

## Pro Forma for Participation Works Network for England regional case studies

<b>Region: North East</b>	
Submitted by: Iftikhar Hussain Date of submission: 15 April 2009	
Please indicate which sector this case study is an example of:	
Voluntary sector activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Statutory sector activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corporate sector activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other ( <i>please specify</i> )	
Please indicate which themes this case study can be used to support ( <i>tick all that apply</i> ):	
Arts & creativity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Early Years	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faith	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hard to reach groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inclusive practice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Learning & research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Measuring change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online tools	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rights/citizenship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safeguarding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Standards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workforce development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth-led project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other ( <i>please specify</i> )	
<b>Name of project: Youth Action North East (YANE)</b>	
<b>Name of lead person on project:</b> Iftikhar Hussain	
Contact information for further details <a href="mailto:selina@rywu.org.uk">selina@rywu.org.uk</a> 01914404410	
<b>Aims of the project:</b> To promote and widen young people's participation and influence in strategic decision and policy making across the region.  This project will be based around three annual North East Youth Summits. These summits will be coordinated and led by young people from the YANE steering group. Each year the summit will identify priority issues for young people living in the North East. Following this, young people participating in the summits will establish three campaign groups to explore and respond to these issues. Their findings will then be presented to regional decision makers such as Government Office and One North East.	
<b>Timeline for the project (expected start and finish date, if known):</b> 2006-2009 (First phase of development)	

2009-2011 (Second phase of development)

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

- Government Office North East
- One North East
- Local Authorities across the region
- Voluntary youth sector
- Education providers including schools, colleges and universities
- Learning Skills Council,
- Children's Workforce Development Council

**Who funded this project?**

Big Lottery

**How many young people were involved?**

Over 60 young people attended the last North East Youth Summit in October 2008

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

15 young people, who make up the steering group, organised and determined the agenda and programme for the North East Youth Summit and the subsequent development of YANE.

The 60 plus young people that attended the Summit then identified the 3 areas for campaign work (Sexual Health, Transport & Bullying).

**What changes has children & young people's involvement led to?**

As the young people have only begun developing their campaign groups it is difficult to measure any change, at this stage.

Previously the YANE group have introduced a number of changes following their campaign work. The Bus Buddies Group was developed by young people, from across the region, who were concerned about transport issues and particularly bus travel. The identified needs of young people were incorporated in a campaign, and the production of two DVDs, which were commissioned by the Regional Transport Group. Similarly YANE organised a Health Summit, which involved 64 young people in highlighting health issues and recommendations for health professionals in addressing the health needs of young people in the region.

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

- All the young people involved have gained confidence and skills in speaking to regional and national decision makers, presenting robust arguments for change, presentation skills, communicating with the press, listening to one another and other organisational skills.
- They have also become empowered and have been encouraged to develop these understandings and skills by meeting with MP's and speaking and presenting at public events.
- The young people have had and will continue to have their work

accredited (ASDAN).

**What next for the project?**

The YANE group are developing their three campaign groups. The findings of which they will present at the next Youth Summit in October/November 2009.

**What next for the participants?**

The young people are currently developing the three campaign groups with support from the regional participation team. Once they have finalised their findings they will be presented to regional decision makers and at the next North East Youth Summit.

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

“I think YANE is a great opportunity for the young people of the North East to express their concerns with current issues that affect them in their everyday lives. It gives them a chance to campaign and to influence change in their region”

Young facilitator at North East Youth Summit.

“YANE gives young people a chance to express their views and to make a change for the better in their lives. The North East Summit was totally awesome!”

YANE steering group member.

“It was great fun (the North East Youth Summit) we got to meet other young people from all across the North East, we got to find out what sort of things other young people did in their areas and we got a chance to start some new campaign groups that we can begin work on across the region. But I think the best thing was the drumming and dancing workshop at the end of the day”

Young person who attended North East Summit.

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.