



Regional Workers Survey 2009-10

Summary

In 2009-10 Look Listen Change carried out a brief survey hoping to understand the experiences of the Local Support Workers and their colleagues rolling out the Youth4U – Young Inspectors programme. The survey was looking at what has been working well and not so well to date. The survey was sent to the 25 Local Authorities that have joined the programme and 16 responses were received from 11 Local Authorities.

Overall the results indicated that from the Local Authorities that responded to the survey, most of them found it relatively easy to set up the programme, as well as recruiting young people. There was a general feeling that there were tight time frames to begin with and that it was quite challenging until workers familiarised themselves with the processes, but overall with the right support in place it was achievable. In terms of recruiting young people it seemed that it was most helpful to have prior connections or access to direct referrals.

The majority of respondents felt that taking part in the programme has been beneficial for their organisations. It has increased their department's profile internally and externally and has proved that they are able to give young people a voice demonstrating effective youth participation. They also felt that it has been beneficial for the young people. Young people appear to be more confident, have developed their social skills, have an income and built on their CV's.

Most of the respondents felt that the programme had a positive impact on the services inspected, as they felt it was likely that the recommendations would bring positive change. Although this would depend on the service provider and we are still at early stages of the programme.

Some of the strengths of the programme identified by the respondents were:

- empowering disadvantaged young people;
- availability of associates;
- well supported by the consortium;
- well received by local authorities;
- commitment from senior officers;
- flexible training pack; and
- equipment available.

Finally we looked at what could be improved, some of the suggestions are:

- more promotional material and visual aids;
- less emails and requests for information;
- training pack to be more young people friendly;
- extend time frames;
- more clarification for ASDAN; and
- more information sharing on their experiences between LSWs.