on children and young people participation in public decision making on 2nd April 2008 at Belfast's Waterfront Hall.

The purpose of the event was to provide an opportunity for public authorities to network with organisations who support children and young people to participate in public decision making. The event was opened by Patricia Lewsley, Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People. Harry Shier, an international expert originally from Northern Ireland, addressed delegates in his keynote speech on 'Navigating the Tensions' to participation (Powerpoint presentation is available at www.ci-ni.org.uk/theparticipationnetwork). Harry also facilitated an interactive workshop in the afternoon to explore this theme further.

Key Note Speech

97% of delegates who completed evaluation forms commented the **overall content** of the day was good or very good.

"Very relevant and informative"

"Highly useful – challenging"

"Very effective"

"Varied and interesting"



94% responded the **networking session** was 'good' or 'very good' at providing opportunities to meet with other practitioners and public authorities.

"... made new contacts"

"It was surprising that many agencies were not aware of our work"

"Got to speak to various organisations which give me ideas for building programmes"

"Very beneficial"

"Good opportunity to meet a lot of people at one time"

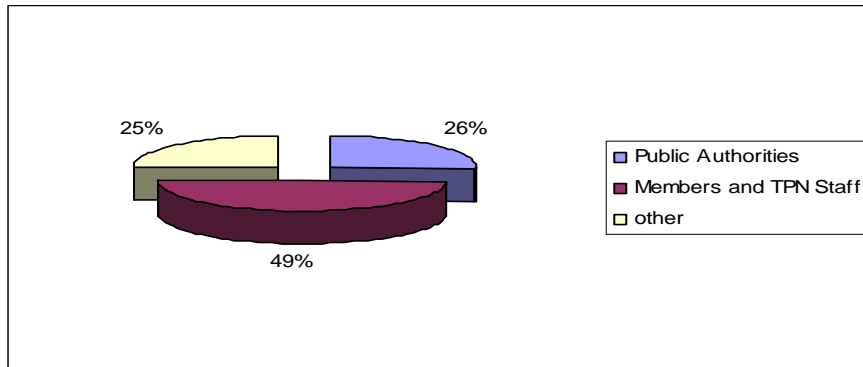
"Networking session was particularly useful to meet new groups"



Attendance

The seminar was attended by a total of 87 delegates. Table 1 illustrates the proportion of members in attendance (49%) in comparison to public authorities in attendance (26%). In their evaluations, many delegates commented that they felt disappointed by the number of public authorities in attendance (refer yo appendix 1 for attendance list).

Table 1: Attendance



Workshop

During the interactive workshop, Harry Shier facilitated delegates to explore tensions to including children and young people in public decision making as identified from his research.



After considering how the tensions related to their own practice, delegates then selected specific 'tensions' to explore further in small groups, and determine what 'guiding stars' can help navigate the tensions in the future.



When asked how relevant the content of the workshop was, all of the delegates who attended responded 'relevant' or 'very relevant.'

"Very interesting, relevant and compelling"

"Interactive and productive workshop"

"He is a very excellent speaker"

"Brilliant seminar, a great atmosphere created to learn and feel free to network"

"The talk from Harry was inspiring"

"His presentation was very relevant to our situation in Northern Ireland; I was able to gain a lot of new knowledge/ideas for my own work"

Tension 1

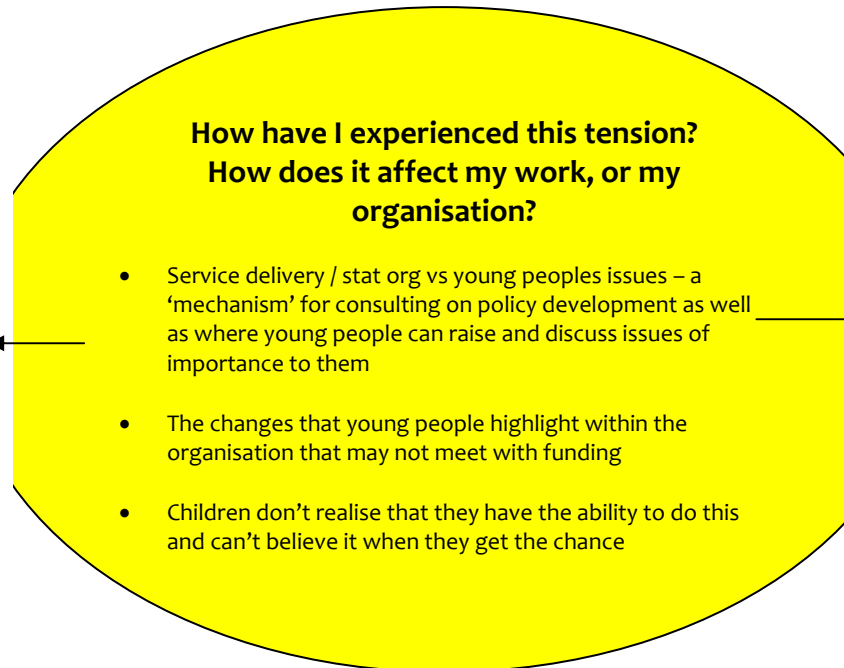
What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

