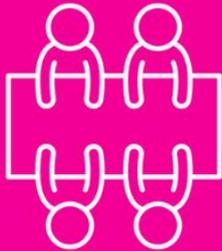


# Participation Network Online Event

THURSDAY 12 AUGUST  
13.00-15.00



INCLUSION, EXPERIENCE  
& VALUE IN  
PARTICIPATION

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## *Current Opportunities in Participation*

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As always, the network aims to share and champion as many opportunities as possible from across the participation world! Below are some of the live opportunities that were shared by network members, to make everyone aware of what's going on and what young people can get involved with.

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## *STAF summer sessions*

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Thanks to funding from the Scottish Government's Get Into Summer campaign and in association with Scottish Forestry, STAF are supporting young people with care experience across Scotland to get into summer and focus on wellbeing with their Summer Sessions. Read on to find out how to find out more and how to take part.

Here's what they are aiming to achieve with the Summers sessions:

- Support the improved mental health and wellbeing of care leavers and their workers.
- Provide targeted opportunities for care leavers and those who support them to reconnect with each other and us after 15 months of participating online.
- Provide opportunities to be active in the woodlands and forests participating in activities relevant to wild spaces.
- Enable care leavers to continue using their local wild spaces beyond the programme.

**September 1<sup>st</sup>: Benarty, Fife**

**September 3<sup>rd</sup> Gartmorn Dam, Clackmannanshire**

**September 21<sup>st</sup>: Pollok Park, Glasgow**

All the sessions will be led by a fully qualified outdoor instructor. The sessions aim to allow care experienced young people and their staff/carers the opportunity to take part in a range of activities from campfire building & outdoor cooking, shelter building, outdoor arts and crafts and conservation activities such as pruning and tool work.

Please note that Staf are unable to arrange transport to and from the locations, as such we are encouraging staff/carers to attend with their young people, however travel can be reimbursed. Lunch will also be provided on the day.

Complimentary places are available to Staf membership holders. For more information, please email Project Development Worker Tommy Dey at [Tommy@staf.scot](mailto:Tommy@staf.scot)

### **Book Now**

Request places to attend one of our sessions by completing the booking form below.

<https://www.staf.scot/Event/summer-sessions2021>

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## *The Fostering Network*

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The Fostering Network's new project 'Moving On - Positive transitions through and out of foster care' are recruiting a steering group and would particularly love to see some care leavers or otherwise care experienced young people represented in the group.



'Moving on – positive transitions through and out of foster care' is a new project looking to involve people who are passionate about the transitions in foster care and how we support children, young people and foster carers through these. There are different ways to be involved:

- The steering group will be vital in supporting the project worker and giving the project direction and focus.
- A series of focus groups will be held for foster carers to share their thoughts, ideas and experiences of transitions and how best to support everyone involved.
- There will also be a group for children and young people to provide peer support to each other through creative activities.

To find out more come along to the Information Session on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August at noon on Zoom. Even if you are unable to attend the session email [Bethany.Shelton@fostering.net](mailto:Bethany.Shelton@fostering.net) and she can share a recorded version of the presentation in due course.

To find out more, please email Bethany at [Bethany.Shelton@fostering.net](mailto:Bethany.Shelton@fostering.net)

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## *Children in Scotland*

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Children in Scotland is currently delivering the Participation through the Pandemic Project. The aim of the project is to explore how engagement work with children and young people has changed over the period of the pandemic.

The project is being led by a group of peer researchers aged 14-18. The peer researchers are designing the project and will be gathering the information. To find out examples of work with children and young people during the pandemic, the group have created a survey to find examples of what is going on across Scotland.

The peer researchers will look at responses to this survey and will select examples that they wish to use as case studies for their research. These case studies will show how things have changed over the last 18 months and share things that have worked well. They will be choosing 6 projects to be involved in case studies. Those selected will need to be available to take part in interviews and activities between the end of September and early November.

The peer researchers want to hear from projects working all over Scotland on a variety of issues. We want to hear about projects working with children and young people aged 8 - 24. They are also keen to hear directly from the children and young people you work with. To support this the group would be happy to have creative submissions through video or drawings that tell us a bit about the project. Please send any supporting creative submissions directly to Chris at [cross@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:cross@childreninscotland.org.uk)

The survey will be open until Friday 3 September. You can access the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XWJ5VXB>

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## *Scottish Co-Production Network*

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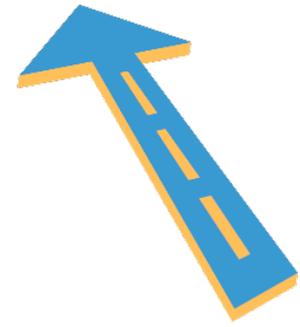
**Co-production Week Scotland is about bringing people together to share ideas, learning and stories about how co-production puts people and communities at the heart of the support and services they're part of.**

This year they're looking ahead to what's next for Scotland. They want to bring people together and build on the lessons of the last 18 months - and beyond - to help them co-design what the future of co-production looks like.

The week will be a chance to face up to the challenge of how we can use co-production to build a more flexible, less risk-averse way of working - where we can increase participation, build new alliances and enable lasting and meaningful change in our communities.

To do that, we'll be exploring issues like:

- Covid recovery – capturing, building on innovation and enterprise in the community
- Power – getting towards more equitable power relations
- Lived Experience – what exactly is it, how do we recognise and value it?
- Co-production in Health and Social Care
- Co-production, economic and social well-being and climate change



### **Get involved**

There will be more to share soon, but in the meantime let them know if you'd like to run an event (likely to be online), share your reflections in a blog or play your part in any way you like.

### **Find out more and join their network here:**

<https://www.coproductionscotland.org.uk/coproweekscot>