

LOCAL YOUTH XPERTS

MENTAL HEALTH &
LEISURE ACTIVITIES



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

06

YOUTH TEAM AND DECISION-MAKERS GO OUT TO MEET YOUNG PEOPLE

Purpose of the tool

Decision-makers or the administration collect experiences, advice, or concrete solution proposals from children/young people together with a group of young adults from the municipality/district. These are young adults whom many children/young people trust. The aim is to give decision-makers answers from a group or a selection of children/young people whose opinions they need to hear in order to make correct decisions.

What the tool can be used for

- Collect experiences, advice, or solution proposals from children/young people in the places where they are, by having trusted young adults go out together with the decision-makers
- Help ensure that children/young people experience that their experiences and advice about the school, services, or activities in the municipality matter to those who make decisions

USER GUIDE

Who can be in the Youth Teams

Young adults aged 18–25, whom many children/young people trust, are divided into different teams or groups. They are given responsibility for different themes, sets of questions, or for visiting different places in the municipality. If they are going out several times, the teams of young adults and decision-makers can be assigned to go to new places or return to the same place, to build more trust and ensure that the answers they receive are more complete.

What the teams can ask about

These can be any themes that decision-makers need to hear children's/young people's opinions about. When trusted young adults are sent to where children/young people are, they can also ask about things that are a bit difficult, challenging, or scary.

Places the teams with young adults and decision-makers can go to

- Leisure activities
- Schools
- Youth clubs and low-threshold houses
- McDonald's, Burger King, or other cafés/eating places
- Bus and train stations, or other open meeting places
- Parks, skate parks, and football pitches

The team creates meeting points for children/young people

- The team can create small meeting points. Groups of children/young people with their own experience related to the questions are invited to describe how the school, services, or the municipality are experienced.
- At the events, children/young people can be asked what is good and what should be done differently by the service/system

What the team does after they have received advice and ideas

- The team summarises the experiences, advice and/or solution proposals in collaboration with some adults in the administration who know the method. What is repeated among many children/young people is gathered in a report that is handed over to the decision-makers or the administration
- The team can invite children/young people to present the answers directly to the decision-makers who are going to make decisions or to the administration who are preparing the knowledge base for the decision
- The Youth Team posts on social media how the advice from the young people has been used and given weight