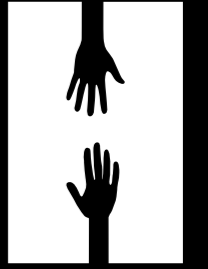


# CHANGING THE CONVERSATION



HOPE COLLECTIVE

**SCAN TO HEAR  
AN INTRODUCTION  
FROM TYRELL  
DAVIS-DOUGLIN,  
CO-CHAIR OF THE  
HOPE COLLECTIVE  
YOUTH  
MANAGEMENT  
GROUP**



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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 'Hope Collective' is a partnership cohort of organisations who share a passion to provide our young people with ambition, opportunity, something to aspire to... a hope for a better and brighter future. We aim to engage with young people the length and breadth of the United Kingdom and provide them with a voice and a platform to assist them to realise their dreams and their goals. A UK wide societal public health approach to safeguarding and nurturing young people.

Sadly, we see plenty of evidence of what happens when young people are not given these opportunities, when the concrete and steel of inner cities and a daily struggle to survive is what they face... a life bereft of hope.

As a society, we tend to focus on the negative image of our next generation, whereas, in reality, our young people are worth so much more. We believe that, if they are given a platform and the correct level of support, they can set an agenda that transforms lives and the world in which they live.

The Hope Collective believes that the levelling up discussion taking place within the adult establishment, needs to have young people front and centre of the discussion. The more we see equal opportunity for all young people, the fairer society we will become.

We started in 2021 with that agenda, to 'change the conversation', to be more positive about young people's ability to effect change and to listen to what they think and what they say.

Report after report into the problems impacting young people highlighted the fact that poverty and inequality was the problem. Symptoms such as knife crime manifested, showing how important it was to reframe the narrative. The narrative had just stayed the same! Working with the newly established network of Violence Reduction Units (VRU's) across the UK, we engaged with our numerous partner organisations – the National Citizen Service, UK Youth, Youthlink Scotland, the Coop, Rio Ferdinand Foundation, Onside Youth Zones, Tigers, 2020 Change, Spirit of London Awards Foundation, Professional Footballers Association (PFA), NHS, YMCA Wales, Oasis Youth and many more – to put together a pilot series of Hope Hack events at which young people could attend and discuss the issues impacted by poverty and inequality. These took place in London, Greater Manchester, Belfast, Glasgow and Cardiff and our young people responded in numbers to provide their views on issues such as:

**\_ POVERTY AND INEQUALITY  
\_ MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH  
\_ RACISM AND DIVISION  
\_ THE ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING  
\_ EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION**

This report, which will be delivered to the political establishment in all four corners of the United Kingdom in 2022, is the voice of our young people in respect of these issues. It underlines their desire for a better, more positive, future.

But this is not the end, merely a beginning. The success of these hacks has encouraged us to grasp the opportunity and turn the Hope Collective into a constituted body. I am proud to have been asked to be the first chair of that collective body. Indeed, I am joined by Vice Chairs, Martin Griffiths CBE from health and Sarah Willis from housing... justice, health and housing working together towards a common outcome... how progressive is that?

# WE WANT TO PROVIDE THEM WITH HOPE

**NIVEN RENNIE**  
**CHAIR**  
**FEBRUARY 2022**



In 2022, with wind in our sails, we will undertake a further series of hacks with the ultimate aim to build the greatest needs assessment of young people the UK has ever seen.

We are an organisation with lofty ambitions, but we need to be! We need to provide the youth of the UK with a voice and an ability for their views to be heard in shaping the society they wish to inhabit.

**INTRODUCING  
THE HOPE  
COLLECTIVE**

The Hope Collective is a powerful partnership of leading cross-sector organisations with aligned values and a shared vision; to work together in a spirit of unity to create real change for young people and communities across the UK.

Formed originally to support the 20th anniversary legacy campaign for Damilola Taylor, the Hope Collective is driven by a shared purpose – to establish real change that enables UK’s most vulnerable communities to be free from poverty, violence and discrimination.

The Hope Collective will co-design solutions that deliver for young people, amplify their voices and focus on their hopes for the future. The Hope Collective will bring its networks together to create long term solutions that engage communities and influence policy making, to bring about positive change.

Through activity led by the Hope Collective, young people can discuss their thoughts and solutions on issues that affect them, their lives and their communities. The goal of the Hope Collective is to ‘change the narrative’ for young people and focus on solutions, not symptoms, and most importantly to focus on their hopes for the future. We do not just want to change the conversation around negative issues impacting young people, we want to change the environment and build momentum for a fairer society that gives every young person equally opportunities.

# WHO WE ARE



*The Hope Collective is important for a number of reasons. Firstly it starts a conversation. The conversation it starts are around social issues impacting youth and it gives young people like myself the opportunity to speak to professionals, politicians and even celebrities, about issues impacting youth and gives us the opportunity to give feedback on what needs to be done to help young people in today’s world. Inspiring hope in young people is important because it gives the ability and drive for young people to succeed. No matter where you’re from, being part of a Hope Hack inspires young people, myself included, to be who we are supposed to be, to not let our doubts or barriers stop us from achieving what we dream to achieve, and most of all it inspires us to share and keep the important conversations going.*

**\_NATALIE HUSSEY**  
**YOUTH MANAGEMENT GROUP**



This special partnership cohort includes every Violence Reduction Unit (VRU's) in the UK and a broad spectrum of the youth sector represented by UK Youth, the National Citizen Service (NCS) and OnSide Youth Zones and many cutting edge grassroots organisations across the UK, such as Tigers in Glasgow. A unique interface between the entire UK youth sector and the emerging UK violence reduction network. Putting young people front and centre of discussions about their safety and their future. We believe that the public health philosophy for safeguarding young people is encapsulated in the old African proverb "It takes a village to raise a child".



Through the powerful network of organisations, the Hope Collective was able to develop a series of youth facing Hope Hack events around the UK in 2021. The locations; London, Manchester, Belfast, Cardiff and Glasgow were identified as there was a strong membership representation. It was also a strong footprint to build what the Hope Collective saw as a pilot study and to engage young people in the conversation about what the solutions to poverty and inequality looked like through their eyes.

