



Midlothian Youth Platform

MYP

MYP: Participatory Evaluation





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Who are Midlothian Youth Platform:

- Local Authority wide youth council
- Representation from all
 - Secondary Schools
 - Local Area Youth Forums
 - Voluntary organisations
 - Specific Interest Groups, e.g. G.T.A.G., IBYS and The Funky Debating Crew



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Our Aim is:

“To have an inclusive Midlothian in which young people realise their potential, become full and active citizens and play a key part in all decisions which affect their lives.”



Our Objectives:

- A collective youth **VOICE**
- Independent and youth-led
- Increase youth participation
- Promote a positive image of young people
- Connect processes of policy making & young people



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Our Activities:

- Monthly meeting of local forums & M.Y.P.
- Representation at meetings.
- Training and development of members
- Peer research & consultation
- Responding to local and national consultations
- Organising youth events, presentations, etc.
- Attending local and national youth events
- Supporting the Scottish Youth Parliament



Reasons for evaluation:

- Are members benefiting?
- Who we represent/who we do not represent?
- Who we work with or don't work with?
- What did the Local Conversation survey achieve?
- What was the impact in local communities?
- Have people really listened to us?
- What do we need to do next?



Methods we used:

- Paired interviews – MYP members
- Parent interviews – Staff
- MYP Bebo – Online discussion and consultation



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What Difference has MYP made for young people?

- Young people are more confident
- Young people interact more with others
- Young people are better able to express their views



What Difference has MYP made for Communities?

- **MYP has brought people together**

“(The best thing is) taking people on a residential who would not otherwise get to go.” (MYP member)

- **MYP has supported young people to be more active in their communities**

“Raising money for different charities and helping people in their communities.” (MYP member)



What Difference has MYP made for Organisations?

- MYP has helped organisations to understand the needs of young people.
- MYP has informed the decisions that organisations make.



Changes we've made in response to the evaluation:

- **More Structure:**
Executive and 4 Committees
- **Venue:**
MYP meeting Dalkeith Arts Centre
- **Annual Evaluation:**
Using methods applied in the ODS Evaluation



Looking to the future!

- New home for MYP
- Youth one-stop advice shop
- Widen Representation



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Thank You!

