**Self-assessing the quality and impact of youth voice work**

British Youth Council (BYC) is the Government’s key partner in promoting involvement of young people in local and national decision making. BYC has been asked by Government to produce a self-assessment toolkit to help ‘Youth Voice Vehicles’ and local authorities to review their current arrangements and identify how they can be even more successful in listening to and acting on the views of young people.

BYC has worked with the Network of Regional Youth Work Units: England to drawn this toolkit. Young people involved in Youth Voice Vehicles (Youth Councils, forums, cabinets and parliaments) in their local areas and the youth participation workers who support them have been asked for their views on the content and format of the toolkit.

**What is the assessment?**

It is designed to be a simple mechanism for you to identify the strengths and areas for development in the ways you involve young people in decision making in your area. This is not a generic guide to youth participation: it focuses on the effectiveness of the ‘top tier’ Youth Voice Vehicle in ‘top tier’ local authorities

Seven areas are explored (Representative, Accountable, Independence, Support, Political & Officer buy-in, Power & Influence, and Impact), using a total of 29 questions. These are RAG rated, with these rating returned online to BYC **(by 7th October)**. No evidence is required for this submission to BYC. Though we recommend that it is used for future corporate planning.

We are also gathering a **Snapshot** the different types of groups and mechanism ultisied to involve young people eg. Youth council, Children in Care Council, young inspectors, young commissioners.

We suggest that the toolkit is used collaboratively, by

* Young members of the YVV
* YVV Support Workers
* Local authority Youth Voice Champions/Strategic Leads
* Sign off by a chief officer

**Deadline:** submission for the [Snapshot](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LASnapshot2017) and [Self-Assessment](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/yvselfassessment2017) is due by **7th October**

[**Supporting resources**](http://www.byc.org.uk/uk/youthvoice/youth-voice-vehicles) inc indicators, printable checklist (Word doc). Search: BYC Youth Voice Vehicle