

# LOCAL YOUTH XPERTS

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CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM



CHANGE  
FACTORY

WHERE CHILDREN LEAD THE WAY



# INFORMATION FOR ALL THE TOOLS

## **Who can benefit from the tools**

- decision-makers in the municipal council, the executive committee, the heads of childhood and youth services board, or other main committees
- service managers, headteachers, project leaders, or advisors in the municipal administration

## **Those who are invited must receive understandable, engaging information about**

- what the theme is and what the answers will be used for
- who is wondering about this and why these questions are being asked
- how the answers will be used

## **The responsibility of decision-makers when collecting answers from children and young people**

- ensure that the participants receive a greeting or a video as thanks for taking part
- ensure that the participants know how they can get in touch if they have more to contribute or are wondering about something
- ensure that the participants are told how the answers they have contributed have been used as the basis for the decision and what weight it has been given. This can be done through a text, an audio file, or a video
- publish on the municipality's website or social media how the answers have been used as the basis for the decision and what weight it has been given

# 01 YOUNG PEOPLE WITH TRUST COLLECT ADVICE

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## **Purpose of the tool**

The tool can be used to collect in-depth answers from groups of children/young people in the Child Protection System, on behalf of those who are going to make decisions. A group of young adults from the municipality/district, whom many children/young people trust, are given the assignment. They are given the theme and questions from those who are going to make decisions or are responsible for creating the basis for decisions. When young adults with trust are sent to where children or young people are, they can also ask about things that are difficult or challenging.

## **What the tool can be used for**

- decision-makers, heads of childhood and youth services and/or the Child Protection System can get answers to how children in the Child Protection System experience the Child Protection System, and what advice children/young people have for the Child Protection System and decision-makers who are going to decide how it will be in the future
- The municipal administration can get answers to evaluate the Child Protection System
- Leaders in the Child Protection System can get answers that can be used for improvement work in the service

## **Which children and young people can take part**

Children and young people in the Child Protection System aged 10-18.

# USER GUIDE

## How to find young people whom children/young people in the Child Protection System trust

- The young adults can preferably be 18–25 years old
- Education is not important when selecting the young adults
- The assignment can be advertised, but it may be smarter if some young people in the Child Protection System can search for them, for example in youth clubs or in the Youth Outreach Services

## The young adults make direct contact

The young adults who are going to collect advice receive a list from the Child Protection System of children/young people who have said they wish/are considering taking part. Those who will conduct the collection then, as far as possible, make direct contact with the children/young people via phone or social media, preferably not via parents, institutions, foster parents or safeguarding persons.

## How the advice collection is conducted

- Questions are created that decision-makers, heads of childhood and youth services, or the Child Protection System need answers to. The questions are quality-assured with young people to ensure that they are understandable and experienced as important
- Children/young people in the Child Protection System are asked whether they want to meet in person or talk on the phone, and whether they want to give advice/feedback alone or together with other children
- If children/young people want to meet in a group with other children/young people in person, it is agreed where and when they will meet. The meeting places are not set at home, in the residential childcare institution, or in the foster home

## Children receive information about

- Why they are receiving these questions
- What the answers will be used for
- That the Child Protection System or other adults around the child will not see what that specific child has answered (anonymous)

## After the advice has been collected

- The young adults who have collected the viewpoints and advice go through them and see what is repeated among many children
- The advice that is repeated among many children is included in a report to decision-makers, the administration and/or the Child Protection System
- The children are given information about which pieces of advice something is being done with and which are not being done anything with, and why

