

## Involving Children and Young People: Testimonials

### **Sandwell Children & Young People's Plan Consultation:**

*“Given the time constraints, the less than comprehensive brief and the range of people and organisations involved, I thought you did a really excellent job. I was particularly impressed with your understanding of the context and the constraints we were operating within and how you were able to tailor your approach. I was also appreciative of your flexibility to be able to adapt and change the approach to reflect changing circumstances that arose during the course of the project.*

*I felt the methods were highly effective, the 'chatabout sessions' particularly were innovative and I have received a lot of positive feedback from participants. The production of the final report was timely and in a readily accessible format. I would have no hesitation in using M·E·L again in the future.”*

Mark Gibbs, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (Sandwell CYPSP)

### **Sure Start Nuneaton Programme Evaluation:**

*“It has been a useful exercise to review where we have performed well and to highlight issues to take forward as we gain full Children's Centre status. Having the information collated in a three year report provides us with an invaluable evidence base documenting our achievements and learning.”*

Julie Doyle, Sure Start Nuneaton

### **Sandwell Childcare Consultation:**

*“M·E·L worked collaboratively with us and delivered within tight timescales. The report findings and photograph albums were powerful and accessible, and will be used to help staff and managers respond to the children's needs and implement change. The M·E·L team were very responsive and professional and I felt assured that all ethical considerations were dealt with.”*

Lynn Beckett, Sandwell Borough Council Early Years and Childcare Unit

### **Sure Start Eight Village Children's Centre Evaluation of the Family Support Service:**

*“The evaluation has been extremely useful by providing the programme with information on staffs, partner agencies and parents' perceptions about the programme, examples of good practice and where improvements can be made. Findings and recommendations from the report have helped to inform the local mainstreaming agenda for the Family Support Team and will also be used to develop a strategy plan to meet these recommendations.”*

Matthew Horton, Sure Start Eight Village

**Sure Start Bradley and Whitefield Family Support Service Evaluation:**

*“The evaluation has helped us to identify areas of weakness in the programme and associated actions, and has also confirmed those changes already in place. We will be sharing the findings, particularly with regard to the Dental Service, with our partners in the local area, in order to demonstrate the benefits to families and organisations of these models of working.”*

Helen Mountford, Sure Start Bradley & Whitefield Children's Centre

**Parent Consultation and Service Audit, Sandwell Children and Young People's Trust:**

*“The outcomes of the work have had a real impact in informing the Parent Support Strategy. The consultation with parents identified some key areas where further support is needed, and the audit was useful in highlighting gaps in service provision. Both have actively fed into the Strategy. The Trust is looking to further research some key areas which emerged from the study, again working with M·E·L.”*

Mark Gibbs, Sandwell Children and Young People's Trust

**Sandwell Childcare Consultation:**

*“M·E·L were very responsive to our requirements to meet tight deadlines. M·E·L were advised on how the consultations were structured also worked in partnership in carrying out the consultation.”*

Lynn Beckett, Sandwell Borough Council

**Newcastle-under-Lyme Parent Satisfaction Consultation:**

*“We found M·E·L to be professional, reliable and the final report was of a sufficiently high quality. The practical recommendations included within the final report have been used to help inform the development of Phase Two Children's Centres across the area and have been invaluable in helping us to map our priorities for delivery. I would certainly use their services again in the future.”*

Carol Wood, Newcastle-under-Lyme Children's Centres

**For further information about our work in Involving Children and Young People, please contact Jayne Francis @ [jayne.francis@m-e-l.co.uk](mailto:jayne.francis@m-e-l.co.uk) call 0121 604 4664**