The child as the consumer

Vs

The child as activist

- Competition for funding - one pot of money
- 'children are service users too'
- Compartmentalised! Treat condition, not child / young person – no holistic view
- Where children are seen almost as units of funding. The value of what we do is in terms of numbers, not what we do. We measure the wrong thing
- Funding tends to work quantitatively and so there is a need to have 'bums on seats' this can reduce opportunity to have a process which promotes 'activism'. We want creators not consumers
- Pressure for numbers to retain adequate funding for the forthcoming year
- Funders' unrealistic outcomes and needing to get things done quickly to use funding
- Government policies and targets
- Have a specific product for children in education
- Don't want to bite hand that feeds you (funders)
- Government initiatives / standards, Charter Mark etc.
- The need for 'results' e.g. academic achievement
- Pressure from unrealistic management demands / funding demands / stipulations that see results as "bums on seat" not development of the individuals



- Clear focus on children as rights holders
- Values of organisation
- Young children are strong, competent and visible in their community
- Work to empower the child
- Results are more positive and longer lasting. The funders haven't always the right vision / realistic expectations or an informed vision
- The rights of the child
- Promote the idea that the young people are in control of their future
- Resources will be more relevant with the input of children and young people and budgets can be spent more efficiently
- Challenge currently there are very negative media messages being sent out about young people in NI
- Young people having the right to act on their views
- Giving the young person the opportunity to effect change that they want. Enabling learning on power of citizenship and their rights
- Young people are best at knowing issues that effect them
- Failure to engage could lead to voluntary and involuntary 'exclusion'

Tension 2

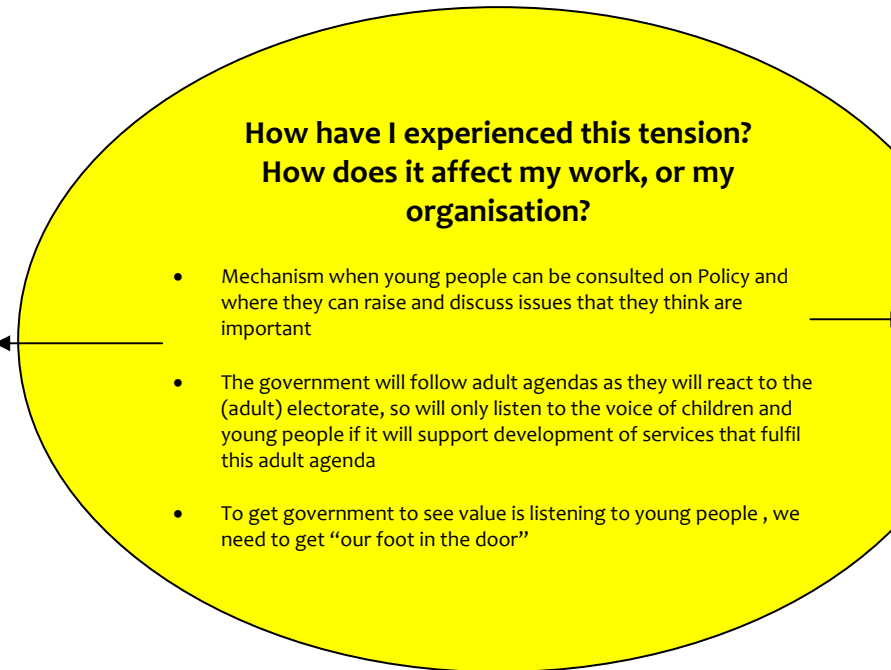
What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Government agendas

vs

Children's agendas

- Current Government policies and what's 'sexy' to discuss / address
- Funding!
- Sometimes only leveragable from government
- Government sees child as consumer / client
- Young people's rights not strategically relevant issues
- Funding – numbers
- Involvement are entirely tokenistic – children's voices on Committees etc.
- Is Government culturally serious about participation , or is it a tick box exercise? There needs to be a 2 way relationship !! Government and young people
- Quite often funders listen to government and not grass-roots workers! – on short term projects!
- Government agendas focus on quantitative targets and evaluation, not experiences and time needed for good participation
- To ensure that we meet equality of access agendas
- They have power and money
- We should lower voting age



- Young people want to be involved - start to engage and get excited to join in
- Agencies ethics / values / culture actively promotes participation
- Our ethos!
- The fact that young people deserve the best opportunities we can support them to get!
- Knowing the young person knows best on their agenda
- Our ethos and mission pulls us towards this direction, but very often funds make us swing the other way!
- Are the Government agendas correct or are they just assumptions on what children need – best to also ask for children's input
- Young people are involved in decision making
- Should be at the centre of decision making – our job to promote that approach
- What children and young people feel is important
- Organisationally, we exist for children and young people
- UNCRC and Human Rights Standards into practice on all the issues on Government agendas!
- Define key for balancing government and young people's agendas
- Funding and time commitments required to ensure children / young people's agendas are fed back / included in Government agendas
- Young people / children should have right to opt out of agendas that are of no relevance / importance to them
- Children and young people 'asked' to input in consultation processes by Government / Statutory bodies yet no processes in place to feed back on this input
- We saw an overlap in other tensions – similar themes; reactive vs proactive etc.

