

Look Listen Change

Youth4U – Young Inspectors



Mission

The partnership works with local organisations across England to give disadvantaged and marginalised young people greater influence over services in their areas through Youth4U – Young Inspectors.

Youth4U – Young Inspectors

The purpose of the programme is to:

- Enable young people to become more socially responsible, by supporting them in coming together to improve their communities;
- Increase the numbers and quality of opportunities for marginalised young people and give them the opportunity to improve services and enable change in their communities;
- Help marginalised young people to engage their peers in influencing local policies and services across a wide range of issues including locality, health, neighbourhood renewal, transport and community service in the benefit of their neighbourhoods; and
- Enable young people to have much greater impact on local services by feeding back both their and the views of their peers.

In summary the programme....

...facilitates adult local support workers (LSWs) to recruit, train and support young people to investigate and assess how local services are doing and recommend improvements where identified as young inspectors. Young inspectors will be given the opportunity to achieve accredited qualifications through the programme.

Some interesting statistics

Youth4U - Young Inspectors programme has achieved (current Jan '11):

- Areas: 33
- Young inspectors recruited: 1274
- Young inspectors trained: 979
- Young inspectors left: 295
- Young inspectors achieved accreditation: 93 with an additional 100+ entered for the moderation in March
- Inspections: 394

**Scott Forbes, aged 19, Youth4U – Young Inspectors
Youth Advisory Group member said:**

'Local services have a big impact on our lives. We all travel on busses and trains, visit leisure centres and parks, and use the local library. Now, young people living in Youth4U – Young Inspectors areas, can have their say about the services they use'

Amy O'Neill, aged 15, Young Inspector, Youth4U – Young Inspectors Salford said:

‘One of the places we inspected was the youth offending team I was sent to. I know most of the people who work there and know the building is not very good and has been like that for years. It looks really untidy. When kids feel it's a nice place then they don't make it messy, but because it's an untidy place they make more mess. There's not enough room either. When I've been there before we've had to have meetings in the hallway. Doing this has helped me work better with a team. The reports are very good and I hope something happens as a result.’

**Rachael Nanyonjo , aged 21, Young Inspector, Youth4U
– Young Inspectors Sutton said:**

‘Being a young inspector makes me feel responsible. It makes me feel that I am important in the community. You feel like what you say matters which makes you want to go on and do other things in life. It is also a chance to meet new people and learn to interact in different social situations.’

Future plans

- Through the Participation Works partnership we are now offering tailored packages of resources and training/consultancy support for organisations working on young inspectors programmes.
- The support we offer covers 8 modules including;
 - Module 1 – Getting Started (Young Inspectors, The Programme)
 - Module 2 – Involving Young People
 - Module 3 – A Guide to Delivery for Workers
 - Module 4 – Marketing and Media
 - Module 5 – Assessing Services
 - Module 6 – Recording, monitoring evaluation
 - Module 7 – Capacity building for young people
 - Module 8 – Accreditation

Thank you!

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