

# Who's listening?





### aw right Gadgie?

The information in this booklet has been written to tell young people about the work of Particip8te. Particip8te is a project that was carried out by youth workers who work in the community of Greater Craigmillar, which is in East Edinburgh. The project was carried out between October 2003 and November 2004.

The booklet has four different sections. Each section tells you about the different parts of the project. The sections each have a different title.

There are some notes below to help you understand what each section is about,

#### **Section 1 – What’s aw the fuss?**

This section tells you the basic information about Particip8te, including, how the project started and what it aimed to do.

#### **Section 2 – What r u talking about?**

This section tells you how the workers involved in the Particip8te project carried out their work.

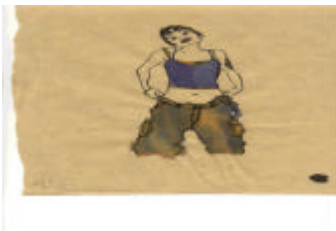
#### **Section 3 – What’s the Score?**

This section tells you about the information that was collected about young people during the project

#### **Section 4 – What r u gonnie do about it?**

This section tells you about what happens next





### **What's aw the fuss?**

Particip8 was set up to speak with young people living in Craigmillar about their experiences of attending youth services. The Youth Workers who carried out the project wanted to find out if young people felt that youth services take their opinions seriously when making decisions about how their clubs and projects should be run. Particip8te was set up because young people themselves had spoken about their frustrations when attending clubs. The youth projects involved in this work are listed below:

- The Craigmillar Capacity Building project
- Café K
- The Health Opportunities Team
- The Craigmillar Partnership
- Instep
- Community Education
- Lothian Health Community Care



## What r u talkin about?

In order to help the Particip8 workers' understand all the issues connected to young people and the ways in which youth services involve them in decision making, we asked 80 young people who live in the community a set of questions. The main questions we asked included,



1. Using the ladder of participation (see page 4), how well do you think local youth projects consult with young people before making decisions?
2. Using the ladder of participation, how well do you think wider community projects such as the Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership and the City of Edinburgh Council, consult with young people before making decisions?
3. What do you think are the benefits for young people if youth services listen to their views and opinions?
4. What do you think are the benefits for youth services if they listen to young peoples' views and opinions?
5. What are the issues you think organizations who work with young people should be tackling?
6. Why do you think these issues exist?
7. Would you be willing to work with Youth Services to address these issues?



## What's the Score?

80 young people completed questionnaires; the results were really interesting, they proved a number of things, including,

- Young people feel that their local clubs try hard to involve them when making decisions.
- Wider bodies such as the Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership and the City of Edinburgh Council need to do more to include young people.
- Young people are aware of the benefits and importance of decision making
- Young people have an informed and intelligent awareness of the issues they face living in Craigmillar.
- Young people are willing to work with Youth Services to tackle the issues that affect them.



But don't just take our word for it, have a look at some of the stats...



- Over 50% of the young people who completed the questionnaires scored local youth services at number 7 or above on the ladder of participation.



- Over 70% of the young people who completed the questionnaires scored Craigmillar Social Inclusion Partnership below number 7 on the ladder of participation.
- Over 80% of the young people who completed the questionnaires scored the City of Edinburgh Council below number 7 on the ladder of participation.
- Young people feel that youth services would be more in touch with young peoples needs if they were involved more when decisions are being made. They also

believe that young people and workers would have better relationships, and that services would save money by only spending on activities that young people are interested in.



- There are 4 major issues that young people would like youth services to focus upon; these are, Community Safety, Health & Well Being, access to leisure and sporting activities and issues related to poverty and unemployment.
- Young people think that the issues they face exist for a number of reasons; these reasons range from the inappropriate behaviour of young people themselves, to the lack of opportunities and choices that exist when living in Craigmillar.
- Over 60% of young people who completed the questionnaires were willing to work with youth services to tackle these issues.