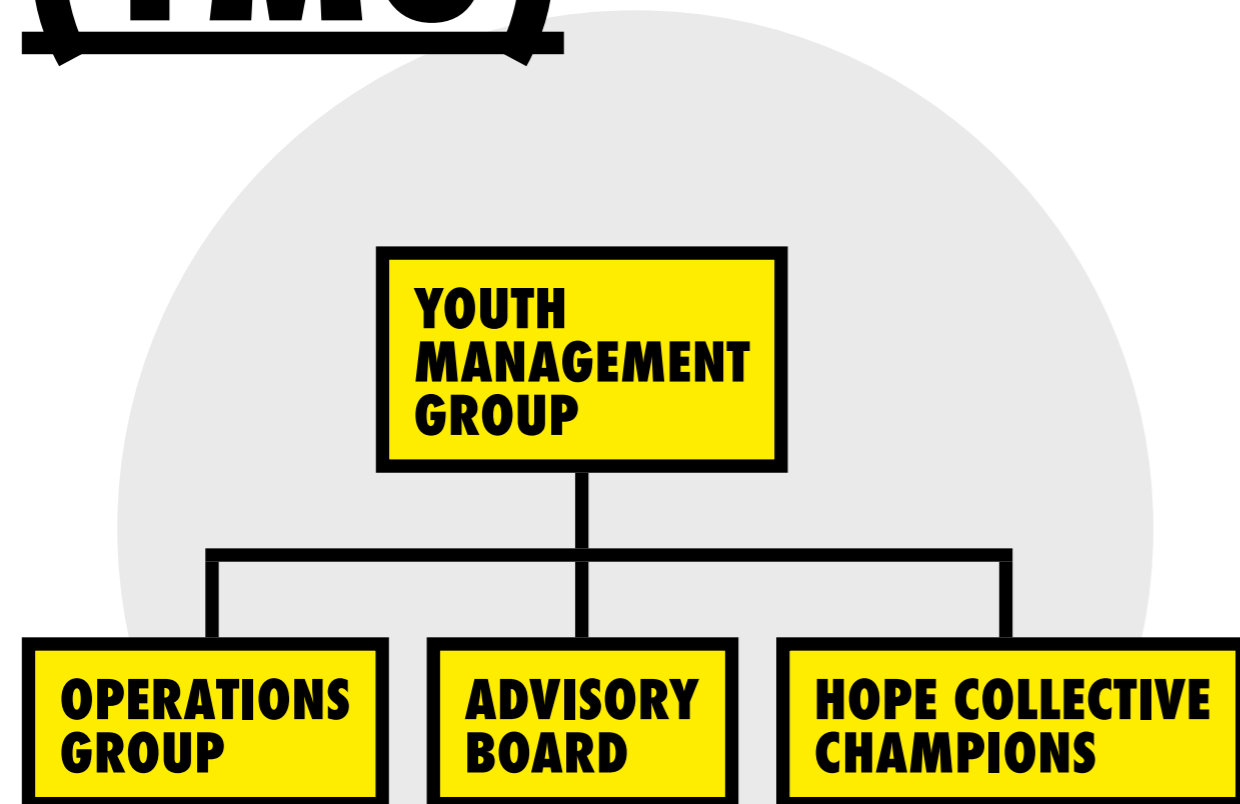
While the establishment was using the term "levelling up" the Hope Collective settled on a "fairer society" as being a more youth friendly narrative. As the youth management group declared "if you level up the poorest communities that would eradicate knife crime for one thing".

# WHAT WE DO

The 5 Hope Hacks were a great success. The format was designed by the National Citizen Service (NCS) events team. With input from the broader collective. The one day events included star speakers, panel debates and breakout workshops looking at top line issues that manifested from poverty and inequality.



# **WHO ARE THE YOUTH MANAGEMENT GROUP (YMG)**



The Youth Management Group (YMG) is a group of motivated young people who are enthusiastic about youth representation and young people’s issues. Group members are aged 16 to 25, live across the UK and represent various organisations across the Hope Collective. The group meets once every fortnight to discuss upcoming plans and opportunities within the Collective.

The YMG was created to amplify the youth voice within the project. Putting young people front and centre of the levelling up discussion in seeking solutions to poverty and inequality and all the social ills that emanate from the problem is a fundamental part of the project’s manifestor and theory of change. It is an overused cliché that young people are the future but with the collective they are very much the presence and involved in every element of the partnership’s work programmes. We must be clear though, that solutions to poverty and inequality are an adult establishment responsibility and the Hope Collective executive mandate is to not just listen to what young people say, but also act on what’s been said.

## **YOUTH MANAGEMENT GROUP WORK THIS YEAR**

The YMG has been vital in the creation of the Hope Hack events which allowed young people across the country to express their opinions and solutions to key issues. In 2021, the YMG selected and refined 5 key topics that later became the themes for the 5 Hope Hacks held across the UK. Members of the group also attended each event and assisted with facilitation of the events. The YMG represented the Hope Collective at the 10 Downing Street ‘Mini Hack’ discussion and the Day of Hope service on 7th December 2021.



**\_EMMA KICA**

**YOUTH  
MANAGEMENT  
GROUP**

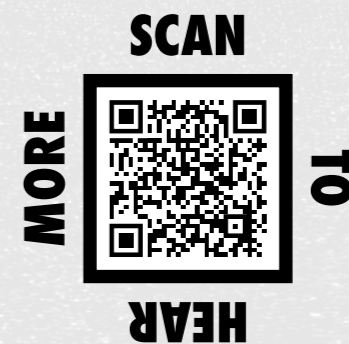
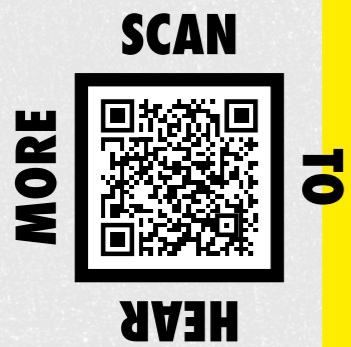
**🎤 YOUTH SAY... 🔥**

*In a supportive and creative environment such as that of the YMG, I have greatly enjoyed my time here. My highlight so far has been witnessing the journey from planning the hacks, to the execution of them. The participation from young people in the hacks and the overall energy of them, meant it turned out much bigger and better than expected. Witnessing this alongside connecting with other like minded individuals, in turn, makes me hopeful for what greater things are to come.*

*My favourite part of being in the Youth Management Group has been meeting amazing young people from across the country and truly leaving our mark on society. Inspiring hope in young people is so important because hope allows us to look forward to the future.*

**\_LARA AREKAT**

**YOUTH  
MANAGEMENT  
GROUP**



# **OUR** **AMBITION**

The Hope Collective wants to establish real change that enables UK's most vulnerable communities to be "levelled up" and free from poverty, violence and discrimination.

