

7.0 DCMS' Youth Engagement programme theory of change

This theory of change for DCMS' Youth Engagement programme is informed by the evidence collected in this study. DCMS and its partners can use it to reflect programme design and intended outcomes to support a shared understanding of the programme and provide a framework for future evaluation.

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts
<p>Government Department / DCMS Programme specification Budget Contract management</p> <p>Programme guidance Programme timetable</p> <p>Delivery team National/ local delivery staff Staff training, supervision, and support Partners: local authorities, schools/college, youth groups, policy officials</p> <p>Programme materials and resources Technology Programme website / information for young people and professionals Settings/venues Transport</p> <p>Safeguarding processes</p>	<p>Recruitment of young people Marketing activities UK Youth Parliament (election) YPDG (application)</p> <p>Activities Induction and ongoing training</p> <p><i>UK Youth Parliament</i> Residentials Annual Conference Make your Mark Ballot House of Commons sitting Campaigns Local/ Regional/National meetings and events Roundtables / meetings with local MPs, decision makers, Ministers</p> <p><i>Youth Policy Development Group</i> 1-2-1 support Policy request Research and canvassing young people's views Presentations Roundtables with policy officials and Ministers Feedback loops with decision makers</p> <p><i>Evaluation activities</i></p>	<p>Provision of free to access youth engagement programmes for young people (aged 11-25)</p> <p>More young people have an opportunity to have their say on issues that matter to them</p> <p>More positive and enriching experiences and opportunities for participating young people</p> <p>More staff trained and skilled in effective youth participation work</p> <p>More local/national decision makers aware of youth engagement programmes</p> <p>More local/national decision makers engage with young people / youth voice</p> <p>More policies are youth-informed Programme evaluation</p>	<p>Young people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Improved knowledge of political processes: elections, campaigns, policy development ▶ Improved skills: communication, campaigning ▶ New social opportunities (peers, trusted adults) ▶ More enriching activities ▶ Increased confidence ▶ Increase sense of achievement <p>Policy decision making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ More government departments and policy officials are aware of the programmes ▶ More government departments and policy officials engage with the programmes ▶ More policy development is youth-informed ▶ More policy officials are aware of the current needs and priorities of young people 	<p>Young people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Transferable skills and competencies for education and employment ▶ Support decision-making with education and career pathways ▶ Improve social capital/ networks ▶ More informed and active citizens <p>Policy decision making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Improved systems for youth participation in political processes and decision making ▶ More local and national government policy/decisions are youth-informed ▶ More local / national government policies and Programs are responsive to the needs of young people
<p>Risks and assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Young people and policy officials have a desire to participate ▶ Young people can maintain involvement in programmes alongside other commitments ▶ Young people are sufficiently supported and feel safe to have their say ▶ Youth participation is meaningful and high quality 				