

# London Legacy Impact Report

## On 1 & 2 April, Common Purpose delivered the London Legacy Programme

Legacy is a global campaign by Common Purpose which invests in young people across the world so they can become a connected generation of leaders with a clear vision for what their legacy will be.

We ran our second London Legacy on 1 and 2 April 2025 at Wavemaker UK. 80 young people applied to do the programme and 53 completed it. They had a challenging and full agenda where they met with civic and business leaders from across London.

This diverse group of 53 young leaders aged 18-25 came from different communities, backgrounds and beliefs. Some in employment, some not; some studying, some volunteering; many are activists, others finding their own causes. The one thing they have in common is their generation.

Without London Legacy these young leaders may otherwise have never met - let alone worked together to cross boundaries in London.



The programme was made possible with the invaluable support of our sponsors:

- City of London Corporation
- Cory Group
- Grant Thornton UK LLP
- Wavemaker

# What did the participants say?

*"Realised that taking small steps slowly and consistently is the key to creating an impact, big changes don't happen overnight."*

- Eeshal Kashif, Latymer Upper School.

*I have learned so much these past 2 days about people from different backgrounds and how they got to the position they are at today.*

- Malhi Sunveer, Global Academy

*"A shift was that I got the opportunity to step out of my comfort zone by doing things like leading my group, being the one to thank the panel and agreeing to take part in a short interview about the experience."*

- Nicholas Okere, XLP

*"I would have thought leaderships has to be all about being in a big MNC and managing people. But I learnt its also about leading yourself towards your own values and goals and stepping up the game through every minor challenges we comes across the way and not always about bigger picture."*

- Zahistha Gafoor, Thrive Tribe.

*"I feel more confident voicing my concerns and that I won't be judged as other people will often feel the same way."*

- Amelia Cross, University of London

*"I enjoyed this programme SO SO much and feel like I've made connections for life. It was possibly the most diverse cohort of young people I've ever got to work beside and learn from, aided by the impeccable facilitation that created a truly welcoming and warm environment."*

- Emma Greenwood, Youth Focus

*"I actually want to do something for London and be a part of the community and role model to the others"*

Ceylin Surmeli, Royal Holloway



Grant Thornton

**Wavemaker**

Venue sponsor: Wavemaker

# Programme details

**London Legacy provides an opportunity for young people to think bigger, get new perspectives, be challenged to think differently, and understand the power of unexpected connections with people they might never normally meet who are playing a role in the big and small changes shaping the future of London.**

**Keynote:** Ayesha Hameed, Principal Community Engagement Officer, Community Engagement Team, Greater London Authority

## **Immersion visits**

- Cory Group
- Fieldgate Creative
- LSE Faith Centre
- Grant Thornton UK
- Jamyang London Buddhist Centre
- Octopus Energy

## **Small Group Conversations**

- Henry Nicholson, Chief Executive Officer, The Rebel Business School
- Jess Neil, Founder, SevensEdge
- Rahim Hassanali, Senior Manager, Habitat for Humanity
- Abdulla Almamun, UK Programme Manager, Islamic Relief UK
- David Asare-Badu, Strategic Partner Development - Ad Platforms, Apple
- Toyosi Ajayi, Community, Learning & Development Administrator, Cory Group
- Caitlin McMillan, Cultural and Creative Learning Lead, City of London Corporation
- Tilley Harris, Co-Founder and Head of Business Development, AKOU

## **Panel**

- Nathan O'Connor, Head of Paid Social, Wavemaker UK
- Sonia Meggie, EMEA D&I Business Partner for News and Media, Bloomberg
- Toby Warren, Director of HR, Cory Group







# Programme Impact

91%

have greater confidence in their role as a leader

91%

feel more willing and able to impact London

95%

feel that they will be more open to diverse perspectives

91%

have identified shifts they want to make and have set goals to help them reach them

\*The questions are scored on a scale of 1 – 5 with 1 being strongly disagree and 5 being strongly agree. Percentages are calculated on the number of respondents who scored a 4 or 5.

