



**Youth Involvement Team**

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City



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# Who are we and what do we do?

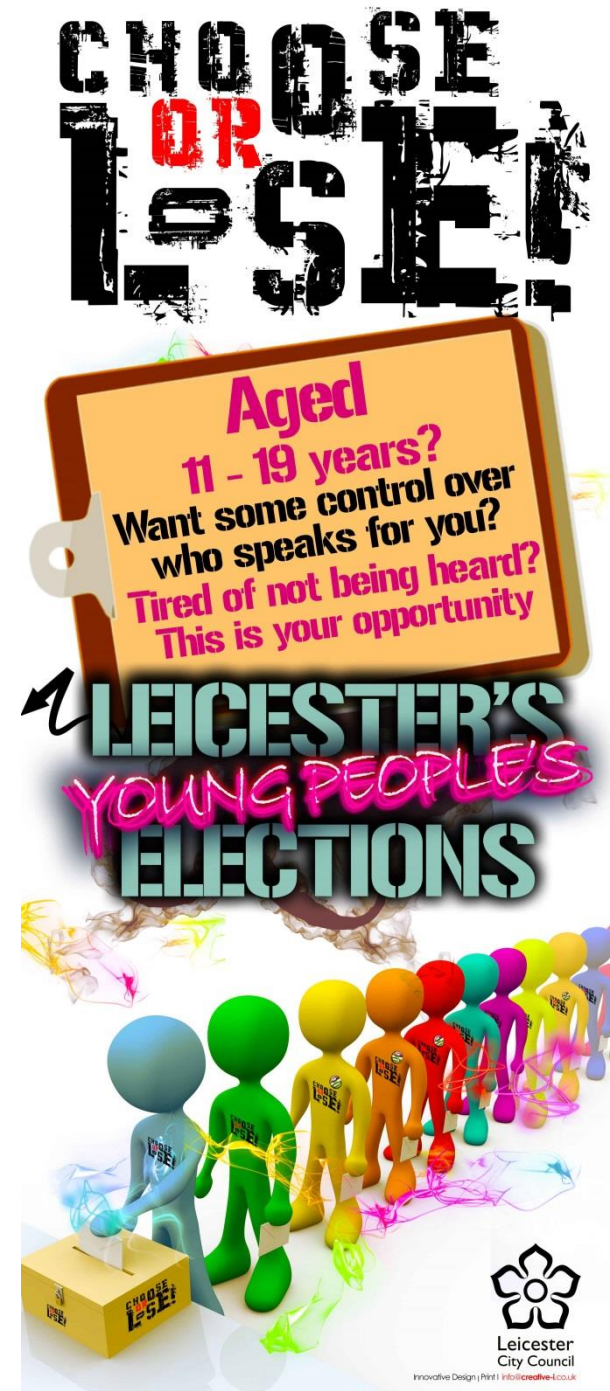
- Employed by Leicester City Council Youth Service.
- Team of three full time youth workers and one part time youth worker.
- Support the active involvement of young people in council decision making and scrutiny.
- Delivered through two projects, Leicester Young Consultants and Leicester Young People's Council.



Leicester Young Consultants is a consultancy, lead by young people aged 15 – 25 years, that serves businesses, local authorities, and non-for-profit organisations who want to improve the experience they are offering young people. They aim to help their clients make long-term progress to their organisation and recognise their most important objectives. With an award winning team of more than 30 nationally trained consultants we are able to provide unique insights and advice to both private and public sectors clients. We currently offer services such as Research and Insight, Youth Proofing, Mystery Shopping, Youth Marketing and Facilitation, Involvement in Commissioning Panels namely for Youth Services and Public Health.

Leicester City Young People's Council (YPC) are an elected body of young people elected by their peers to represent young people across the city.

- YPC reps are aged 11 – 19 years (up to 25 for young people with additional needs) and they have a term of office for two years.
- Over 10,000 votes cast – largest voter turnout to date, the only elected participation group for young people in the City with a mandate as large.
- 56 young people aged 11 – 19 years make up the council.

