**Workshop Evaluation Summary 2011-12**

The VCS Children’s centre programme has run nine focus workshops in seven local authorities for up to 230 participants from children’s centre, local authority and the voluntary and community sector.

From the 202 returns we can see that the overall responses for the workshop in terms of excellent to good ratings were:

* 81% session organisation
* 75% information provided
* 79% facilitation

A local authority response rate at 24 is the lowest. This reflects that in several events the focus was on children’s centres and VCS only.

From the returns we can see that the overall responses for the workshop in terms of excellent to good ratings were:

* 79% session organisation
* 79% information provided
* 79% facilitation

In terms of the individual stakeholders the evaluations were as follows. This is based on 74 returns.

The overall responses for the workshop in terms of excellent to good ratings were:

* 74% session organisation
* 71% information provided
* 73% facilitation

None of the partners included school-run children’s centres in task groups or in the workshops bar one local authority. The responses are shown here. These numbers are not in any other table but are here to illustrate that schools may need a different approach. The other stakeholder evaluations were only slightly lower in levels to the feedback from other events.

The overall responses for the workshop in terms of excellent to good were:

* 13% session organisation
* 13% information provided
* 0% facilitation

At 104 responses the VCS was by far the biggest stakeholder at the events.

The overall responses for the workshop in terms of excellent to good were:

* 85% session organisation
* 77% information provided
* 86% facilitation

**Some factors affecting feedback and evaluation**

* Some early events had confusing joining and starting times due to local admin errors. This was prevented by checking and amending what later organisers sent out.
* Some participants at most of the events were under the impression that it was a formal consultation event – this was managed by announcements and reference to the aims from the LA, 4Children and the VCS representatives with varying success.
* Attendees who thought it was a consultation event often demanded more information on models/governance where as those who understood it was a means of generating discussion wanted less. So the information activity became a group problem-solving exercise based on amended factsheets.
* A number of venues organised by the local authorities had problems such as poor acoustic, overheating, refreshments, joining instructions to the venue that influenced responses as to the workshop activities.