



Thank you for your contributions at the Youth Innovation Conference

The following slides share what we heard, these important insights will be considered as we continue to explore how we can support organisations to incorporate youth voice into their practices.

What is most important to share with the sector to make sure young people's voices are heard?

You told us....

Giving young people easy and accessible ways to communicate their needs which isn't intimidating

Integrate their voices into every platform, not just designated youth platforms

Be present, hear directly, less surveys

Making sure you sit and listen and make time for young people

Encouraging staff to give it a try
-don't have to be experts
Relates to sport and to youth voice

Ensuring easy, accessible and supportive structures are in place to give young people the confidence to open up

Proactively provide opportunities for young people to feedback/provide input
e.g. go and ask - engage everyone

Positive attitude to encouraging youth engagement and staff in the process of amplifying youth voices and seeking support
CAN DO ATTITUDE

Share with the sector top tips on how to recruit a youth voice panel and how best to support them to develop whilst they're volunteering with you

Need to find lots of ways to engage and listen and act on young people's voices. Be innovative and capture comments and ideas and value that contribution e.g. with recompense

What is most important to share with the sector to make sure young people's voices are heard?

You told us....

Develop young people's confidence and public speaking skills. Enable time to practice

Involve young people as early as possible when designing programmes and keep tailoring your solutions with them in the driving seat

Making decisions with young people present or involved

Involving young people in making decisions when launching a new project

Feedback to the young people what difference they have made

More co-creation with children and young people

Opportunities for young people. Creating more will allow for further research

What is most important to share with the sector to make sure young people's voices are heard?

You told us

Social return of investment/social value

Someone to connect everything- lots of duplication and missed opportunities

To ensure corporate organisations invest time and resources into youth voice and influence

More investment in to understanding of children's rights

To help Place partners to become more connected with education system to raise more awareness and help create systemic change

Examples of previous work

Evidence that youth voice has contributed to change/decision making

Sport England representative to do in person student voice alongside Active Lives Survey for richer insight

16-25-year-olds in the session told us:

Funding being provided to deliver sport and physical activity to targeted groups. Helps remove barriers and opportunity to access sport and physical activity they may not have had otherwise.

Ensuring that youth voice is VALUED and not a tick box or statistic

What should the sector stop doing that would help young people's voices be heard?

You told us....

Assuming we know what young people need/want

Assuming we know what is right for today's youth's

Leaving young people out of decision making in decisions that affect them

Not involving them in the big and small discussions

Making decisions for, instead of with, young people

Not involving young people in decision-making

Stop making decisions for young people - they have their own voice

16-25-year-olds in the session told us:

Don't just see young and professional but young professionals - we can be both of these

Surveys with too many questions! Hard to keep young person engaged to answer them all

What should the sector stop doing that would help young people's voices be heard?

You told us....

Listening but
not hearing

Stop leading with
'sport' which then
has a huge
hierarchy of white,
male, older
dominance

Delivering
different
messages on
the priority

Working
in silos

making cuts to
resources/access

Complicate
d
procedures/
policies

Making cuts
(funding
opportunities)
Requirements
so hard e.g
HAF