Tension 3

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Consultation

Vs

Shared decision-making

- Rights to privacy / confidentiality makes consultation and shared decision making a little difficult with sensitive issue groups e.g. young people experiencing domestic violence, sexual abuse, criminal activities...
- Agenda always set beforehand – children consulted on already decided agenda!
- All children and young people had to be given a voice during consultation process – art / drama / sports – rewards and feedback was important to the children and young people – now they want to see action
- Funding at times – the want to get it right and make a positive difference!
- Seen as a tick box process which has to be done.
- Young people being consulted at the end rather than the start!
- Statutory requirement
- This is part of participation. Most adults don't fully participate in civic life – why should young people?

**How have I experienced this tension?
How does it affect my work, or my organisation?**

- Being interviewed for my job panel which consisted of one young person from the Youth Forum
- Included / invited young people to be on interview panel – made active notes
- Youth Panel having own action plan for the year linking with corporate business plan
- Involvement in various 'consultations' as well as 'participation' - i.e. fitting in various rungs of the 'ladders'
- Consultation good – participation better. If children and young people are involved in creating / developing policy, services etc. It's more likely to work. Asking views after the policy is formed is a huge missed opportunity
- Young people do not want to participate and consultation is most realistic

- Where young people share the power – funding initiatives etc
- Should be putting consultation into action!!!
- Lack of human resources. Lack of trained skilled staff in listening to young children
- Figuring out: how do I move from "consultation to shared decision making?" What are the first steps to bringing young people into the decision-making process?
- Can only take young peoples decision so far – interferes in funding agenda / management agenda etc
- If we share decision making processes we are increasing the capacity of a whole community which aims to meet all needs!
- Our ethos and experiences of staff and young people are slowly getting there
- Best practice in policy making. The notion that policy makers not 'expect' on everything
- The desire to be an inclusive, caring and fair organisation
- The importance is getting views from children on decision affecting their lives

Tension 4

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

“Invited spaces”

vs

“popular spaces”

- There is a need to work with young people where they are at, this requires initiation
- Invites to consultations
- In a ‘post-conflict’ society there can be very few ‘democratic’ spaces – often young people need invited
- Adults are afraid of groups of young people, in any setting
- Safe and non threatening
- Novelty – getting out of their area, engaging new places, feeling important to be invited to an “important” space, so they can enjoy a “wee day out”
- Outreach work entails making use of buildings and resources within their community or neighbouring communities

**How have I experienced this tension?
How does it affect my work, or my organisation?**

- Young people are more comfortable / confident in their own space – feel ownership
- Outreach – sometimes the buildings that I can avail of do not suit the young people i.e. it’s in a neighbourhood where young people will not go into
- Consultation v youth led / issue based work?
- To have an exercise call in the community centre or at leisure centre
- It’s like being in high school where it’s like you have all the popular kids like cheerleaders / jocks (football people) and the other people are the unpopular kids like computer geeks and people who are into UFO’s and other things

- It doesn’t matter what group you are in as long as everybody joins in
- Groups can remain anonymous, hence free to experience “living” as the person they are without political or social constraint
- Young people as established group
- Push – timing, location, ways of operating that suit children change adults
- If the young person / group feel more confident in their own space. Not having transport pulls me in this direction

Tension 5

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Reactive participation

vs

Pro-active participation

- Where agendas are decided elsewhere, they can only be reactive in terms of participation
- Children and young people models of engagement always replicate adult ones
 - Shadow youth council
 - Youth committee
- Government agendas
Political Agendas
- “Trendy” concept following funding, government etc....
- Can sometimes be the right response to a new set of circumstances!
- Because of our belief in young children
- E.g. ASB – reaction to media hype!! How issues can be current in the media



- Real inclusion – not tokenism, a congruent management structure that really wants young people to be part of something
- Funding for participation workers (if achieved) demands a commitment to this participation
- Learned from the reaction (after reflection) to new circumstances
- Various issues as raised by young people e.g. NI Youth Assembly i.e. long term issues
- Need to hear what issues children and young people raise – they don't necessarily have a shared agenda – lots of voices results in new and creative ideas. Children and young people need opportunities and support to create their various agendas

