

Who's listening?



Hello!



The information in this booklet has been written to tell young people about the work of Particip8. Particip8 is a project that was carried out by youth workers employed in the community of Greater Craigmillar, which is in East Edinburgh. The project was carried out between October 2003 and November 2004.

The booklet has four different sections. Each section tells you about the different parts of the project. The sections each have a different title. There are some notes below to help you understand what each section is about,

Section 1 – What’s aw the fuss?

This section tells you the basic information about Particip8, including, how the project started and what it aimed to do.

Section 2 – What r u talking about?

This section tells you how the workers involved in the Particip8 project carried out their work.

Section 3 – What’s the Score?

This section tells you about the information that was collected about young people during the project

Section 4 – What r u gonnie do about it?

This section tells you about what happens next

What's aw the fuss?

Particip8 was set up to speak with young people living in Craigmillar about their experiences of attending youth services. The Youth Workers who carried out the project wanted to find out if young people felt that youth services take their opinions seriously when making decisions about how their clubs and projects should be run. Particip8 was set up because young people themselves had spoken about their frustrations when attending clubs. The youth projects involved in this work are listed below:

- ♦ Craigmillar Capacity Building project
- ♦ Café K
- ♦ Instep
- ♦ NHS Lothian
- ♦ Community Education



The following projects also helped out at certain points

- ♦ The Health Opportunities Team
- ♦ Craigmillar Partnership
- ♦ Bristo Memorial Church
- ♦ The Venchie

What r u talkin about?



In order to help the Particip8 workers' understand all the issues connected to young people and the ways in which youth services involve them in decision making, we asked 80 young people who live in the community a set of questions. The main questions we asked included,

1. Using the ladder of participation (see page 8), how well do you think local youth projects consult with young people before making decisions?
2. Using the ladder of participation, how well do you think wider community projects such as the Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership and the City of Edinburgh Council, with young people before making decisions?
 3. What do you think are the benefits for young people if youth services listen to their views and opinions?
4. What do you think are the benefits for youth services if they listen to young peoples' views and opinions?
5. What are the issues you think organisations who work with young people should be tackling?
 6. Why do you think these issues exist?
7. Would you be willing to work with Youth Services to address these issues?

What's the Score?

80 young people completed questionnaires; the results were really interesting, they proved a number of things, including,

- ♦ Young people feel that their local clubs try hard to involve them when making decisions.
- ♦ Wider bodies such as the Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership and the City of Edinburgh Council need to do more to include young people.
- ♦ Young people are aware of the benefits and importance of decision making
- ♦ Young people have an informed and intelligent awareness of the issues they face living in Craigmillar.
- ♦ Young people are willing to work with Youth Services to tackle the issues that affect them.



But don't just take our word for it, have a look at some of the stats...

- ♦ Over 50% of the young people who completed the questionnaires scored local youth services at number 7 or above on the ladder of participation.

- ♦ Over 70% of the young people who had heard of Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership, scored the organisation below number 7 on the ladder of participation.

- ♦ Over 80% of the young people who had heard of the City of Edinburgh Council, scored them below number 7 on the ladder of participation.



- ♦ Young people feel that youth services would be more in touch with young peoples needs if they were involved more when decisions are being made. They also believe that young people and workers would have better relationships, and that services would save money by only spending on activities that young people are interested in.

- ♦ There are 4 major issues that young people would like youth services to focus upon; these are, community safety, health & well being, access to leisure and sporting activities and issues related to poverty and unemployment.
- ♦ Young people think that the issues they face exist for a number of reasons; these reasons range from the inappropriate behaviour of young people themselves, to the lack of opportunities and choices that exist when living in Craigmillar.
- ♦ Over 60% of young people who completed the questionnaires were willing to work with youth services to tackle these issues.



What r u gonnie do about it?

There are a few things that the Particip8 workers want to do as a result of this report; these include,

1. We will ask all youth services to come together and plan ways of involving young people more in the running of their clubs etc.
2. Until we have achieved number 1, we will ask all youth services to focus upon the issues raised in pages 5 & 6 of this report.
3. This report has shown that some local youth projects work hard to involve young people. We will ask these projects to provide information and advice to other youth projects.
4. This report has shown that Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership and the City of Edinburgh Council need to do more to involve young people. We will pass this report onto these agencies, and ask them to tell us what they intend to do to make things better.



YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOICES

10. Young People in Charge
Young people decide what to do, adults only get involved when asked to do so

9. Young people lead/adults help
Young People make all decisions with adults help

8. Joint Decision
Adults and young people consider each other's ideas and opinions. Young people and adults have an equal say in any decisions that are made.

7. Consultation
Adults ask young people's opinions and genuinely consider them when making decisions

6. Invitation
Adults ask young people's opinions but make decisions of their own accord.

5. Tokenism
Adults make the majority of decisions, young people are allowed to make small scale decisions

4. Decoration
Adults decide what to do, young people take part

3. Manipulation
Adults decide what to do and ask young people if they agree

2. Adults Rule Kindly
Adults make all the decisions, young people are given reasons and explanations, but must conform

1. Adults Rule
Adults make all the decisions, young people instructed to conform

If you wish to speak with anyone about the work of Particip8, please contact Mike Bell at Craigmillar Capacity Building Project, or Scott Fraser at Jack Kane Centre. Contact details are noted below,

Craigmillar Capacity Building Project
63 Niddrie Mains Terrace
Edinburgh
EH16 4NX
0131 661 0200
mike@cbp63.org

Jack Kane Centre
208 Niddrie Mains Road
Edinburgh
EH16 4ND
0131 6571595
scott.fraser@educ.edin.gov.uk

This report can be downloaded from the following web address -
<http://www.craigmillarcapacitybuilding.org/empowering.htm>