The Hope Collective will do this by:

**\_COMMITTING TO WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF ALL WE DO SO WE CAN CREATE AND CO-DESIGN LONG-TERM CHANGE**

**\_AMPLIFYING THE VOICES OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND FOCUS ON THEIR HOPES FOR THE FUTURE**

**\_BRINGING TOGETHER LEADERS FROM ACROSS SECTORS AND GOVERNMENT, WITH YOUNG PEOPLE TO CREATE LONG TERM SOLUTIONS THAT ENGAGE COMMUNITIES IN SOCIAL ACTIVISM TO AUTHENTICATE AND AFFECT POSITIVE CHANGE**

**\_CELEBRATING YOUNG PEOPLE'S HOPES FOR THE FUTURE ON 7TH DECEMBER, THE UK'S NATIONAL DAY OF HOPE**

## **REAL AND AUTHENTIC CHANGE**

The Hope Collective merges expertise from the developing violence reduction network around the UK, with subject matter experts from youth work, health, housing, justice, education and communication. Together they are creating an annual programme of activity that equips young people with the skills and networks to deliver change in their communities. This will enable the Hope Collective to deliver a youth led, peer-to-peer needs assessment of the current challenges facing young people, and co-design solutions to drive long lasting change.

**HACK EVENT  
PRE-WORKSHOP  
SURVEYS**

The YMG listed a number of issues that are important to young people. These topics were refined, and 5 were selected to be the key themes of the hack events. Having looked at a variety of ways to conduct the research and views of young people, it was decided that surveys would be used as a pre-event tool and group discussions would be used in the hack workshops.

This would be the best way to accurately collect ideas and solutions directly from young people.

Prior to each 'Hope Hack' event, young people were emailed a short survey with questions relevant to the issue that would be discussed in their workshop groups.

The pre-event surveys asked open-ended questions to capture the initial thoughts and emotions of young people and were kept to a maximum of 10 questions. This ensured they were not time consuming to complete and greatly increased the likelihood of participation. Through the completion of the survey, participants were encouraged to consider how each issue impacted them and their community before attending the event.

The survey was emailed to all young people as part of the sign up process to attend the individual hack events. Surveys were sent out approximately 1-2 weeks before the event took place.

The survey was administered using Form Assembly to complete sign up to the event and then shared via email in the information packs before each hack.

Please note, these responses and survey results are representative of those young people that registered to attend the 5 hack events and are the views of those that were surveyed.

# **INTERPRETATION** **OF SURVEY** **RESULTS**

**IN TOTAL 331 YOUNG PEOPLE REGISTERED TO ATTEND THE EVENTS, WITH 219 COMPLETING THE SURVEYS, GIVING AN OVERALL RESPONSE RATE OF 66%.**

# YOUNG PEOPLE WERE ASKED

**“APART FROM THE PANDEMIC, WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT TWO OR THREE ISSUES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY?”**

## LONDON

**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**UNEMPLOYMENT**  
COSTS OF LIVING

## MANCHESTER

**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**EDUCATION** (Schools/Colleges)  
RACISM

## BELFAST

**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**EDUCATION** (Schools/Colleges)  
RACISM

## GLASGOW

**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**POVERTY/INEQUALITY**  
EDUCATION (Schools/Colleges)

## CARDIFF

**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**POVERTY/INEQUALITY**  
RACISM

**TOP 3 ISSUES RECORDED**

# YOUNG PEOPLE WERE ALSO ASKED

**“OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS, DO YOU THINK POVERTY/INEQUALITY HAS GOTTEN BETTER, WORSE, OR STAYED THE SAME?”**

## LONDON (POVERTY/INEQUALITY)

<b>GOTTEN A LOT WORSE</b>	<b>38%</b>
STAYED THE SAME	15%
GOTTEN A LITTLE BETTER	13%

## BELFAST (RACISM/DIVISION)

<b>GOTTEN A LITTLE BETTER</b>	<b>47%</b>
STAYED THE SAME	27%
GOTTEN A LOT WORSE	13%

Respondents were asked to pick one answer only

## GLASGOW (HOUSING CONDITIONS)

<b>STAYED THE SAME</b>	<b>23%</b>
GOTTEN A LITTLE BETTER	14%
GOTTEN A LITTLE WORSE	14%

## CARDIFF (EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES)

<b>STAYED THE SAME</b>	<b>100%</b>
------------------------	-------------

## GLASGOW (THE ENVIRONMENT)

<b>DON'T KNOW</b>	<b>32%</b>
STAYED THE SAME	23%
GOTTEN A LITTLE WORSE	19%

## MANCHESTER

<b>1. ANXIETY</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>2. DEPRESSSION</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>3. LONELINESS</b>	<b>14%</b>

In Manchester, the topic of the hack was Wellbeing. We asked ‘What do you think are the top two or three mental health issues affecting young people in Britain today?’ (respondents were asked to select their top two or three issues.)

**HOPE**

**HACKS**



# HOPE HACKS

The hope hack event format was designed and developed by the National Citizen Service (NCS) events team, also part of the Hope Collective Operations group. The team had aspirations for the events to mirror a traditional 'hackathon', whereby a desired goal is achieved through a design sprint-like event, normally taking place over several days.

With the uncertainty around Covid restrictions, time, budget and resource, the team wanted to achieve a similar outcome to a 'hackathon' but within a much shorter time frame, of 7 hours. Set out to achieve a similar format, the NCS events team connected with an organisation called 'Liminal Labs' who had run similar virtual workshop sessions during lockdown.

The events team asked Liminal Labs specifically for ideas for creating a space in which young people could be invited to share, explore and develop ideas to tackle issues affecting them and their communities, and so the format of the Hope Hack events was developed.

Each Hope Hack event followed a similar structure. At the start of each event, the audience heard from an inspirational speaker followed by a panel of influencers and young people discussing the event topic, followed by an opportunity for questions and open conversation from the audience of young people.

The hack style workshops followed on from the inspirational session and consisted of several phases, outlined on the next page.



# RESEARCH WALL

This was an area at the start of the hack to provide information, reflection and inspiration. The team decided on a 'washing line' approach, with posters highlighting inspiring projects, key quotes, statistics and research to build the research wall for participants to explore, share and talk about their hopes and fears surrounding the hack topic.



# IDEATION PHASE

Following the research wall, was a fast paced, high energy ideation round, using lots of post it notes! Undertaking ideation in rounds allowed participants to build on ideas to make them more ambitious, thoughtful and impactful. The aim was to encourage quantity not quality, and ideas from which to explore further.

# PRIORITISING IDEAS

Using a prioritisation matrix helped the team decide which ideas they wanted to take forward using measures such as 'potential impact' and 'length of impact', with the idea to pick one or two ideas that they were most passionate about or interested in building on further.



# IDEA DEVELOPMENT

Using a variety of methods, eg. storyboards, journey-mapping, role play, posters, the teams then worked together to decide which idea to take forward to present back to the main audience. This was done in a number of creative ways including role play, acting, music, singing and use of props such as posters.

