

Region: South West

Submitted by: Sharon Adams

The sector this case study is an example of:

- Voluntary sector activity
 Statutory sector activity
 Corporate sector activity

The themes this case study can be used to support:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Arts & creativity | <input type="checkbox"/> | Learning & research | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commissioning | <input type="checkbox"/> | Measuring change | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Early Years | <input type="checkbox"/> | Online tools | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Faith | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rights/citizenship | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Funding | <input type="checkbox"/> | Safeguarding | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Governance | <input type="checkbox"/> | Standards | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hard to reach groups | <input type="checkbox"/> | Workforce development | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health | <input type="checkbox"/> | Youth-led project | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Inclusive practice | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Name of project: Local Democracy Week
Contact information for further details:

South West Regional Youth Work Unit
 Learning South West
 Bishops Hull House
 Bishops Hull, Taunton, TA1 5EP
 01823 365444

In 2009 Local Democracy Week will take place in the third week of October - from Monday 12 to Sunday 18 2009 and you can get information and ideas for your own campaign from:

<http://localdemocracy.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelid=1>

Aims of the project:

To support young people to learn about and get involved in local decision-making.

Timeline for the project (expected start and finish date, if known):

13th to 17th of October 2008.

Please name any other organisations involved if this was a project developed as a partnership:

Local Government Association

Who funded this project?

Somerset County Council

How many young people were involved?

Students in Somerset

How were children & young people involved in decision-making?

- They helped to organise the event. Students in 12 schools across Somerset invited councillors to host surgeries at their school during lunch time.
- CYP were able to meet and ask their local Councillor questions about issues that concern them.

What did children and young people involved in this work achieve from this experience?

"Everyone enjoyed themselves and have had some important questions answered".

Quotes from staff, management, children, parents/ carers:

"It is essential that kids get to have their say and ask questions, because otherwise, when they grow up they will have no confidence, will not want to speak up and will shy away, which we cannot let happen." Young person involved in organizing one of the events.

Additional information:

To see the full report from Learning South West see case study 8:

<http://www.learning-southwest.org.uk/asset/PW%20Case%20Study%208%20Local%20democracy%20week.pdf>

For all Learning South West case studies see:

<http://www.learning-southwest.org.uk/page/Participation-Works-Network-England>

Participation Works wants to share your good practice to a wider audience to enable others to learn from your experience and develop their own participation practice.