Tension 6

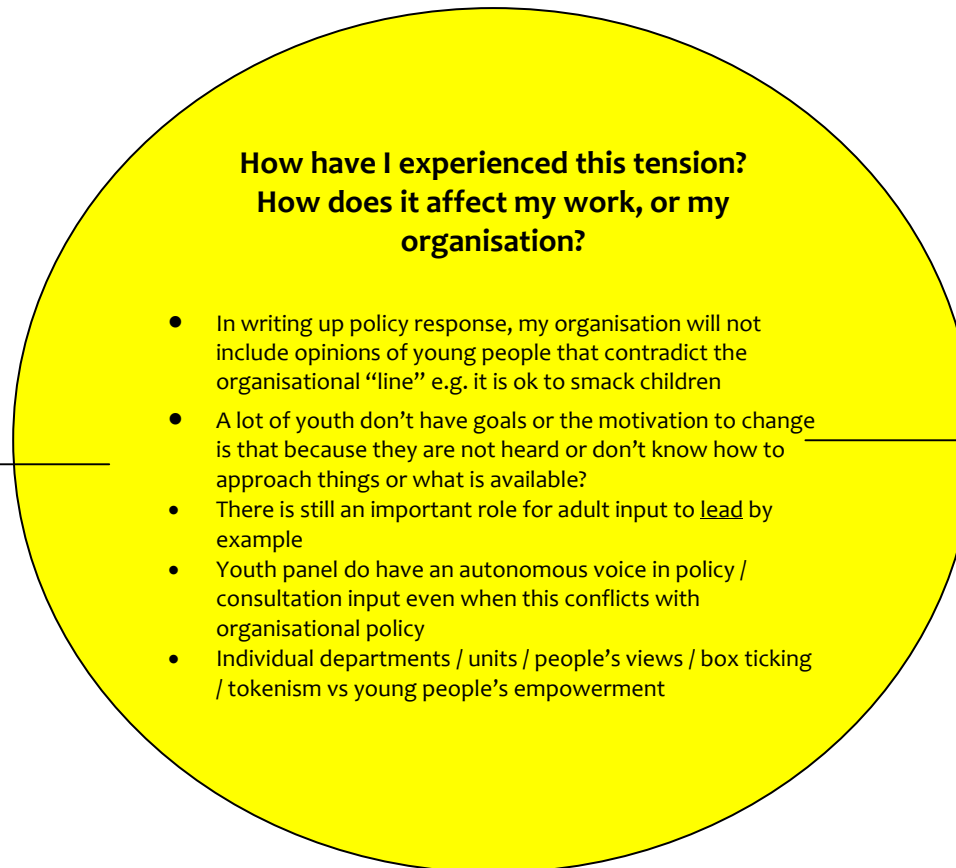
What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Manipulated voices

vs

Autonomus voices

- Sometimes decisions are made before talking to young people
- “Towing the organisational line”
- Do ‘higher powers’ really know what young people think / feel / need / want or is it a tick box which confirms what they want young people to say?
- Government feel the voice of very young children is not important
- Government feel young people and children are important when government needs response on some issues e.g. consultation
- Young people’s privacy / confidentiality if ‘sensitive’ issue groups e.g. domestic violence, abuse, crime



- Concerns are inconsistent of arguments
- When young people are in the driving seat
- Young people have no awareness of autonomy / are only familiar with dictator-like structures – autonomy is a foreign concept to break cycle
- Have the time to give into and look at possibilities

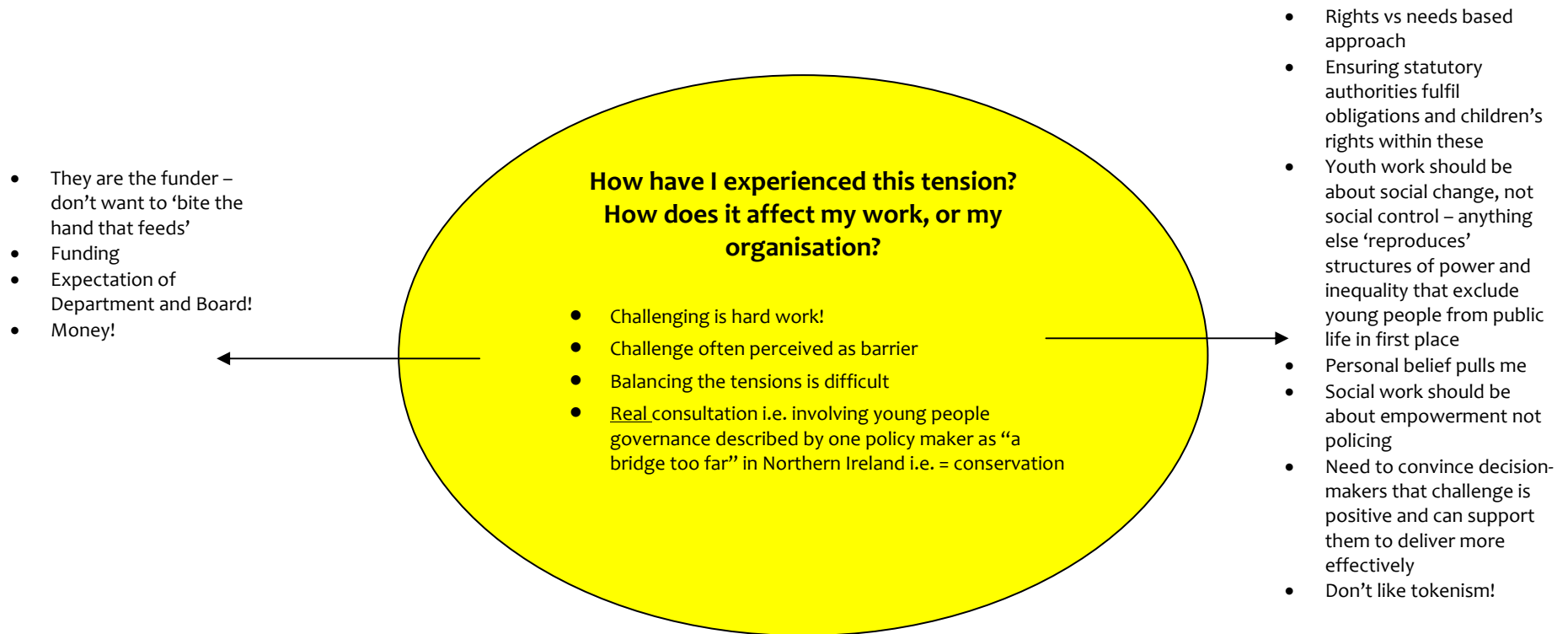
Tension 7

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Legitimising the existing power structure

vs

Challenging it



Tension 8

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

A public service framework

vs

A rights framework

- We have to react to public authority agendas when we are given the opportunity – otherwise young people’s voice may not be considered at a later date
- Statutory organisation
- To have impact on policy
- Obligations under UNCRC and NI Order (Section 75)
- Limited resources



