


# PARTICIPATION

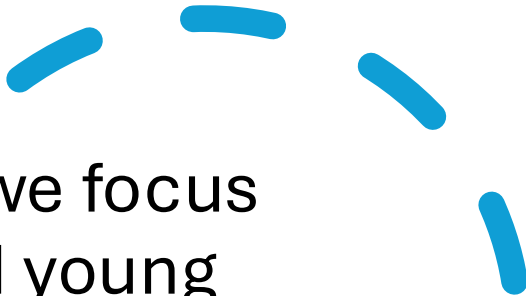
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PARENT CHAMPIONS



# What is Participation in Wandsworth?



As a Participation team we focus on ensuring children and young people and parents have a voice in decisions that affect them, advising and supporting colleagues and partners on good practice and helping the local authority develop services and policies that meet the needs of the residents.

# Our Team (Limitless)



Parent Participation

Wandsworth Youth Council  
and Youth Mayor

CLICK (Children Living in  
Care Kouncil)

WASS (Wandsworth  
Independent Advice  
Support Service)

Cluster Partnership Leads-  
each areas(3 clusters)


SEND Local Offer

Parent Champions

Parent/Carer Feedback  
Branch (parents who have  
experienced Wandsworth  
Safeguarding Children  
Partnership WSCP)



## A bit about what we do?

- Attend events and talk to young people and parent/carers within their own communities
  - Take surveys and consultations into the places where we know we will find our young people (schools, youth clubs , parent coffee mornings , children centres, BMX tracks, PTA meetings, voice meetings , social media)
  - Listen and record what they say even if it isn't going to be popular then feed this information back directly to the decision makers
  - Parent/carers sitting on interview panels for local authority staff from BSO's to Directorate
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# The Barriers to Participation

- Services do not like to hear the negatives, and we can receive some resistance from our own internal services.
- You become the go to team for every event in the borough!
- Residents need to be “won over” that their voices matter, and change can happen but whilst also managing their expectations.
- Ensuring that “what is going well” is fed back as well as “what could we do better”
- Trying to get families to look at services as a whole and not from their personal viewpoint
- It’s a thin line between participation and exploitation!



# The Positives of Participation

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Services that actually fit the needs of our families in the communities where it is needed.

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Empowering families that their opinions and voices are heard and valued!

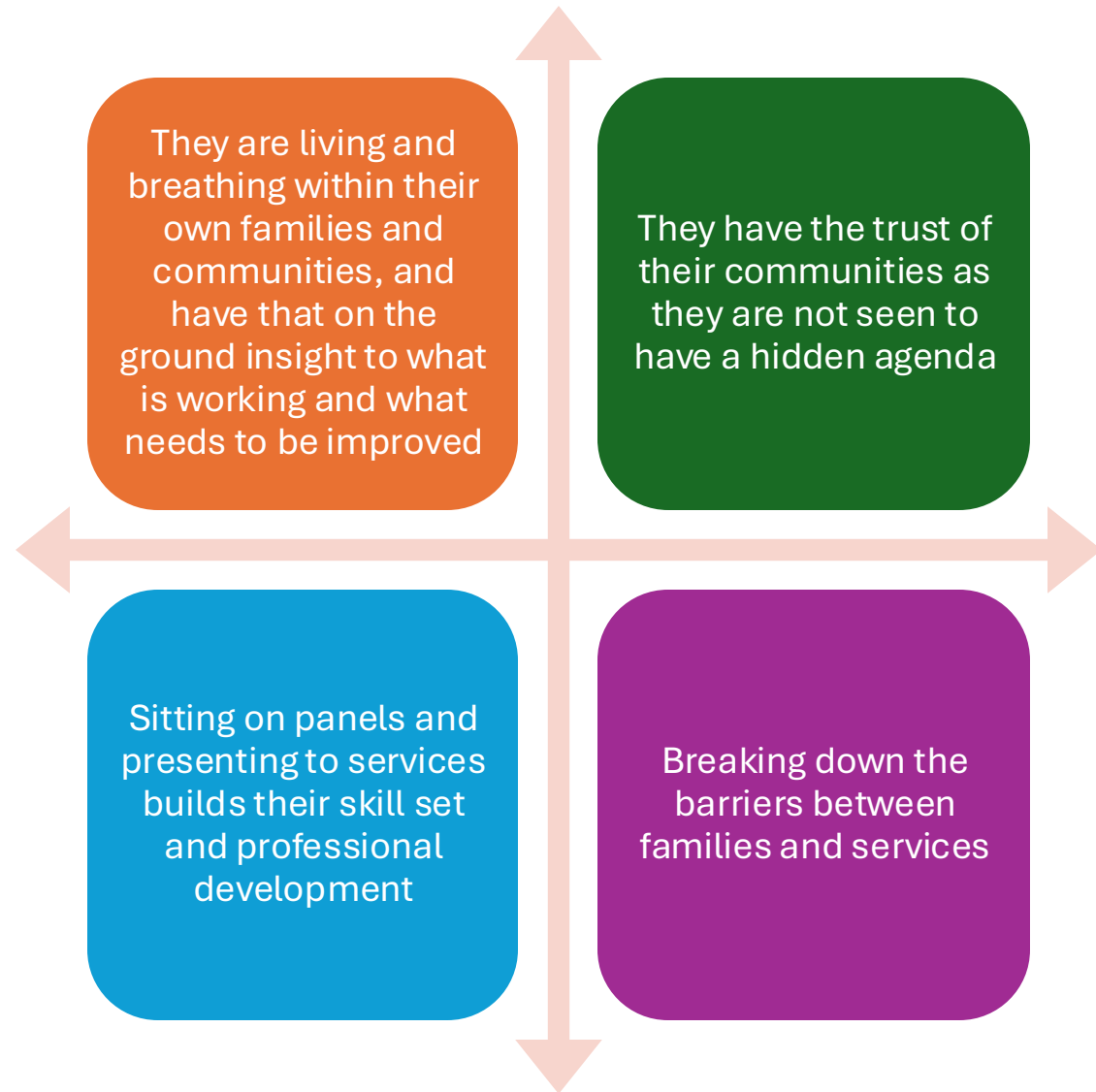
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More families engaging positively with services at an earlier stage which prevents intervention at crisis level!

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Empathy on both sides families understanding that staff are working hard but sometimes this can take time, and services understanding that one size does not fit all!

# Parent Champions and their role!





Questions