

# Planning for Effective Learner Representation

# This session will...

- Consider the importance of learner voice and how this shapes how we measure its impact
- Explore different, sustainable mechanisms to engage learners in college

# Measuring Impact

## How do colleges measure learner voice?

The starting point for learning organisations should be to consider **why** they support learner voice in the first place. It is easy to share practice and benchmark with others in terms of **what you do** and **how you do it** but it is **why you do it** that will separate your practice from the rest.

# WHY

Developing a short statement is one way of clarifying your belief and purpose about what it is your organisation wishes Learner Voice to achieve. It is something that could be included on the opening page of a Learner Involvement Strategy.

**Write a collective statement to share your vision for the value and impact of Learner Voice in your organisation.**

**Involve students, Learner Voice Practitioners and Senior Managers in your discussion.**

# WHY

Here are some examples for your consideration:

The college believes that engaging students with its key decision making processes and activities will develop these individuals as citizens.

The college believes that students are at the heart of the education system and they should have the opportunity and platform to represent themselves and their peers through democratic processes.

# WHAT & HOW

Once you have established a collective, agreed understanding of why Learner Voice is important to your organisation, you can then consider how to distribute resources, time and activities in pursuit of your goal.

Use the next slide as a practical reflection on the diversity of your student body and to identify existing opportunities to interact with them. When you know who you want to work with, and where they will be, it's easier to plan what and how you are going to engage students .

# Who, Where, How?

## **How will you reach them?**

When you know who you want to work with, and where they will be, it's easier to shape your interaction successfully

## **Where are they?**

e.g. Different locations in the building/  
campus, work place, online, etc

## **Who are your students?**

e.g. PT/FT, Academic/  
Vocational, Work-based,  
Distance, Evening, Level of  
Qual, demographics, etc

(Habermas' Public Sphere)

# Have you Considered these Engagement Mechanisms?

S. Union	Class Rep	School Rep	Parliament	Governor
Tutorial	Acad. Mtg	SMT	Projects	Consultation
Survey	Online	Focus Group	Feedback	Opinion Poll
Referendum	Voting	Post Box	Text	Email
Graffiti Wall	Diary Cam	Snap Chat	Speed Date	Sport
Drop-In	Conference	Open Door	Social Media	Interview
Campaigns	Training	Networking	Workshop	Enrichment

# Engagement Strategy

## **Purpose**

Why are you writing this strategy?

## **Aims & Objectives**

Clear & concise goals for the strategy

## **Scope**

How will you work towards the goal/vision?

The ideas you have discussed and explored in this session are the foundation your Engagement Strategy. With a refreshed view on your approach and practice to engaging the breadth of your students to shape their educational experience, consider updating this document to ensure it is innovative, relevant and impacts positively on your organisation and the experience of your students.