- Consistent with my organisation’s value base
- Values of my organisation
- When young people raise issues that they feel are important
- Human Rights Legislation
- Changing attitudes to consultation, participation
- A rights based approach incorporates “needs” and goes beyond this point
- Values and belief pulls me – passion for doing what is right

Tension 9

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

“Youth participation”

Vs

“Children’s participation”

- The need to be inclusive building confidence
- My organisations youth remit
- Assumption that – older children are better at making themselves heard
- Young people can teach us so much
- Participating with young people in a war that is meaningful to them
- Inexperience and lack of training
- Fimilar environment
- Plus time, commitment and resources needed to have age-appropriate ways to engage and listen to children
- Young people may not have confidence or power to know what they want never mind be heard!
- More confidence / methods to bring young people into participation. Less confidence / knowledge of how to begin with younger children



- Engaging with young children requires different methods... age appropriate and belief that they have with them things to say!
- It is not that the very young don't have things to say but adults need to learn how to listen
- Without this we wouldn't have jobs!
- Need for youth and children sector partnership
- It can be done – young children can express themselves
- Lack of knowledge around child development – need to take risks and try out new inventive ways
- The need to listen to all our citizens
- Lack of knowledge or methods how to listen to young children
- Support, resources, time
- The hope that they will grow up to be happy and fulfilling their potential
- People feel that as long as children's basic needs are met, this is all that matters i.e. food, clothing etc. “as they are too young to be concerned about anything else”

Tension 10

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Mimicking adult structures

vs

Inventing new ones

- Lack of confidence on organisations part in not thinking outside the box in creative methods
- Fitting in to the current local government and adult structures and ways of working
- Safety and contract
- 'safer' / known option
- Tick box exercise
- Not focusing on process but product
- Afraid to take risks and try new things
- Not valuing young children and what they have to say
- Lack of time, commitment and resources
- Lack of creative / new ideas
- Agendas already set – tokenistic involvement of young people
- Consultation on 9 April on Young People's Strategy Action Plan was moved to a date and time young people are in school. Surely if young people were valued and respected it would be when suited them
- Its what organisations make available in terms of participation
- Very famous structures already in place e.g. shadow youth forum. Tendency is to copy these adult behaved models

**How have I experienced this tension?
How does it affect my work, or my organisation?**

- Can become self fulfilling prophecy e.g. policy-maker inviting token young person into committee to find they were intimidated and had little or nothing to say – this generated the belief that “we’re tried it and it didn’t work!”
- Some adults don’t communicate will, how can they help children and young people to do so. Communication is the key
- My participation group is informed and unstructured – this does not always fit or suit what policy / decision makers want

- The potential of young people to be creative
- A willingness and ability to work creatively and push boundaries
- Art / sports / drama participation – new ideas of working
- It works!!
- Allowing young people to raise and discuss issues in a way that is safe and meaningful or them
- Our ethos is to start where young people are at, participation requires this, and to do this right you need to develop new models
- The need to be creative
- Being secure with age appropriate meaningful ways to engage children – play
- Push- form of change and children's agendas amongst adults
- Failure of adults structures
- New structures will install confidence and others can learn and see that it can be done
- I do not want to create “mini adults”
- Will work better with young people if you do what they want!!
- It is hypocritical to say we will listen to young people then expect them to fit into adult constructs

