



A Summary of Leicestershire's Hope Hack

HOPE HACK LLR 2024

Summary

On the 7th of March the VRN partnered with the Hope Collective, EAVA FM and local community and statutory partners to host the second Hope Hack in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Approximately 120 children and young people from communities across LLR came together to discuss solutions to issues affecting their community.

The solutions were delivered to Senior decision makers at the end of the day. In addition to influencing local decision making, the findings will contribute to the national 'Reimagined' report.



Key Information

120 children and young people attended

Themes:

- Equalities
- Trust and Confidence
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Education and Employment
- Crime and Criminal Justice
- The Environment

50 community and statutory partners attended

Videos on YouTube (Click the picture below!)

HOPE HACK LLR
07.03.2024 @ THE VENUE DMU

FOR AGES 14 TO 24 YEARS OLD THURSDAY 7 MARCH, 9AM-3.35PM THE VENUE, LE2 7BU

THE LINE UP

- Live performances including [The Wonder Twins](#) (Voice Kids Winner, 2023), [LVT](#) and [Strizzy Strauss](#)
 - A panel led by young people
- Our inspiring keynote speaker [Chris Desai](#)
 - Workshops
- FREE food and refreshments
 - And many surprises!

The Running of the Day

Young people arrived at TheVenue@DMU and started the day with breakfast and a live DJ set by EAVA FM.

We had our first performance which was by the talented dancers, Sensational Vibes.

Bringing the energy next was The Voice Kids Winners of 2023 and Leicestershire's very own, The Wonder Twins.

The day was opened by our incredible young hosts, LVT and Yahye.

Next, our hosts welcomed our keynote speaker to the stage, world renowned Entrepreneur and Philanthropist and Leicester's very own, Chris Desai.

Next, we had Mo who did a fantastic beat box performance.



The Running of the Day

Following the panel, Aleeza and Taneesha performed their incredible poem about friendships.

We heard a performance from the talented, Leicester-born rapper and youth worker, Strizzy Strauss.

During lunch we had young people taking charge of the DJ decks, a photo booth and slush puppy machine, and a pods competition!

Our hosts welcomed five young people and the chair for a panel that discussed the solutions to issues affecting young people in society.

Our guest speakers including Leicester City Star, Wes Morgan and Leicester's own Spencer Weir-Daley took the stage.

The hosts introduced the workshops, and young people made their way into small groups.



The Running of the Day

Following lunch, young people were welcomed back with a wrestling performance by local club Kings Wrestling.



Our hosts welcomed back the young people from their workshops, who presented their solutions with the audience including our panel.

Our host, LVT, performed one of her latest tracks.

Shortly following, Loughborough young talents, Arpey and Dede took the stage with a music performance.



Next up, we welcomed our panel of Senior Leads to the stage to introduce themselves and share with the young people how they will take their ideas forwards.

Finally, we heard from Leicester's very own talented Gospel Choir, EAGA, who have performed on BBC Songs of Praise and BGT. The perfect close for a fantastic day!

Feedback

“Members from the Big Mouth Forum loved listening to the interviews of the inspiring young people and young adults, and this has encouraged them to share their messages. The Hope Hack inspires them to do their own activities to inspire others, for example organise fun raising events, support young people as mentors and start up their own activity groups, thank you for involving us in such a fantastic opportunity. We look forward to working with you all again in the future.” – Becky Watts, Service Co-ordinator within Children and Young People and Families Team

“For my first Hope Hack I didn’t know what to expect but I was excited to be hosting and being part of the conversation. The day was inspiring from the discussions to hearing stories including the Leicester footballers. It even motivated me more and made me feel like if they can do it I can do it too. It was an amazing day overall” – LVT, Hope Hack Host.

“For it being my first time facilitating, I think the Hope Hack LLR was the best place to begin! The young people were so eager to get their voices heard, and the showcase of their solutions at the end was such a beautiful way to send off the sector professionals and other young people.” – Madina Ibrahim, Young person and Hope Hack Facilitator.