# THE FORMAT



MONTH	JULY	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER
LOCATION	LONDON	MANCHESTER	BELFAST	GLASGOW	CARDIFF
THEME	POVERTY & INEQUALITY	MENTAL & PHYSICAL WELLBEING	RACISM & DIVISION	ENVIRONMENT & HOUSING	EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT
ORGANISATION	2020 CHANGE	NCS & ONSIDE	RIO FERDINAND FOUNDATION	TIGERS & SCOTTISH VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT	WALES VIOLENCE PREVENTION UNIT
VENUE	LILIAN BAYLIS TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL	MAHDLO YOUTH ZONE	ASHFIELD BOYS SCHOOL	TIGERS	PRINCIPALITY STADIUM

# HOPE HACK TOUR

The Hope Collective team wanted to reach all corners of the UK, including Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales with each event focussing on 2 key themes.

# 5X UK CITIES

The wrap up at the end of the events allowed the young people to share their personal experiences including how people close to them are negatively impacted by poverty and inequality on a daily basis. These hack events have allowed young people a voice in the way issues that predominantly affect them are addressed, and to “change the conversation”.



*The hack events in 2021 were a brilliant opportunity for young people to come together and speak openly about the issues affecting poverty and inequality. The inspirational session in the morning really set the scene and energy for the Hope Hack workshops, where the young people felt comfortable discussing with their peers, key issues in their communities and their solutions for positive change.*