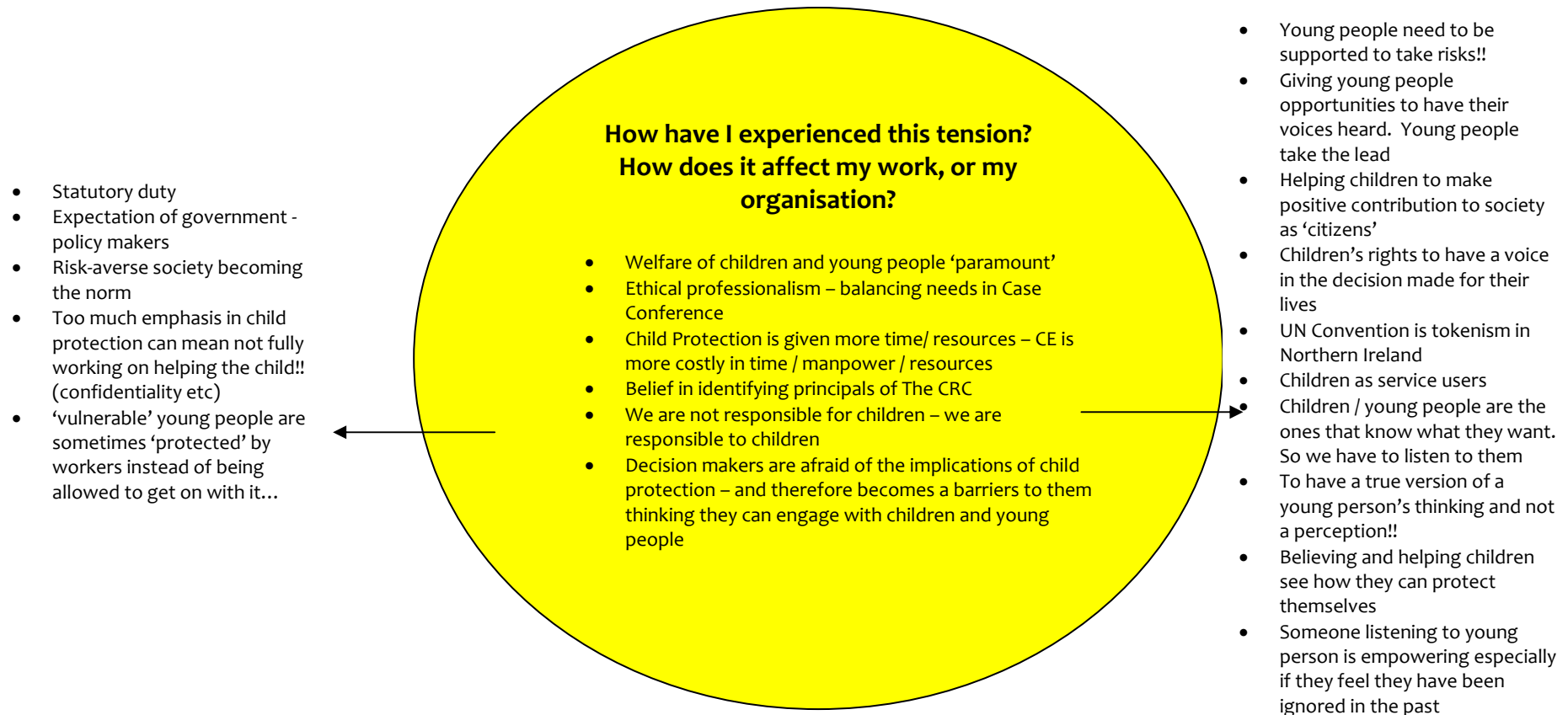
Tension 11

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Child protection

vs

Child empowerment



Tension 12

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Local and close-to-home participation

vs

National and global participation

- Local everyday issues
- Local is most tangible and relevant to the young people
- local issues mean more
- what's meaningful for children and we know what works well
- community led strategy development – real issues / concerns relevant to that particular community
- more likely to see the differences they make
- the management committee
- the youth themselves
- strategy findings
- homeless families that we work with and their needs
- “local” is most urgent
- Arguably ‘national or global’ issues are shaped and understood by the local context so starting local can unlock the potential to go wider
- Deals with what is ‘topical’ for the children and young people can be linked to Community Strategies
- Can see real effects – empowered to continue to effect change
- Need to sort out local issues before thinking national and global
- Positive lasting change requires all being on board in tandem!



- Technology
- The young people expressing concern on global issues – refugee, famine, poverty
- On the government agenda
- This can impact on more children and young people and will have more long term sustainable benefits
- Giving young people the opportunity to see the positives within their own community
- This is the idealised almost “romanticised” side. Avoids navigating frustrating local government and the local people / opinions
- Less controversy
- Make them realise how lucky they are – even though they might not think, they are!!
- We can learn how to ‘be’ together from other parts of the world

Tension 13

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Extrinsic motivation

vs

Intrinsic motivation

- Lack of knowledge / experience in knowing other ways of dealing e.g. behaviours
- Wanting to engage young people and make it a worthwhile experience for them in the short term
- We think young people need incentives to join
- Got to get project done on time and within budget!
- Too familiar with being “bribed” by Social Services / organisations for their participation – always wanting to know what incentive is (materialist) very much can not see the wood for the trees! Do not see long term benefits

**How have I experienced this tension?
How does it affect my work, or my organisation?**

- Young people want to know “what’s in it for me” in the short term and need to see tangible benefits, before they engage in participation work
- Sometimes young people can get too much materialistic rewards – encourages them to remain victims, it suits them to stay as they are
- When starting new groups, first questions is “will there be a residential at the end?”

- Empowerment of young person
- Young people may have a positive lasting life long adventure which enhances their skill base etc...
- Difficult for children to see long-term benefits of involvement
- Survey of children showed that they don’t want payment or treats – they want to influence / have opportunities to work others and personal development
- More difficult to see these results
- Longer process
- Trouble with motivating them and getting them to realise what potential they have to achieve!
- A desire to provide and promote long term benefits for young people – individually and globally