# The change our participants want to see

On Day one of the programme we asked the group about issues that matter to them and where they they can play a role in London...



# Participant vision for London

## Participant vision

Reduced k-crime. Less Knife crime and death	Better Mental Health Resources for young adult in London	We don't believe young people should be held back in their careers just because they don't "know someone"
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## Their observations

Rates aren't decreasing. People typically get involved in this due to contextual issues e.g socioeconomic status, lack of role models	Young adults have less access for Mental health resources, they had in schools and with family but in London they struggling to find right place and to cope with mental health crisis	<p>We don't believe that there is a level playing field between those who have industry connections and those who don't.</p> <p>We think there is an opportunity to bridge the gap by addressing those not equipped with the necessary skills or exposure to opportunities others have.</p>
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## The changes they would like to see

<p>Youth clubs, role models &amp; mentoring - and backing from big corps.</p> <p>Improved 3rd spaces provisions that are backed by big orgs.</p>	Through the use of social media it can help young people in London create new support groups and have access to knowledge and resources that they may have not know was readily available to them.	<p>An organisation that provides services to schools in two areas.</p> <p>1. Equipping you with skills: - leading workshops with those in the industry- offering mentors to those who require a connections.</p> <p>2. Exposing you to opportunities: - Access to range of industries &amp; apprenticeships via a centralised platform / website.</p>
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# Social Media



**Emma Greenwood** • 2nd  
Youth Voice & Climate Champion: Global Humanitarian Studies ...  
2h •

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"Your unique perspective and lived experiences are valuable assets people want to hear - so don't try too hard to fit in!" 🌟

This gem was shared at the start of my first day at the [Common Purpose](#) [#LondonLegacy](#) event yesterday in the amazing [Wavemaker](#) space. And honestly, it couldn't have set the tone better!

I'm excited to finally attend a Legacy event after hearing so much about them from the incredible [Anna Colao](#). Legacy events are all about empowering leaders who think big, act boldly, and connect purposefully - so you can imagine I've been eagerly waiting for my turn to dive in!

Some of the key moments & takeaways from the day:

🗣️ The role of listening in storytelling - It's not just about sharing your story, but about understanding the questions people ask. Their questions reveal the context they need and the stories they want to hear. Want to know what stories to tell? Pay attention to the questions people are asking!

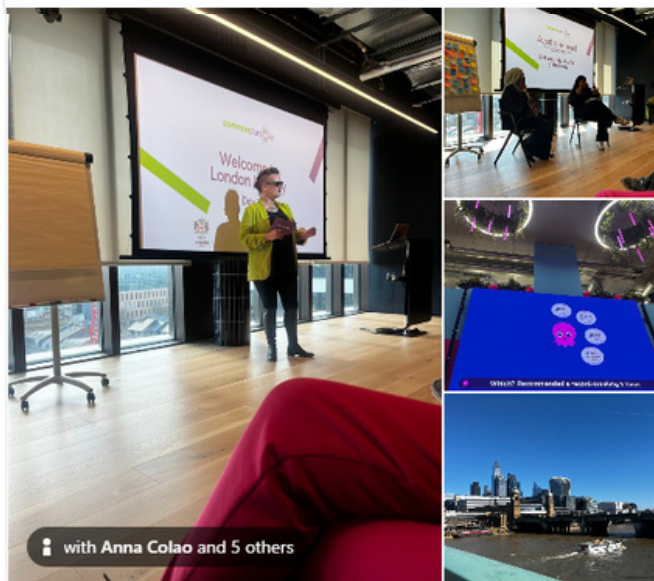
🐙 Visiting [Octopus Energy](#) - I loved hearing from [Georgie Wilde](#) and others about their people-first approach at Octopus. It's all about letting dialogue lead the way in solving customer problems and driving innovation across the UK.