**\_CLAIRE MANT  
SENIOR EVENT  
MANAGER**

**NCS**



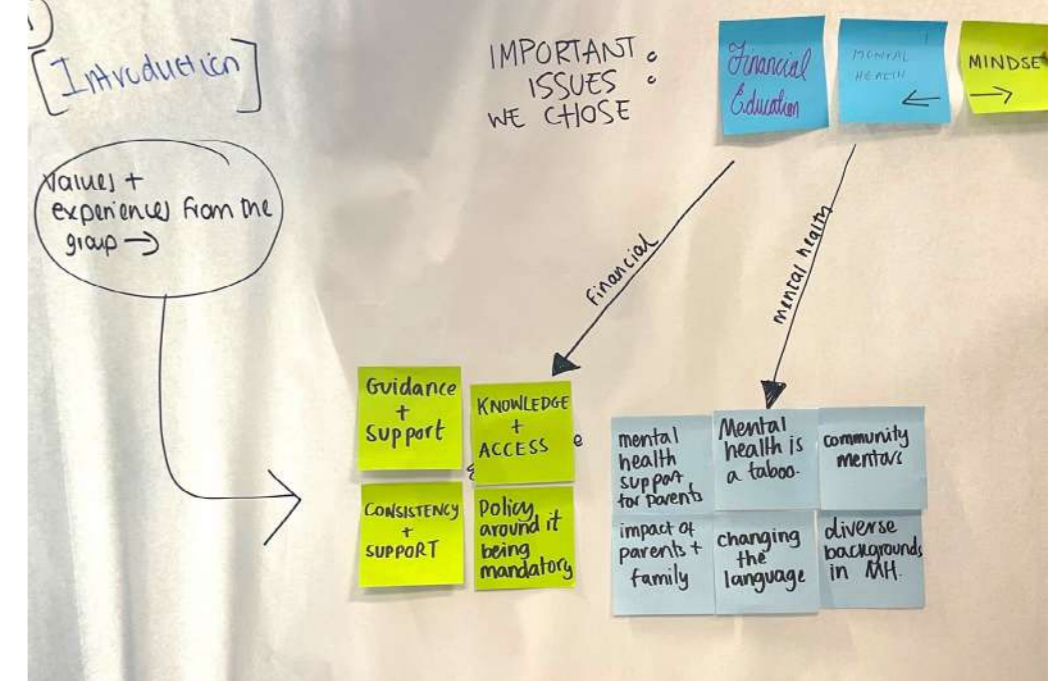
# LONDON HOPE HACK

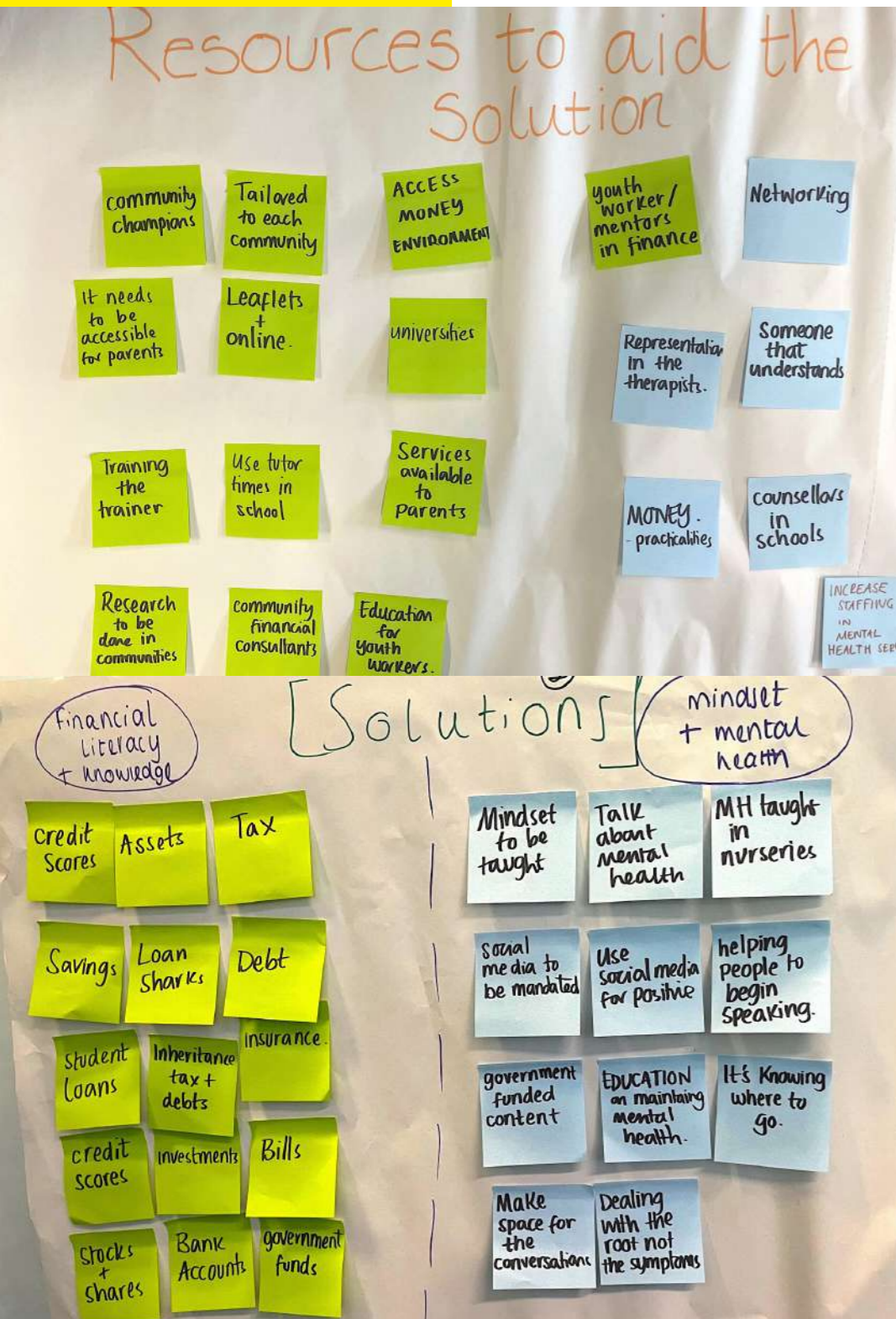
**MONTH: JULY**

**TOPIC:  
POVERTY & INEQUALITY**

**LOCATION:  
LILIAN BAYLIS TECHNOLOGY  
SCHOOL, VAUXHALL**

The first of the Hope Hack events kicked off in a school in South London, looking at the overarching theme of poverty and inequality. Here are some of the views from the young people that took part and their ideas and solutions to how they see a fairer society, particularly around the topics of education, housing and mental health.





## EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Implementing reality studies where young people are taught how to survive in the real world. Tackling mental health issues in primary school and financial studies in secondary schools and to help build a network for when school is finished, which would lead to jobs and experience. If young people don't get the support they actually need this can lead to being in the justice system.

“ Young people don't need to find themselves, they need to create themselves. ”  
**\_YOUNG PERSON**

## THERAPY AND COUNSELLING

We need to make therapy more accessible for immigrants - needs to be available in different languages.

## HOUSING

Repurpose derelict buildings for housing placements without gentrification.



# MANCHESTER HOPE HACK



The second Hope Hack event took place in Oldham, Greater Manchester looking at the theme of Mental & Physical Wellbeing. In the workshops, the young people were asked, "What are your hopes for your community?"

**MONTH: SEPTEMBER**

**TOPIC: MENTAL & PHYSICAL WELLBEING**

**LOCATION: MAHDLO, OLDHAM**



## **YOUTH SAY... 🔥**

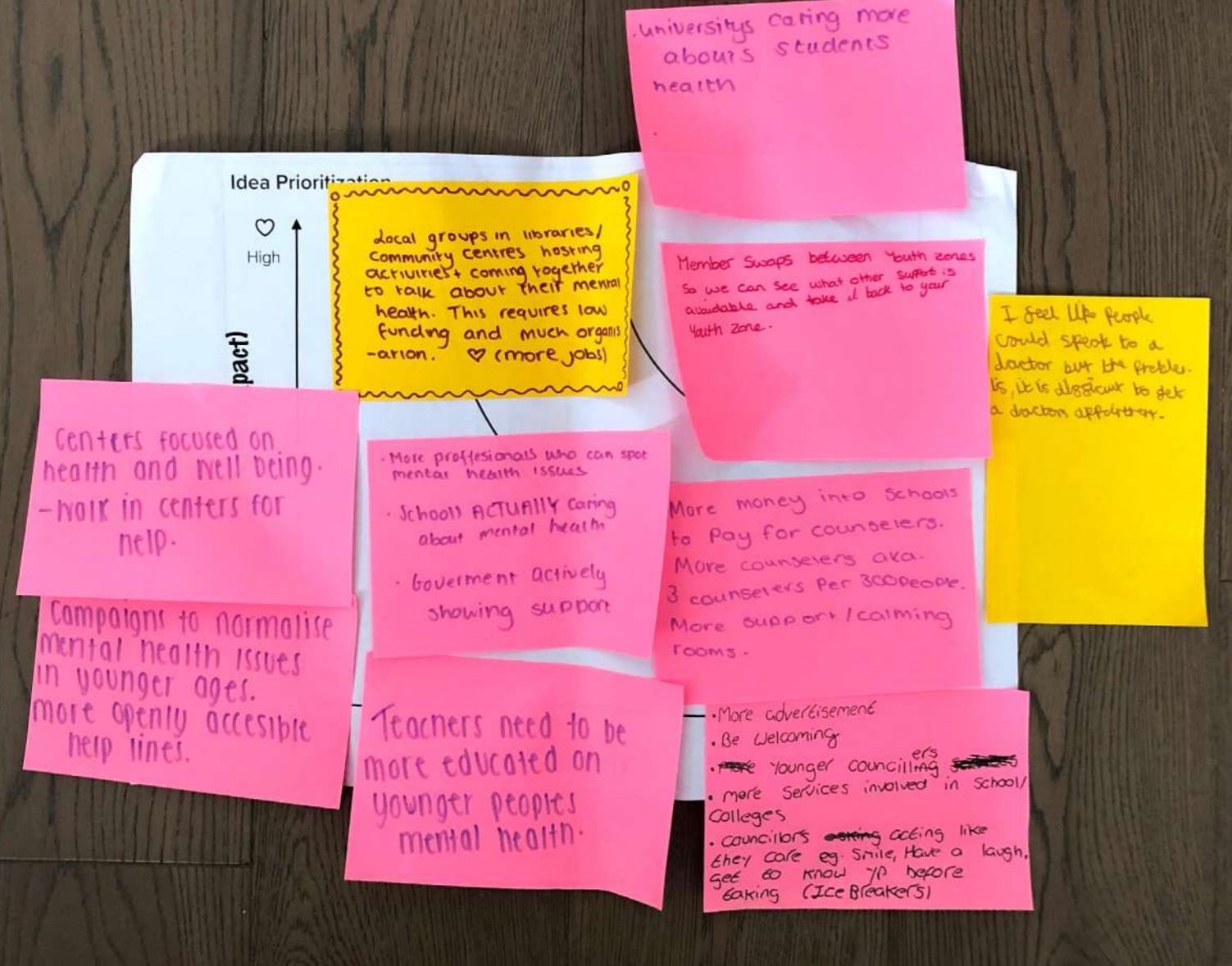
**"END THE HOUSING CRISIS."**

**"BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLACES FOR YOUTHS."**

**"MORE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALL AGES AND GENDER."**

**"GREENER SPACES."**

**"MORE EQUALITY."**



**“MORE YOUTH CENTRES TO OPEN AND PROVIDE 1:1 DISCUSSIONS IN REGARDS TO MENTAL HEALTH.”**

**“EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS ON SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE AND IMPROVE OVERALL MENTAL WELLBEING.”**



**“PSHE LESSONS TO BE RUN BY FULLY QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS TO GENERATE BETTER UNDERSTANDING.”**

When it came to presenting their ideas and solutions back, here's what they had to say about mental wellbeing in their community;



