



**INFORMING
FUTURES**

1625 Independent People

CONSULTATION & PARTICIPATION LADDER ACTIVITY

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This resource is part of the Informing Futures toolkit. It was co-created with young people, and reflects what they felt practitioners most needed to understand in order to work successfully with care and custody experienced young people.

For more information or queries on any of the topics covered in this toolkit, or to find out about training and consultancy we can offer please contact enquiries@1625ip.co.uk.

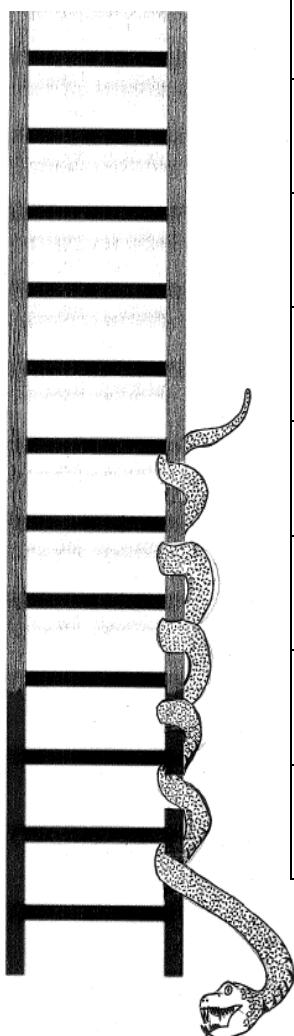
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CONSULTATION & PARTICIPATION LADDER ACTIVITY

In your groups work together to try to think of examples of practice from your organisation that could fit alongside rungs on the ladder. Try to come up with an example for as many rungs as possible. The examples can be taken from projects you run, services you offer or be based on plans you have for future work.



Stage	Example
8. Initiated & Led by Young People (YP)	
7. Initiated by YP & Shared with Adults	
6. Adult Initiated & Shared with YP	
5. YP consulted and informed	
4. Young people assigned & informed	
3. Tokenism	
2. Decoration	
1. Manipulation	
0. No involvement or participation	

8. Initiated & Led by Young People

Project idea comes from young people, and young people lead decision making entirely, perhaps updating adults with key milestones. (Adults may find it hard to step back at this stage.)

7. Initiated by Young People & Shared with Adults

Young people come up with their own project or activity ideas, but share decision making with adults. Young people may choose to consult adults.

6. Adult Initiated & Shared with Young People

Initial idea for the project comes from an adult, but decision making is shared with Young people, and there is genuine participation from them. Young people develop skills within the process of being involved with the project.

5. YP consulted and informed

Young people act as consultants on a project run by adults. Young people understand the process, and the ideas and opinions they contribute are taken seriously. Young people have some choice about the way this consultation happens.

4. Young people assigned & informed

Young people are given specific roles in a project by adults. They are informed about the project, but have little choice or autonomy over their role within in.

3. Tokenism

Young people are invited into the project to be 'given a voice', but are not fully informed, or properly prepared. Young people's opinions are asked for, but not recorded, not considered or not taken seriously. Young people have no choice about the way they are communicated with. Young people are 'cherry picked' for involvement, there is no democratic process or inclusive offer.

2. Decoration

Young people are involved or included in a project at a late stage, and/or with little understanding. Young people are not aware of their rights within the context. Young people are not given a voice or a platform within the context. Young people are used for show or to 'bolster' a project which they have not been involved with.

1. Manipulation

Young people do not understand the issues being tackled. Young people do not understand their role in a situation. Young people are 'consulted', but never given any feedback or updates. Young people are 'presented' to further an organisation's agenda. Processes of involvement are not transparent and ways to opt out are not made clear.