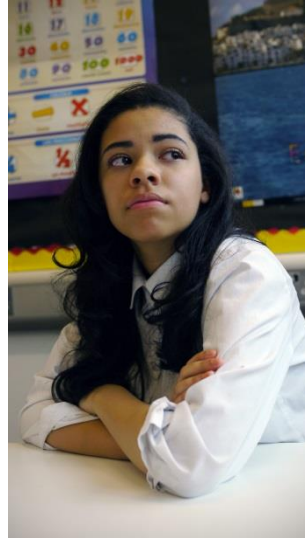


# Youth work and youth voice

- Youth work and participation have a long historical relationship.
- Loss of national youth services has seen participation agenda shift.
- The Children's Society believes passionately about voice of the child. In their wellbeing research, it has been shown that choice, or having your voice heard, is one of the aspects of a child's life most linked to their overall wellbeing.
- Leicester City Youth Service has worked hard to maintain a distinct youth offer.
- Supported young people to take ownership of the agenda
- Co-created programmes to challenge professionals across multi disciplines.



# How will you hear me?



**“They all had papers. I don’t know what was written on them. No one showed me.”**

**“I have seen dozens of doctors, but they haven’t seen me.”**

**“In the future, I want the victim’s voice to be heard and taken care of”.**

**“Sometimes it feels like a fight to be listened to.”**

## How will you hear me? Participation Training Resource

This training resource has four aims:

- To support all professionals working with children and young people including managers to explore their participation practice at both an individual and organisational level.
- To provide all professionals working with children and young people with training plans which can be adapted or used to suit their organisational needs.
- To provide a new way of understanding the voices of the children and young people they work with.
- To provide all professionals working with children and young people including managers with tools to develop practice and strategy.

# Ria's Story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AebDarU5-eU>

# Learning from Ria

- Ria's is a powerful story and one we know will resonate with you all here today.
- Learning and key messages relevant to all professionals.
- Ria is stuck in between owing the professionals who worked with her, her very life, and the compromising position of feeling unheard in that process.
- Talks about the language we use as professionals.
- Ria talks about becoming a passive recipient of services.
- The film showcases the need for age appropriate provision.
- The role parents play.
- Ria is asking for someone to sit down and just talk to her.
- 'You don't know me, but you should'.

# Brahmpreet's Story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZBpr2VfHkY>

# Learning from Brahmpreet

- Showcases the ownership young people have towards provision they attend.
- This is my youth club, I don't mean that I own it, or run it, but it is MY youth club.
- Role of youth workers in service design and evaluation.
- Highlights the importance of relationships and honesty.
- Call for action to be included, consulted, informed and involved.
- Embrace the challenge of young people.



**Reclaim Radical**

- **Reclaim Radical** is designed to support front line practitioners to explore concepts around the Prevent agenda with young people.
- Safe place to explore and be challenged by the adults in their lives.
- Young people felt staff were not skilled around Prevent agenda.
- Reclaim Radical states that professionals should embrace that young people can become radical.
- **Reclaim Radical** is designed around three short films, all created and filmed by young people we work with, they are designed to allow professionals to ascertain the knowledge base of the young people they work with. Alongside this a toolkit of youth proofed national resources for staff to use to create bespoke programmes.



# The Speech

Our way of life is under attack.

Those who make themselves our enemy are advancing around the globe.

The survival of our friends is in danger.

And yet no war has been declared, no borders have been crossed by marching troops, no missiles have been fired.

For we are opposed around the world by a monolithic and ruthless conspiracy that relies primarily on covert means for expanding its sphere of influence — on infiltration instead of invasion, on subversion instead of elections, on intimidation instead of free choice, on guerrillas by night instead of armies by day.

I can only say that the danger has never been more clear, and its presence has never been more imminent.

It requires a change in outlook, a change in tactics, a change in missions.

# Radical versus Radicalised

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKUaAWSeunY&index=1&list=PL4\\_r-tLAparSiBIldt0tY7D298hC2bQow](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKUaAWSeunY&index=1&list=PL4_r-tLAparSiBIldt0tY7D298hC2bQow)

## Our work through the eyes of the child:

- Never underestimate the power of trust and respect.
- Disclosure is not the same as talking
- Listening is an active process.
- Consistency of personnel and quality.
- Strategies and policies should have clear definitions of participation.
- The right to share in decision making.

**When you find new ways to  
hear...you hear new things.**

**Thank You for your time today!**