“We were lucky enough to be invited to another Hope Hack; what incredible events these are. Our young people were able to debate and share their ideas and thoughts on areas that matter to them most. The solutions that the groups came up with were inspiring and we, as adults, were in awe of them! Thank you for letting us be part of such an important event and it shows what an asset these young people are to our school and to society.” – Alex Mauger, Assistant Head at Limehurst Academy.

Feedback

“The Hope Hack was a really unique opportunity to reach and to get information from county kids along with city kids as many of the young people that got there wouldn't have been able to find themselves around us as I remember a couple group said that they didn't even have any youth clubs in their area. Finding things like this hopefully give the VRN and other youth providers an idea at which areas they could help even more.” – Tian Mhende, Young Person and Facilitator.

“The Hope Hack was phenomenal. It was brilliant to hear from so many young people about what they think are the solutions to a fairer society. There were so many different ideas – I took away so much as have my colleagues across the partnership and we will be now looking at what we can do to make those solutions a reality – Grace Strong, VRN Director.

“Listening to the children and young people describing what it's like to be on the receiving end of public services was impactful. However, it was the presentation of robust suggestions about how we as leaders can effect change, that will have a real impact on their lives, that was truly inspiring. It made me think about how I need to ensure that we listen to children and young people more and test that they have been involved in our transformational work in a way that goes beyond just consultation. I'm really grateful to those children and young people who gave up their time to share their views at the event and to those who work closely with us to transform services” – Caroline Trevithick, Chief Executive LLR Integrated Care Board and Hope Hack Panel Member.

“The workshop was very inspiring and educating as I got to learn more about what I could do to make change in our community” – A young person.

What's next?



The views collected from the young people will contribute to the new 'Reimagined' report produced by the Hope Collective. This report sets out to achieve the biggest needs assessment of what young people think a fairer society looks like and to empower young people to develop the solutions. This report will be presented to the Government on the Day of Hope on 7th December 2024.



Solutions from the Day - Equalities

Discussions

Systemic bias and discrimination affect quality of care received meaning less access to health care facilities.

There is inequality in opportunities available for young people in communities across LLR.

Leicester is diverse – but we don't have enough support for new arrivals including refugees and asylum seekers.

There is not enough support in education for children with additional needs.

Solutions

We need clear pathways and support for asylum seekers and refugees.

We need to improve our provisions in supporting young people with additional needs.

We need to be more pro-active in involving young people in decision-making.

Solutions from the Day - Trust and Confidence

Discussions

There is not enough trust created amongst adults and young people and it's impacted the levels of support received.

Young people discussed the importance of youth clubs and the value of youth workers but that there is not enough across LLR.

Young people identified the qualities of their friends – and shared that adults need to prioritise building relationships with young people.

Solutions

Building trust should be prioritised by professionals when building relationships with young people.

There needs to be more opportunities and activities for children and young people in all communities across LLR.

Solutions from the Day - Mental Health and Well-Being

Discussions

Covid-19 has caused short- and long-term impacts on the mental health of young people.

The cost-of-living crisis is impacting the mental health of young people.

Parents have a huge role to play in supporting mental health in young people.

Young people often do not have their say in decisions that affect them.

Solutions

Schools/education systems need to prioritise mental health of young people.

We need more awareness and support for parents and carers around mental health.

EHCP plans need to include the voice of the child.

We should be emphasising the strength of friendships and peers on positive mental health.

Solutions from the Day - Education and Employment

Discussions

Young people do not learn life skills in school.

Work experience opportunities for young people have stopped.

There is not enough help around employment.

Solutions

The school curriculum needs to include learning about finances, application processes and wider life skills.

Work experience should be compulsory within education so young people can try different things.

Schools need to create a platform for young people to discuss issues happening in the world.

Solutions from the Day - Crime and Criminal Justice

Discussions

There is a lack of trust amongst young people and police.

Stop and search is disproportionate.

Solutions

It starts small – police smiling and being polite to individuals.

Young people should provide an input in police officer training.

It should be compulsory for police to always have their camera on during stop and search to ensure the process is fair.

Solutions from the Day - Environment

Discussions

The cost-of-living crisis is affecting families.

The pandemic has affected the environment.

Solutions

We need more education about the effects of degrading the environment.



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