Tension 14

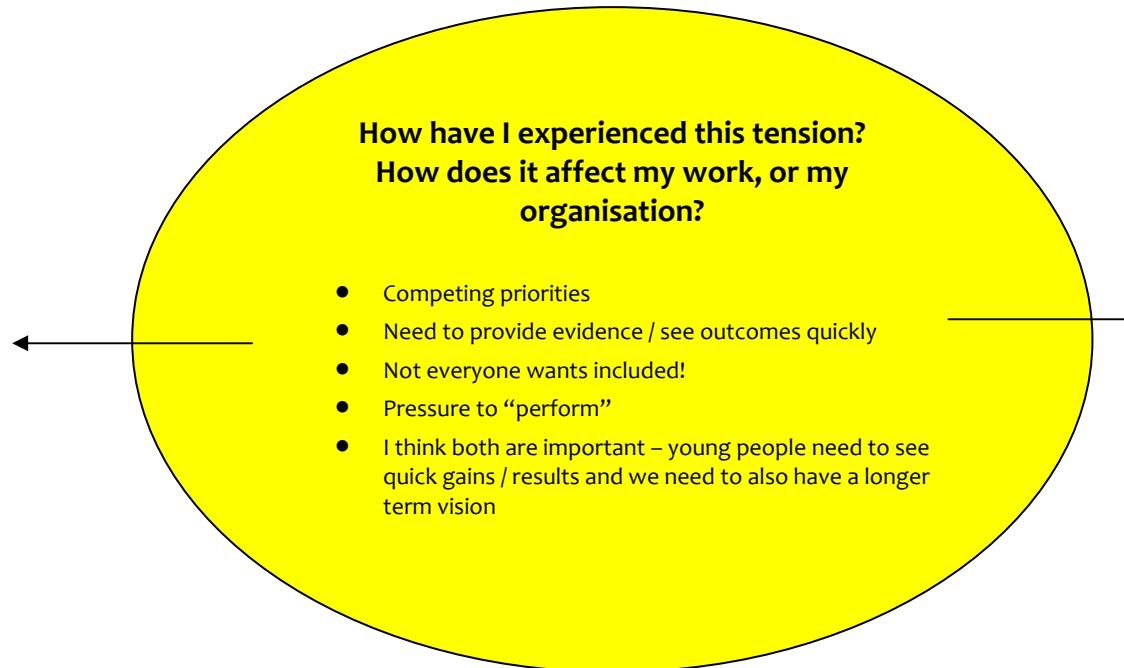
What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

Getting a quick result

vs

Including everybody

- Short-term funding!
- Pressure to perform
- Quick wins can be motivating tool
- Government deadlines
- Fear engagement – including everybody means tackling hostile attitudes, those who are disenfranchised or marginalised
- Funding deadlines for evaluation or constraints. Not having enough time
- Funding deadlines put time limits on projects – e.g. 1 year pilots Yeah right!
- Needs of organisation and also young people to see results
- The timescale of Government agenda / policy
- Political interests
- Funding / management agenda!



- The realisation that this work takes time – a young person’s participation can start with speaking in a group for the first time – it can be months / years before they develop this
- Support
- Funding
- Time
- Evidence based research illustrating that investment in early years interventions have longer term societal gains
- Takes time but very relevant
- Children’s Order
- Too much paperwork affects amount and level of support
- Organisations are out for themselves, don’t work together
- Lack of time / resources to develop appropriate methods for inclusive participation
- Need for training - to develop adult’s skills and knowledge about ‘hard to reach’ children and young people
- Understanding that the UNCRC obliges inclusion of ALL children – not an elite few and that full inclusion ensures effective decisions
- Focus for our organisation
- Putting individual before money / funding etc. – real worthwhile work!
- Lack of time given to prepare for proper consultation with younger children

Tension 15

What pushes or pulls me or my organisation in this direction?

One-off projects

vs

Long-term projects

- A lack of understanding from those that make decisions that a long term process is worth pushing for
- Time limitations
- Visible early gains – an end product!
- Money that ‘has to be spent’
- Resources
- Seen as tokenism
- Pressure from management for obvious results
- Can be good to hook people into longer term projects
- Product over process no long term vision not seeing the process as product
- A lack of understanding the value of listening to young children and embedding it into everyday practice
- Goals and objectives are easier to follow through on / see results
- Can engage lots of young people with different interests
- Short term funding culture



- The need for proper outcomes not outputs
- Children and young people (and adults learning new things!) need time
- Real participation and democratic communities is a generational task
- Seeing the bigger picture knowing development of skills and knowledge is needed to achieve the aim of the group / task
- Builds relationships (meaningful) and confidence to work together
- Long term results for society
- Young people that can become peer educators / mentors for the younger generation of children – giving back to their community
- Knowledge of what research has told us on a long term basis
- The long term gains for young children as visible in their community

What ‘guiding stars’ can help us navigate the tensions?

Recommendations from Workshop

Tension 1	The child as consumer vs. the child as the activist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable opportunities that create choices • Limit situations that narrow choice
Tension 2	Government agendas vs. children’s agendas	Putting children and young people’s agendas at the centre of Government agendas
Tension 3	Consultation vs. shared decision-making	<p>Long term – change culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • start young <p>Short term – good consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage expectations • Give feedback
Tension 4	“Invited spaces” vs. “popular spaces”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involving young people when deciding on venue to use • Developing skills of young people that will enable them to feel confident and comfortable in a variety of setting i.e. confidence, good communication, building self-esteem
Tension 6	Manipulated voices vs. autonomous voices	Value the child’s views from the early years – however they communicate – to enable autonomy at any stage of development about any issue of importance to them
Tension 9	“Youth participation” vs. “children’s participation”	Respect, partnership and risk
Tension 10	Mimicking adult structures vs. inventing new ones	Flexibility and freedom to change (lessons learnt use old and new and combine if necessary)
Tension 12	Local and close-to-home participation vs. national and global participation	<p>Start local, on tangible, relevant issues and demonstrate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the benefits of this to adults, and 2. that you value the contribution of young people <p>And then expand to broader global issues</p>