**🎤 YOUTH SAY... 🔥**



# **BELFAST HOPE HACK**

**MONTH: OCTOBER**

**TOPIC:  
RACISM & DIVISION**

**LOCATION:  
ASHFIELD BOYS  
SCHOOL, BELFAST**

The next stop was Belfast where the Hope Hack event looked at the topic of racism and division. When discussing the issue of racism and division in their community, here's what some of the young people had to say;

**“IT’S DANGEROUS  
TO GO TO  
CERTAIN PLACES.”**

**“I CAN’T GO TO  
CERTAIN PLACES  
WITH MY FAMILY.”**

**“MAKE PEOPLE FEEL INCLUDED EVERYWHERE.”**



Key themes that were discussed in Belfast included 'prejudice & ignorance' and 'gender & equality'. Here are some of the ideas and thoughts on how these areas might be improved;



*"In order to achieve real equality we all have different issues and policy makers need to focus on them."*



**\_YOUNG PERSON**

## **GENDER AND EQUALITY**

**"EDUCATION ON EQUALITY NEEDS TO START AT AN EARLY AGE."**

**"TEACH CHILDREN ABOUT CONSENT, THIS CAN BE DONE THROUGH EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS."**

**"OLDER GENERATIONS HAVE VERY SET IDEAS ABOUT GENDER AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE MEN AND WOMEN. THE YOUNGER GENERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK UP ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES TO HELP CHANGE ATTITUDES."**

**"MEN ARE 5 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO COMMIT SUICIDE, THIS ISN'T TALKED ABOUT ENOUGH."**

## **PREJUDICE AND IGNORANCE**

**"RACISM AND PREJUDICE IS HANDED DOWN AFTER GENERATION."**

**"NIGHTS FOR PARENTS THAT ARE MANDATORY WITHIN SCHOOLS SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED SO THAT PARENTS CAN BETTER EDUCATED NOT TO HOLD PREJUDICE OR JUDGE."**

**"A NEW CURRICULUM SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED INTO THE SCHOOL SYSTEM BECAUSE AT THE MINUTE THERE ISN'T ONE AT ALL."**



# **GLASGOW**

# **HOPE**

# **HACK**

**MONTH: NOVEMBER**

**TOPIC:  
ENVIRONMENT & HOUSING**

**LOCATION:  
TIGERS, GLASGOW**

## **HOUSING**

For the fourth Hope Hack, we visited Glasgow where this time the discussions were around the environment and housing. Solutions and ideas from the young people included converting empty offices to housing, using more green spaces to grow own produce and more use of solar panels and electric cars.

**“POLITICIANS NEEDS TO GIVE SET DATES FOR CHANGES RATHER THAN CLAIMS.”**

**“NEED FOR REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN MISINFORMATION.”**

**“REDISTRIBUTION OF POWER, GIVING PEOPLE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES,”**

**“NO SUITABLE REASON TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL HOMES, SHOULD MEAN BEING ‘HEAVILY TAXED’ ON THE ADDITIONAL HOMES.”**

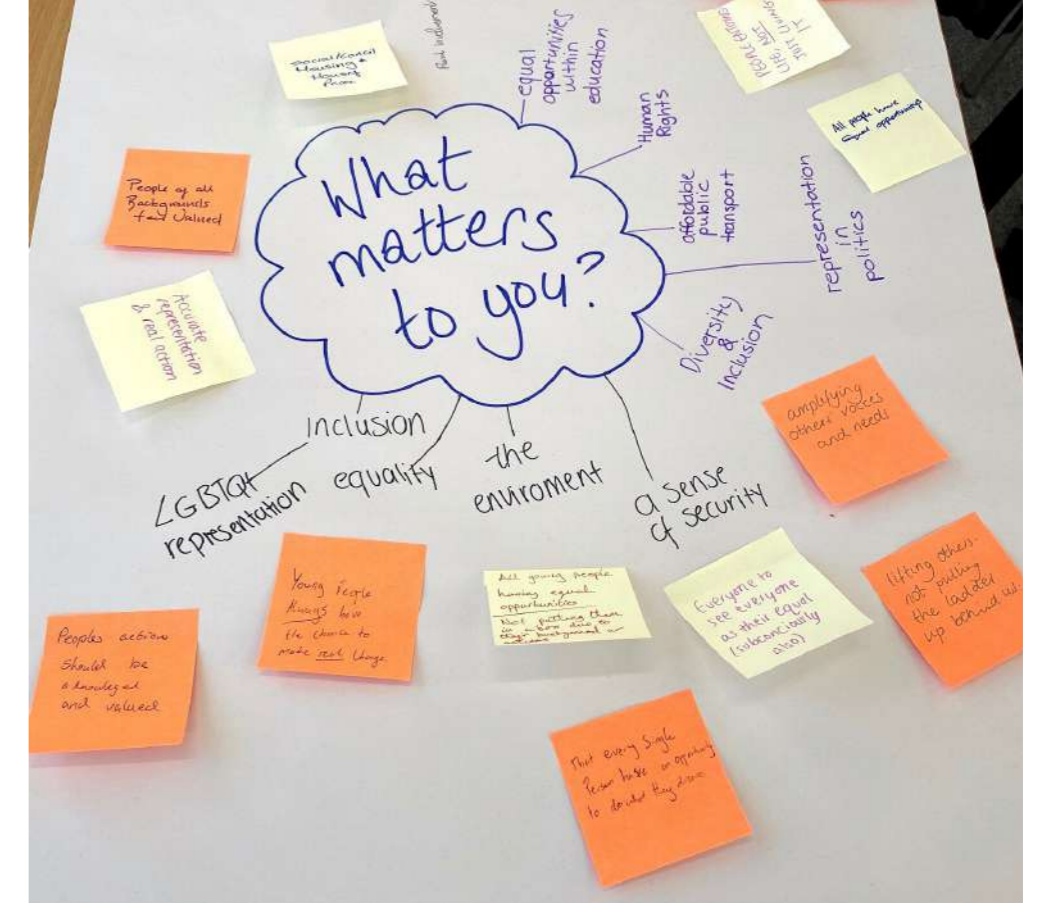


Hope Collective

“Housing and equality is not taught in school. We should be writing essays and taking part in creative projects and being educated on topics such as housing and the environment. Our education system is outdated. It’s old and does not give us space for open discussions of the acknowledgement of development of any young people’s opinions. Events such as this, are amazing and important, but it shouldn’t take this for us to learn about this. We should be taught about this in school.”

“In History lessons, we don’t learn about topics such as the Civil Rights movement, until exam years, even though it is important. Many people who don’t take history, never really learn about these topics”

“Real impact, comes from real people.”



“I would like to thank everyone who made today happen, for allowing our voices to be heard and for inciting such passion for change within us.”



“A system based on equality is the only system that can produce quality. I am hopeful today, as I have seen the progress over the last years. The rapid rate of change and a sign of better times to come. I am hopeful today, because we can still work towards a better, greener, world.”

