



May 2010 E-bulletin

This monthly e-bulletin includes the latest participation news, events and jobs, as well as opportunities for children and young people.

Participation Works enables organisations to effectively involve children and young people in the development, delivery and evaluation of services that affect their lives. For more information on our services visit the [Participation Works Gateway](#). Here you can also find details of the leads for our [regional participation networks](#).

If you have been forwarded this bulletin, why not [join the Participation Works Network for England](#) and you will receive it direct. If you have any articles you would like included in the next bulletin, please [e-mail us](#) with the details.

NEWS

Government publishes coalition agreement

The new coalition Government has published its Programme for Agreement, setting out its policies and plans for the coming Parliament. While the agreement does not make any specific references to children and young people's participation, the Government has stated it aims to ensure communities have more opportunities to design and lead public services. There are a number participation specific commitments - [find out more on the Participation Works Gateway](#).

New Government Ministers

The new Prime Minister David Cameron has announced both his cabinet and changes to the machinery of Government. The new Government has chosen not to continue the post of Minister for Young Citizens and Youth Engagement. However, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg will take the lead on political and constitutional reform.

Participation Works Network for England Membership E-bulletin May 2010

Welcome to the latest edition of the PWNE E-bulletin

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UPCOMING TRAINING

Ready Steady Change, London 08/06/10

This one-day course is a selection of training methods and tools to build skills and knowledge in increasing children and young people's effective participation in decision-making.

[Find out more about Ready Steady Change](#)

Safeguarding in Youth Participation, Leeds 24/06/10

This one day course supports organisations in developing

The Department for Children, Schools and Families has become the Department for Education. While the Department will continue to include children's services, it will now prioritise "teaching and learning". However, youth justice policy will now be the sole responsibility of the Ministry of Justice. Michael Gove (Con) becomes Secretary of State for Education with Sarah Teather (Lib Dem) as Minister of State for Children and Families. Tim Loughton (Con) will be junior children's minister, having shadowed this role for a number of years in opposition.

Eric Pickles (Con) takes responsibility for communities and local government. Theresa May (Con) as Home Secretary will also hold the equalities brief, supported by Lynne Featherstone (Lib Dem) as Minister for Equalities. The Office of the Third Sector has been replaced by an Office for Civil Society, with Nick Hurd (Con) as lead minister for the voluntary and community sector and for charity law.

Visit the [Department for Education website](#).

Launch of YouthBank UK Assessment Toolkit and Training

YouthBank UK is launching its Assessment Toolkit, developed to provide YouthBanks, Youth Opportunity Fund panels and other youth-led grant panels with support to assess and improve their grantmaking practices. The Toolkit was developed alongside a steering group of young people and focuses on the following six standards:

- Effective grantmaking
- Young people's involvement
- Young people's personal and social development
- Equality and diversity
- Quality assurance
- Resources

Copies of the toolkit can be purchased from YouthBank UK for £40. [Visit the YouthBank website](#) for more information.

Launch of new Let's Listen resource

[Young Children's Voices Network](#) has launched a new resource called **Let's Listen** – to support early years settings and local authorities to evidence and plan their work on listening to young children and enabling their participation in developing children's services.

The Let's Listen online launch will take place on the Participation Works website on 1 June 2010. The web page will include:

- Free downloadable version of Let's Listen

and applying safe policies and procedures when working with young people.

[Find out more about Safeguarding in Youth Participation](#)

Building a Culture of Participation, Birmingham 08/07/10

This course aims to equip individuals with basic theory and practical approaches to participation, to help them build a culture of participation.

[Find out more about Building a Culture of Participation](#)

Youth at the Table, London 10/07/10

This course is for young people aged between 16-25 who are already charity trustees or would like to become one. The course activities have been developed with young people to make them more engaging and inspiring.



[Find out more about Youth at the Table](#)

• NEW RESOURCE

How to support disabled and non-disabled children and young people to work together in inclusive groups

This guide will help workers who want to ensure that the

- Word versions of the assessment tables
- Ordering information

Please [visit the Early Years topic area on the Participation Works Gateway](#) on 1 June to find out more.

Guide to the law for children

The Children's Legal Centre has launched 'Lawstuff', a new website with information on the law as it affects children and young people. The site includes details of where children and young people have the right to be heard in a range of settings and situations.

Visit the [Lawstuff website](#) for more detail.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Every month we ask a member of PWNE to [share their experiences and views of participation](#). This month, Simon Hardcastle, Family Support Nurse at Rainbows Hospice for Children and Young People, tells us about his work:

Describe your role

At Rainbows I have taken a lead role in the development of participation within the hospice. We now have in place a participation steering group with members from all departments including Fundraising, Administration and Finance. We also are developing our Participation Strategy in conjunction with children and young people. Our main focus at the moment is the involvement of our children and young people who have no verbal communication and exploring how we best utilise our skills in communication. I have also been involved with the development of a national participation toolkit put together by Children's Hospices UK. This will be launched in June 2010.