Tension 13	Extrinsic motivation vs. intrinsic motivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intrinsic motivation is the ideal in the long term • To achieve this small incentives are required • This does not have to be materialistic i.e. time, letter of recognition to parents • Equality does not mean treating everyone the same way, allowing equality of opportunity
Tension 14	Getting a quick result vs. including everybody	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge the tension • Define inclusion • Embed inclusion in decision making, policy making and planning processes
Tension 15	One off projects vs. long-term projects	Meaningful participation by young people can transform one-off projects into long-term development

Further information about Harry Shier's work can be found at www.cesesma.org

Conclusion

Overall, the seminar was a successful event in terms of networking and learning on how to involve children and young people in public decision making. Delegates commented that the structure of the day was a useful balance of input from the speaker and time to network with other delegates.

The comments from the evaluation forms have afforded The Participation Network the opportunity to reflect and review on organising future annual seminars. Delegates highlighted the need to facilitate such networking events in the future. In hosting future events, the following points were among some suggested:

“I would like to see more involvement from social services and youth justice type services. Also more involvement from government departments”

“Regular events like these would promote a better ‘participation’ environment”

“Involvement of children in the event”

“Provide further opportunities for peer support regarding participation”

Appendix 1

Attendance List

Agnes	Sloan	NHSCT
Alaistair	McKinley	Curriculum Development Unit
Alexey	Janes	Young Farmers Clubs of Ulster
Alison	Loughlin	Parenting Forum NI
Allison	Bouley	Forthspring Inter Community Group
Andrew	McCreey	Cedar Foundation
Angela	Taylor	Western Education & Library Board Youth Services
Ann	Godfrey	SHSSB
Audrey	Quigley	DHSSPS - Child Care
Ben	Mallon	Belfast City Council Youth Forum
Brian	McHenry	Early Years
Brian	Wilson	Save the Children
Carolyn	Barr	Department of Finance and Personnel
Catherine	Mullin	BAAF Northern Ireland
Catherine	O'Kane	Cliftonville Community Empowerment Partnership (CCEP)
Catherine	Flannigan	Tinylife
Chris	Quinn	Belfast City Council Youth Forum
Chris	Meneilley	The LILAC Project
Christine	Glasgow	The LILAC Project
Claire	Higginson	positive Futures
Claudia	Brown	Beyond Skin
damien	Lindsay	Blackie Community Groups Association
David	Porter	Health Improvement and Community Development
David	Lamont	NEELB Library Headquarters
Debbie	Francey	Women Into Politics Youth Project
Declan	Martin	Atlantic Philanthropies
Deena	Haydon	
Denis	Jordan	DHSS&PS
Dr Ruth	Sinclair	NCB Northern Ireland
Dympna	Thornton	PSNI - Community Safety Branch

Eileen	Shine	Together 4 All Family Support Project
Gary	Cooper	Middletown Centre for Autism Ltd
Gavin	O'Connor	Arts Council
Gilbert	Bell	North Eastern Education and Library Board
Gillian	Presho	Cedar Foundation
Guest		
Harry	Shier	
Helen	Davies	Northern HSC Trust
Isobel	McClellan	Early Years
Jacqueline	Sweeny	The LILAC Project
Jane	Lowry	The LILAC Project
Jillian	Montgomery	Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid
John	Duffy	EHSSB
John	Doherty	The LILAC Project
Karen	Rice	Cliftonville Community Empowerment Partnership (CCEP)
Karen	Witherspoon	Youth Council for Northern Ireland
Kellie	Turtle	Childline / NSPCC
Laura	Slater	RNIB NI
Leanne	Mills	Northern Ireland Office
Leanore	McGreevy	The LILAC Project
Lisa	Moore	Craigavon Travellers Support Committee
Louise	Matthews	Cliftonville Community Empowerment Partnership (CCEP)
M	Smyth	NIYF
Maddie	Johnson	Public Achievement
Maggie	McGibbon	DENI
Marie	Quiery	
Mark	Davis	NIYF
Mark	Ovens	UUP
Marlene	Kingham	NICCY
Mat	Crozier	Include Youth - Young Voices Project
Matthew		VOYPIC
Michelle	McGlade	Glen Alva Family Centre
Mr E	McGlinchey	The LILAC Project
niall	Moore	NICCY

Nikki	Strain	Girlguiding Ulster
Patricia	Lewsley	NICCY
Paul	Finnegan	NIYF
Paula	Keenan	
Pauline	Leeson	Children in Northern Ireland
Peter	Topping	Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children
Phyllis	Lewis	NEELB
Richard	Hyslop	OFMDFM
Roisin	McCooley	Playboard
Roisin	Trainor	VOYPIC
Ryan	Nolan	DOE
Sean	Pettis	Public Achievement
Sean	McKevitt	RoSA
Sgt Stephen	Lilley	PSNI
Sharon	Bayliss	Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid
Sharon	Fitchie	DARD
Sheena	Bell	Family Mediations NI
Sinead	O'Flaherty	MACS
Stephanie	Mitchelle	NCB Northern Ireland
Stuart	Mullan	NI Youth Forum
Suzanne	Harrison	BBC Children in Need
Terry	Burns	BBC Children in Need
Vanessa		VOYPIC