# **CARDIFF**

# **HOPE**

# **HACK**

**MONTH: NOVEMBER**

**TOPIC: EDUCATION  
& EMPLOYMENT**

**LOCATION:  
PRINCIPALITY STADIUM, CARDIFF**

The final stop on the 2021 Hope Hack tour took place in Cardiff, where the topic of education and employment was explored. During the workshops, the groups were asked, 'When you think about employment and education, what matters most?'

**“FAIRNESS”**

**“ACADEMIC SUCCES.”**

**“EQUALITY**

**“TEACHERS THAT REPRESENT YOU.”**



**“DIVERSIFICATION AND SUPPORT FOR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH.”**

**“REACHING DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES AND EMPLOYING LOCAL PEOPLE.”**

**🎤 YOUTH SAY... 🔥**

When regrouping at the end of the event, the discussions from the young people were focussed around ideas to improve the awareness of mental health in schools and how the education system could be improved:



## YOUTH SAY... 🔥

**“1:1 FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS SO YOUNG PEOPLE CAN FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE AND HAVE THE SPACE TO SPEAK OUT.”**

**“ADVERTISEMENTS TO TACKLE STIGMAS AND HIGHLIGHTING WAYS SUB GROUPS SUCH AS NEURODIVERGENCE CAN BE AFFECTED BY MENTAL HEALTH.”**

**“SAFE SPACES, USE OF CARDS IN CLASSROOMS TO INDICATE THE NEED FOR TIME OUT.”**

**“COMPULSORY LESSONS FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL TO HELP WITH BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION.”**

**“SCHOOLS TO HIGHLIGHT ALTERNATIVE ROUTES OTHER THAN UNIVERSITY.”**





*The hack events are a brilliant opportunity to put young people's voices at the forefront of these discussions and support them to explore and develop innovative solutions to societal challenges. Our events team, who developed the hack format, are passionate about the project and the way it brings so many different organisations into the mix in partnership.*

**MARK GIFFORD**  
CEO

NCS



 **YOUTH SAY...** 



*We're tired of always hearing about the symptoms of issues, we're tired of hearing statistics of violence and crime associated with our age group. We want real solutions and we want to be part of the pivotal conversations to make sure we get the best for us all...*

**YOUNG PERSON**

*I had the pleasure and privilege of attending three of the five hacks that took place in 2021 however, I would have to say that one of my highlights was during the first hack in London where the topic was on poverty and inequality. It was very inspiring and refreshing to see how all the attendees engaged with the topic and presented very engaging points throughout the session. One of the points that stood out to me was regarding financial literacy and how we can tackle the lack of it within certain demographics around the nation. There was also a great 'family' feel during the hack as some individuals actually went for a Nando's meal together after the session, myself included!*



**ABBA BAKO**  
YOUTH MANAGEMENT GROUP

SCAN



MORE

TO

HEAR



**DURO OYE**  
**FOUNDER & CEO**  
**20/20 CHANGE CIC**

*One statement that keeps ringing in my ear is what a young person said at the hack in Belfast, she said for her it wasn't so much about peer to peer racism but how she could educate her parents on racism and division. That for me shows the progress we made with these hacks, a young person left empowered enough to have such difficult conversations with their parents. This is a huge step in the right direction, the more of these hacks we host the more we can change the mind-sets of the people most affected by these issues.*

*It was great to have the Hope Hacks start in London at Lilian Baylis. Giving young people a stakeholder platform with the levelling up discussion. What's not to love about that from an inner city head teachers perspective.*

**GARY PHILIPS**  
**HEAD TEACHER**

**LILIAN BAYLIS**  
**TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE**

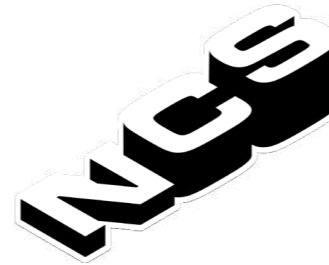




London

Manchester

Belfast



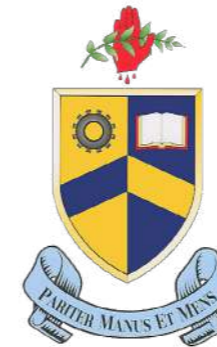
Glasgow

Cardiff



Venues

**THANK YOU**



**THANK YOU TO THE ORGANISATIONS WHO SUPPORTED OUR HOPE HACKS.**

Other organisations that supported



**NO.10 VISIT  
AND  
DAY OF HOPE**

Many leading political figures have shown their support for the Hope Collective, including Nicola Sturgeon, Sadiq Khan and Boris Johnson.

Following the Glasgow Hope Hack event, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon wrote to the Hope Collective to express her support. She acknowledged the value in directly hearing from young people about their solutions to the most pressing issues in our communities.

Sadiq Khan attended the uplifting memorial service on 7th December in memory of Damilola Taylor.

# NO.10 VISIT

He gave a heartfelt speech congratulating everyone involved for their hard work and spent time speaking to the young people in the Youth Management Group.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson honoured the memory of Damilola Taylor at a reception held at No.10 Downing Street, ahead of the 21st anniversary of Damilola's death. The PM met with key stakeholders and supporters of the Collective and gave a passionate speech about our work. The annual Day of Hope on the 7th December is now supported and officially sanctioned by the Government as a national day of social action on Damilola Taylor's date of birth.

*Boris Johnson backs  
Day of Hope for  
Damilola Taylor's birthday*





On November 25th, members of the Youth Management Group were invited to 10 Downing Street to participate in a discussion with members of the Downing Street policy team.

Tyrell Davis-Douglin, Co-Chair of the Youth Management group delivered a speech to the Prime Minister at the No 10 Downing Street reception. Below is an extract and the full speech can be found by scanning the QR code below.

*We are working tirelessly to ensure that the stories of young deaths we hear about oh so often no longer end once assessed, reviewed, and published as statistics. Instead, they act as fuel for social action to create positive, progressive, and inclusive change.*

*If the government levelled up the poorest communities by providing access to alternative pathways, there would be no gangs, no county lines, and the knife crime in our communities would soon be nothing more than a historical reference*

*Young people in poverty are ambitious and ready to contribute to levelling up their disadvantaged communities. How long do they have to hold on and wait for a chance to speak?*

*A chance to not just be heard, but to be listened to? For tangible actions to be carried out upon request? How much longer do I have to persuade my young people all over the UK that everything is going to be okay with absolutely no evidence of that?*

*We refuse to be products of the negative environment and circumstances that we find ourselves in.*



**TYRELL DAVIS-DOUGLIN**  
**CO-CHAIR OF THE YOUTH MANAGEMENT GROUP**



On Tuesday 7th of December (national Day of Hope) a service was held at Southwark Cathedral to celebrate the legacy of Damilola's birthday and the work of the Hope Collective. The service was attended by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, and Dame Cressida Dick, both of whom support the work of the Hope Collective. The event was also covered by ITV London News.

