

A learning solution for young peoples' issues

The Need

How can we implement the Every Child Matters agenda in the most efficient way? How can we deal with the complex issues surrounding young people? How can seeing interconnections and better partnership working help to address these issues? These are some of the questions that our Planit-YP learning simulation (a serious game) answers. Planit-YP considers these issues, but more importantly it makes them relevant and 'real' and brings partnerships and teams together.

Complexity to Clarity

Planit-YP was developed with assistance from Government Office Northwest, for use in workshops to improve skills and knowledge and allow delegates to 'see' how the decisions they make affect the health and well-being of young people.

Planit-YP models the life of a community. Teams play the role of key decision makers including education, health sector, emergency services and targeted youth support. The partnership need to bring the community in line with the Every Child Matters agenda. Win-win-win solutions need to be negotiated and incidents avoided. Finally, after each round, the teams are scored on indicators relating to young people.

The learning programme combines raising awareness of young people's issues and the advantages of a partnership approach with local capacity building and action planning. This provides local areas with the skills and tools to develop a shared vision and agenda for action to improve the lives of young people.

Planit-YP brings clarity to a complex problem by showing cause and effect. Delegates get to see the 'big picture' and to develop win-win solutions, which makes the issues real, relevant, and manageable.

Proven Learning Approach

Blending the best of traditional and interactive learning, the approach has been used in over 450 workshops; successfully training more than 6,000 people.

Example Uses:

- Training teenage pregnancy coordinators in four regions.
- **Staffordshire Young People Services** - Awareness Raising.

"[I liked that the simulation placed] teenage pregnancy and young people's issues in context of the wider issues so that all partners can be engaged, helping people see their role who may not think they're involved."



"Many young people feel they are portrayed unfairly in newspapers, radio and television - with not enough representation of their view points. Often, they say, there is too much focus on the things some young people do that are wrong, and not enough on the good things they do." - Department for Education

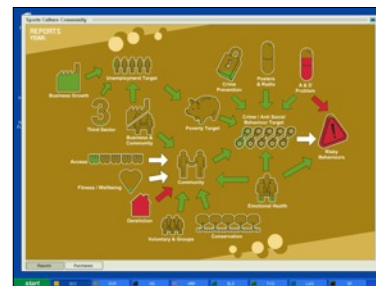


Planit-YP deals with the complex issues surrounding young people. Eight teams need to work together to sort problems such as teenage pregnancy, anti-social behaviour, worklessness, and drugs in a virtual community. The teams consider root causes and create positive alternatives. Planit-YP is suitable for training professionals in councils, health sector, police, emergency, third sector and for use in education and engagement of young people.



Key Objectives:

- Increasing awareness of young peoples' issues.
- Understanding the issues in terms of cause and effect rather than silo perspective.
- Broadening the design input into the Every Child Matters agenda. Including getting young people and professionals working together.
- Consider the factors associated with risky behaviours leading to teenage pregnancy.
- Improving the implementation of Every Child Matters.



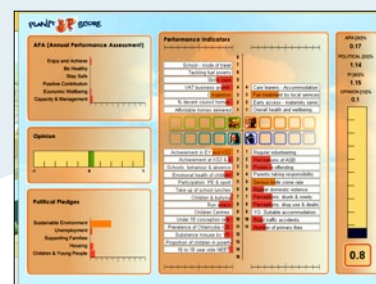
Real World Improvements

With clarity comes real world improvements. Our delegates consistently highlight improvements in the following three areas, which in turn translate into **improved decisions**.

- **Strategic Thinking** – Understanding the key driver against which your decisions need to be measured. Does a particular decision help you get closer to your goal?
- **Joined-up Thinking** – Understanding cause and effect generates perspective, reduces the chances of perverse outcomes, and increases the likelihood of your decisions being win-wins.
- **Collaborative Working** – Wider involvement improves decision-making. In essence, it allows your organisation to benefit from the 'wisdom of the crowd'.



"It encouraged cross team working, common thinking, forward planning and strategic planning"



Who Might Benefit from a Planit-YP Workshop

- Local Authorities (Children Services).
- Other public sector organisations such as the Health Sector and Police.
- Neighbourhood Management / Community Engagement.
- Communities (Service Design / Participatory Budgeting).
- Government Departments.
- Community and Voluntary Organisations.
- Education (Personal Social Health Education / Citizenship).

Over 99% of delegates have rated our workshops good or very good. Long term evaluation has identified better collaboration and decision-making; leading to significant savings.



Do you want an innovative approach to training?

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... and let learning ripple through your organisation