What do you think are the main barriers to children and young people's participation?

One aspect that I found when working within child and adolescent mental health, and in some degrees within healthcare, is that some people believe that children and young people are too sick to be involved.

What tips do you have for effective participation of children and young people?

I think we have to be really honest with our children and young people when asking them to be involved in any projects or groups. Be clear with them about their level of involvement. Also, it is important to get to know the young people you are working with. At Rainbows we have to be mindful that we have

groups they are working with are inclusive by providing support and advice.

[Find out more about this guide](#)

children and young people who do not communicate verbally. So it is important to have the skills to be able to communicate with the children and young people you are working with.

[Read the full interview on the Participation Works Gateway](#)

We are always looking for PWNE members to feature in In the spotlight. You will need to answer a few simple questions about your role and how you support children and young people to be heard. Interested? E-mail enquiries@participationworks.org.uk with 'In the spotlight' in the subject line.

We are looking for PWNE members who are willing to be featured in [In the spotlight](#) in future bulletins and on the Participation Works online gateway. You will need to answer a few simple questions about your role and how you support children and young people to be heard. Interested? Let us know by [dropping us and e-mail](#) or calling 0207 833 6815.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Full time Campaign Volunteers (deadline 5 July 2010)

[British Youth Council](#) (BYC) are currently recruiting for Full Time Campaign Volunteers as part of a scheme supported by [v](#). They are looking for 16-25 year-olds to be enthusiastic advocates for their campaigns. This is a full time volunteering opportunity which lasts for 44 weeks over 12 months. Volunteers will be supported through a personal development programme and receive help with planning their next steps and applying for jobs or further studies.

They will receive a one month induction, undertake a level-2 qualification, and have ongoing training in IT, public speaking, train the trainer, communications, social media, networking, teamwork, office systems and much more.

Go to the [British Youth Council website](#) for more information.

Big Challenge has launched (deadline 6 July 2010)

The Big Challenge competition for 16 to 25 year-olds is open for applications now. The competition gives young people the chance of winning a share of £65,000 along with support to set up their own community project. The project should inspire other young people and involve volunteers. Think big and get involved now!

Check out the [Big Challenge website](#) for full details and the online application form. The closing date is 6 July 2010. Big Challenge is a youth-led competition run by UnLtd in

partnership with Changemakers and with funding from Vodafone and v.

Volunteer as an Oxfam Speaker (deadline 31 May)

Oxfam is currently recruiting for people to become Oxfam Speakers. Speakers represent Oxfam and will deliver talks and workshops in schools and youth groups to raise awareness of the causes of global poverty, and detail the actions people can take to shape a better world.

For more information [visit the Oxfam website](#).

UpRising recruits new participants (deadline 4 June)

UpRising is a leadership programme for 19 to 25 year-olds passionate about changing their communities for the better. Developed by the Young Foundation, UpRising's mission is to open pathways to leadership for talented young adults from diverse backgrounds and to equip them with the skills, knowledge, networks, confidence and power to transform their communities and Britain for the better.

The part-time programme runs over the course of one year for young adults aged 19 to 25 who live, work or study in the London boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Newham or Tower Hamlets. UpRising is now recruiting 60 young people for its 2010-2011 cohort. The deadline for application is 5:00 pm on 4 June 2010.

For more information [visit the UpRising website](#).

EVENTS

Upcoming Participation Events in June

Ready Steady Change,
Birmingham 08/06/10

[Find out more](#)

[Download factsheet](#)

Safeguarding in Youth
Participation, Leeds 24/06/10

[Find out more](#)

[Download factsheet](#)

Building a Culture of
Participation, Birmingham
08/07/10

[Find out more](#)

[Download factsheet](#)

Young Children's Voices
Network National Networking
Day, Leeds 15/06/10

[Find out more](#)

JOBS

Action for Children,
Participation Workers -
Dorchester
Position expires: 31 May 2010
Hours: Casual
[More information](#)

Action for Children, Support
Workers (Advocacy &
Participation) - Dorset
Position expires: 10
September 2010
[More information](#)

E-MAIL DETAILS

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PWNE is part of Participation Works. Participation Works is a consortium of the [British Youth Council](#), [Children's Rights Alliance for England](#), [National Council for Voluntary Youth Services](#), [National Youth Agency](#), [NCB](#), and [Save the Children UK](#).

Participation Works is hosted by NCB. Registered charity number 258825.

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This bulletin was written by Children's Rights Alliance for England (CRAE) on behalf of Participation Works

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