



## **Youth Inspection of Exmoor National Park Authority**

### Context:

Mosaic Young Champions from the SWITCH youth group in Bideford inspected Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) Visitor Services. The inspection arose from the ENPA's visitor survey that highlighted that only 2% of respondents were 16 to 24 years old.

As a result of the inspection recommendations were made that were presented back to the Authority Members and Officers by the young people.

### **What went well**

- Being youth-led.
- Focusing on a specific under-represented group, i.e. 16 – 24 years olds.
- Young people receiving training and accreditation, delivered by Young Devon, throughout the process.
- Hand held devices enabling young people to interview other young people in the street.
- 'Let's do it attitude' of ENPA officers.
- Ensuring ENPA 'went to' the young people before the inspection to give context and background.
- ENPA offering accommodation and 'add on' of team building activities.

### **Learning points for next time**

- The initial inspection had to be rearranged. The delayed process left some of the young people frustrated and re-enforced the need to maintain momentum.
- Greater clarity between partners about when and how the official response from ENPA and subsequent actions would be given would have avoided some of the initial confusion.

# Mosaic

## Outcomes

- Young people achieved accredited learning and developed new skills in interviewing, data gathering and presentation of information.
- Elected Members and senior Officers directly heard the views and experiences of young people and collectively planned actions for the future.
- Stronger and ongoing relationships between ENPA and youth workers.
- Practical actions such as youth guides to the National Park being developed.



Young Champions inspect ENPA Visitor Services (Dunster, Exmoor)

*“The inspirational landscapes that are the National Parks, Britain’s Breathing Spaces, will be safe in their hands especially as young people begin to influence and shape the work of the National Park Authorities as demonstrated through Mosaic.”*

(John Dyke, Chairman, Exmoor National Park Authority)

(For further details and resources please visit [www.mosaicnationalparks.org](http://www.mosaicnationalparks.org) or contact: The Mosaic Project, Campaign for National Parks, 6-7 Barnard Mews, London, SW11 1QU, Tel 020 7924 4077, Fax 020 7924 5761. © Mosaic 2011)