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| **Name of Local Authority/Organisation** | Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services |
| **Project Name** | UK Youth Parliament Elections |
| **Lead member of staff** | Josh Armitage |
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| **Youth voice strand that the case study demonstrates** | | | | | | | | | |
|  | Engaging |  | Campaigning |  | Influencing | x | Elections |  | Make your mark |

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| Young people in Staffordshire identified that there was no UKYP representatives in the area, despite this being a role that was previously in place.  Early 2016e t e staff in place did not have a detailed knowledge and understanding of the UKYP programme and due to potential funding deficits a year long term may have been unsustainable in terms of support. It was decided to wait until 2017 and plan to reintroduced the role of MYP for this time.  Previously the Staffordshire Youth Service had supported the UKYP work but now SCVYS were taking in this role with the backing of the Local Authority. | |
| **Who was involved and what were there roles: (Professionals, young people, partners etc)**  *Please add more boxes if necessary* | |
| Staffordshire Council for voluntary youth services (SCVYS) | Running the programme for UKYP in Staffordshire, providing support to the young people |
| Fired Up youth theatre | Support to the Campaign for MYP’s |
| Staffordshire Council | Funding via the VCSE contract |
| Local Schools | Supporting candidates and promoting the MYP elections |
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| **What did you do and how did you do it?** |
| We advertised the elections programme in September 2016 – this happened at the same time we were sending out information about Make your mark =- linking the 2 together.  Young people applied to stand in the elections directly to the SCVYS youth worker with support form staff at their schools  In January 2017 we held a training day for all candidates and supported them to create a film for their manifestos. This was supported by fired up youth theatre. The candidates had workshops on voice projection, script writing and screen presence – they were then ready to make their campaign films for the election.  The films were sent electronically to all schools and youth organisation’s across Staffordshire. They were also available to be viewed on line.  The voting process method we used was online voting and this took place over q 2 week period. We chose on line voting because it was easier considering the number of schools and organisations and the limited staffing available.  A results evening was held at County buildings – the results of the election were announced. Schools staff, the PCC, Deputy CEO of County Council and elected members were all invited to the results evening. |

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| **What was the impact, how did it affect change, what was different as a result of this work?** |
| The results for the election showed an increase of 50% participation compared to make yout Mark ballot.  Young people were very proactive and really engaged with schools to ensure young people would vote.  We now have 4 elected MYPs and 4 Deputy MYPS  The MYPS and work of the UKYP is known about within the council and plans are under way to ensure young people are involve in developing youth voice strategy in the county. |

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| **What were the outcomes for the young people?** |
| Young people developed friendships with others  Young people of Staffordshire are represented on a national platform - UKYP  Young people received training in voice projection, speech making, screen presence  All candidates will be involved in future events within the county. |
| **Are there any documents, weblinks additional information available about this? – please provide details of where these can be found** |
| Further information such as the report or the election campaign films can be made available – please request via email |

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| **What was the key learning from this piece of work, What top tips can you give to others who may want to replicate or do similar work to this?** |
| Schools need an incentive to ensure their participation – we offered a breakdown of the election results and outline how participation support and promotes British values and the school’s contribution to this. – therefore supporting the school curriculum.  We still did not have a great participation rate. Only 20 schools achieved more than 50 votes and 11 schools were represented by a candidate. Turn out per school was low |