# DAY OF HOPE



## 7TH DECEMBER NATIONAL DAY OF HOPE

### ONLINE CAMPAIGN

To celebrate the legacy of Damilola Taylor and inspire hope in young people, the Hope Collective established an annual Day of Hope, sharing young people's hopes and aspirations online. The collective encouraged organisations and individuals to share their hopes and aspirations using #DayofHope. This is only the start of this truly ambitious campaign, with the vision to grow into an annual, recognised, celebrated moment in the calendar across the UK.



*I am in no doubt, after being in different parts of the country with the Hope Collective, that many of our young people have been inspired by the opportunities they have been presented with. The opportunities to have a voice and to be heard, the opportunities to build long-term relationships and connections, and the opportunities to add value to their communities.*

**\_ABBA BAKO**  
**YOUTH MANAGEMENT GROUP**



#### YOUTH SAY... 🔥



NEWS SPORT LIFESTYLE EDUCATION E-EDITIONS & ARCHIVES PUBLIC NOTICES JOBS



**Young people to lead day-long forum tackling the root causes of knife crime: poverty and inequality**

19 July 2021 News Reporter 0 Comments

Young people will put forward their own solutions to stop the root causes of knife crime in a day-long forum.

Leaders of the future and people with first-hand experience of the trauma resulting from gang beefs will push for solutions which address poverty and inequality at the "Hackathon" at Lilian Baylis Technology College, Kennington, on Saturday.

And they will look at projects which have had success addressing the potential triggers for youth trauma, with early interventions.

The "Hope Hack" is one of a string being staged by the Hope Collective, a partnership of you

News Greater Manchester News Oldham

## Teens hit back at poverty, violence and discrimination in battle against youth violence

The collective supports the Damilola Taylor Trust's legacy campaign


By Louisa Gregson 19:17, 20 SEP 2021

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News

## London chiefs and South London's inspirational leaders at ceremony to mark Day of Hope in memory of Damilola Taylor

9 December 2021 News Reporter 0 Comments

A service at Southwark Cathedral on Tuesday December 7 marked the Day of Hope for 2021, which celebrated the legacy and birthdate of Damilola Taylor.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan and Commissioner of Police Cressida Dick were among those speaking at the ceremony.

The celebration of Damilola's life and legacy included performances from Heather Small – who sang "Proud" the anthem of the London 2012 Olympics – and Jermain Jackman, winner of the BBC Voice competition.

OLDHAM EVENING

# Chronicle

WE ARE LOCAL PEOPLE

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You are Here: Home » News » Main News » 'Hackathons of hope' to tackle root causes of youth violence - local teens to lead the conversation

**OLDHAM** it's where we LOVE

## 'Hackathons of hope' to tackle root causes of youth violence - local teens to lead the conversation

Date published: 17 September 2021



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Lambeth News

## Young people share emotional stories and put forward their solutions to tackle knife crime

28 July 2021 Lottie Kilraine 0 Comments

**WHAT'S**

**NEXT?**

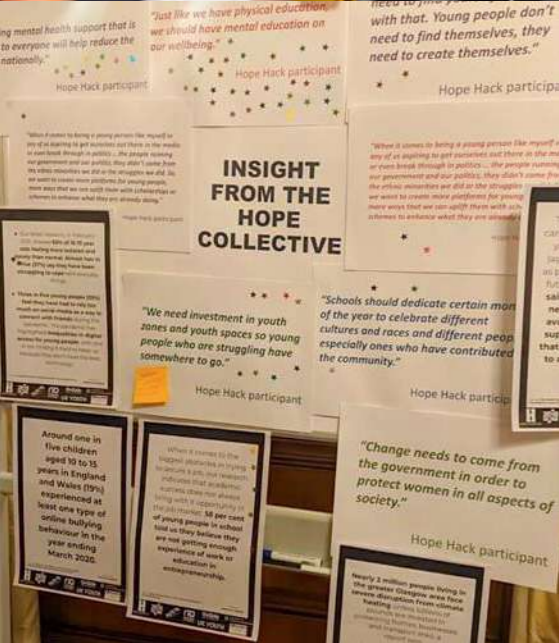
# 2022



The Hope Collective has now become a constituted organisation and in 2022 it will roll out the Hope Hacks to every Violence Reduction Unit region in the country. Setting out to achieve the biggest needs assessment of what young people think a fairer society looks like and to allow young people to be major stakeholders in the levelling up discussions.

The ongoing work with the VRU's and youth organisations alongside support from an academic partner will add rigour to the final report we publish early in 2023.

The solutions to the violence impacting young people is extremely complex but every report or commission ever assembled has highlighted poverty and inequality as the primary causal factor and main driver. A society approach to better understanding the infrastructure and cohesive programmes required to tackle the problem, would be a great start in finding solutions.





# **CLOSING** **REMARKS**

*Over the past year, it has been incredible to be part of this journey turning the idea of Hope Hacks into a reality. Getting involved has been a memorable experience so far. I have enjoyed working behind the scenes and travelling around the UK attending the events I helped to organise. The combined effort of everyone who has worked on this report, and the wider campaign, has been vital in helping us to empower young people across the UK.*

*Young people may sometimes struggle to have their voices heard, but we continue to see the difference that can be made when we value their opinions and ideas. This is especially important when searching for solutions to key issues that affect them and our society.*

**OLIVIA S  
AUTHOR  
FEBRUARY 2022**

“The Hope Collective journey so far has been momentous. It has been about building relationships and developing a working partnership cohort. It has been about human connection and wonderful people all wanting to contribute to something that can make a difference in the lives of our young people, especially the most vulnerable. We staged the Hope Hack pilots in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as we wanted to unify everyone in the UK behind the concept of a fairer society being something we could all strive for together. Now as we embark on the next phase of the work the Collective is growing and we will have the most inclusive project design imaginable as we give young people a stakeholder platform in the levelling up discussion in all 4 corners of the UK. Violence Reduction Units were a great step forward in better safeguarding young people as was proven in Scotland. A public health approach however means everyone having a role to play and we hope the Collective can become an interface between the entire UK VRU network and the entire UK Youth sector.”

**\_GARY TROWSDALE**

**HOPE COLLECTIVE  
PROGRAMME DIRECTOR**

# #CHANGINGTHECONVERSATION

PLEASE EMAIL  
**HELLO@HOPECOLLECTIVEUK.COM**  
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN  
HOSTING YOUR OWN HACK EVENT

**WWW.HOPECOLLECTIVEUK.COM**

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