# Slide 1:

Hi everyone, I'm Eden the new young person’s engagement officer at Bexley IASS. ​

I joined back in January and have gotten stuck right into the depths of everything IASS with the help of Kathie and Katy. ​

During my time here, I will be building a co-production project where SEND young people will take lead on a youth forum to improve the service and engagement of young people directly using the service. ​

This presentation will give you a brief overview of my plans for the project and you can send questions into the team mailbox.

For starters, the project isn't going to be called X forum, that’s the current working name we have. In the essence of co-production, we are leaving the name up to the young people so they name it and recognise the project as their own from the start and remove prospects of tokenism. ​

# Slide 2:

This TOC outlines the areas we are covering today. ​

1. Project overview outlines the purpose of the project. We will explore what exactly co production is. ​ I'm sure some of you use it in your own work practices so we will share ideas and look at a collective definition for the project. ​
2. Aims and objectives will present the goals for the project. ​Currently these are vague guidelines to give the young people a sense of direction but they will either add or remove goals as they see fit for the project. ​
3. Project stages show a timeline of the project from the brainstorming of the project, where it is currently and what the future holds
4. Participants will be brief as this area is still being finalised​
5. Monitoring and evaluation, as with any project it is vital that all the work conducted is recorded and learnings are collected to support in writing a impact report to outline what the next steps will be
6. Post co-production will give some insight into what the next steps will be

# Slide 3:

Let's start with the outline of the project

# Slide 4:

Before we begin, what ideas do people have around co-production? What does that mean for you? ​

**[everyone shares] ​**

Thank you for sharing your thoughts. Involve, the UK’s public participation charity, define co-production as *'a way of working where service providers and users work together to reach a collective outcome. The approach is value driven and built on the principle that those who are affected by a service are best placed to help design it.’*

This is really important because it challenges the notion that people with lived experience – aren't experts in the given field. However, I want my young people to come in and know their expertise is just as valuable if not more than those in the professional sphere. This will shift the narrative from professionals to those with lived experience and they will be able to influence change.

# Slide 5:

Currently the service is predominately used by parents and carers with the attraction of young people remaining low (but are on the increase).

To increase young people's interaction and participation with the service, Bexley IASS is launching this forum. ​

This co production project will enable young people to transfer their lived experience towards adapting, changing and informing the way IASS is run and work towards raising awareness of the service across the borough.

# Slide 6:

So, what are the overarching goals of the project?

# Slide 7:

3 aims and objectives have been identified as the building blocks of the project. ​

1. To identify practical ways to reform the service - as we have found the service is predominately used by parents and carers so we will be working towards making it engaging and appealing to yp so it is their first point of call for any matters they have​
2. To ensure the project has longevity - I'm here till June (fingers crossed that will be longer) but it is essential that this forum is not a short-term project but one that will train young people to become champions for the service and be able to take their learnings into their future steps - school, supported internships etc and will help recruit the next generation of the forum​
3. Nurture a safe and brave space for SEND young people - I'm new to working with SEND young people however, I have observed that a lot of conversations are led by professionals, whether that ourselves or medical professionals etc and this is great but it doesn't crave a seat at the table for SEND young people to share their lived experience in a non-judgemental or discriminatory space where they are leading the narrative ​

There are amazing organisations across the borough that are working directly with young people, this project will take that further and flip the power dynamics so the young people lead the work which in turn will support their holistic development

# Slide 8:

The project stages will give you a sense of the timeline that the project will follow. Once yp are recruited this will be reviewed

# Slide 9:

February was spent drafting up the project proposal which has supported in creating this presentation. ​

Following a steer group meeting this presentation has been converted into this screencast which will be shared directly with our stakeholders as well as the yp in a more accessible format.

Week commencing 07/03 organisations will be contacted to support in recruiting yp for the project which will be finalised in early March. ​

In March, yp will be recruited onto the programme and asked to complete an initial survey to provide insight into what they know about IASS and help direct future sessions. ​

Following the foundation building, end of March/beginning of April will start working on the areas they want to improve in the service. ​

During this time a hybrid system will be in place to check in with the yp in person and online to support them in anything they need and facilitate a fun environment for everyone. This will foster rapport amongst the group and support in building soft skills as well as new connections. ​

In May co production will continue as well as reflection sessions to inform what next steps should be taken.

# Slide 10:

We will be targeting SEND young people through schools and colleges. ​

We will also be working with key stakeholders such as yourself and local organisations such as Jesse Foundation, REINSTATE and Danson Youth Trust

# Slide 11:

Methods of reporting will include: ​

1. Initial survey for young people ahead of co-production sessions – identify
2. knowledge and development sessions ​
3. Co-production sessions will have reflections ​
4. Impact report to be written collaboratively with the young people

# Slide 12:

What happens next? ​

Following the impact report, the young people will decide what the next steps should be ​

# Slide 13:

Thank you for listening, this concludes the presentation and I'd like to open the floor for questions.