📍 London has abundance but not everyone gets to experience it equally - What's our role in challenging this? How do we make London a truly inclusive and diverse city that everyone can enjoy?

💛 Meeting incredible people - the Legacy brings together students and young professionals from all over, so it has been amazing to grow my network and connect with like-minded folks in London

After a hectic university deadline season, this was the perfect opportunity for reflection. Huge thanks to [Anna Colao](#) & [Ruhana Ali](#) for facilitating such an insightful first day - can't wait to see what's in store for Day 2!

[#LondonLegacy](#) [#CommonPurpose](#) [#YouthVoice](#) [#Leadership](#) [#YoungPeople](#) [#LondonEvent](#)



with Anna Colao and 5 others



**Isadora Dos Anjos** • 2nd  
Business Management Undergraduate | Ambassador for The Girl's ...  
14h • Edited •

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This week, I had the opportunity to attend the [#LondonLegacy](#) 2-day leadership programme by [Common Purpose](#). The sessions explored what makes a great leader, the skills and traits that define leadership, the causes that drive us, and the role of leadership in a complex city like London.

📅 On Day 1, we heard from [Ayesha Hameed](#) who shared her journey in leadership and shed light on the deeper challenges faced by some of London's most disadvantaged communities.

Later, we visited [Grant Thornton UK](#), a top 7 accountancy firm, where we met [Paul Dossett](#), Partner in Public Sector Audit. His insights on leadership were truly inspiring. A few key takeaways from our discussion:

★ Leadership is about collaboration, not just delegation.

★ Great leaders understand what their team needs, not just what they need from their team.

★ You won't always get the team you want, but strong leadership means making the best of the team you have.

We also had the chance to hear from incredible graduates working towards their ACA qualification. Their hard work, determination, and career journeys were truly motivating.

A huge thank you to our facilitators, [Anna Colao](#) & [Ruhana Ali](#), for making this experience so impactful! Though I couldn't attend Day 2 due to unforeseen circumstances, Day 1 alone left me inspired to continue driving change, innovating, and growing as both a leader and an individual.





# Social Media



**Aoife McNulty** • 2nd  
Publisher Acquisition Manager @ Rakuten Advertising  
16h • 🌐

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Day one of the [Common Purpose](#) [#LondonLegacy](#) programme was a huge success. 🎉

The morning focused on navigating opposing views with empathy and compassion. [Ayesha Hameed](#)'s inspiring talk emphasized "getting under the skin" of complex issues, with her advice to "not doubt yourself and be brave" resonating strongly.

Then, it was off to [Cory](#), London's waste management providers, where we donned hi-vis jackets and hard hats. It was reassuring to learn about their commitment to net-zero targets and fascinating to see their operations firsthand. Huge thanks to [Harry Dilworth](#) for the insightful tour! 🧑‍🏭 ♻️

A big thank you to [Anna](#) & [Ruhana](#) for facilitating such a great day. I'm excited to see what tomorrow holds. 🌟



Most relevant ▾



**Anna Colao** • 1st  
leadership Development. Social and climate justice. Personal and profession...

13h ...

Amazing 🥰 thanks for sharing

Like • 🍷 1 | Reply



**Emma Greenwood** • 2nd  
Youth Voice & Climate Champion: Global Humanitarian Studies @ UCL | ...

13h ...

it was lovely to meet you today! Can't wait to see what tomorrow holds 🌟

Like • 🍷 2 | Reply • 1 reply



**Aoife McNulty** • Author  
Publisher Acquisition Manager @ Rakuten Advertising

13h ...

[Emma Greenwood](#) you too!! See you tomorrow 🥰

Like • 🍷 2 | Reply



**Harry Dilworth** • 3rd+  
Site Manager at Cory

51m ...

Thanks for coming Aoife, was a pleasure to have you onsite.

Like • 🍷 1 | Reply



**Anna Colao** • 1st  
leadership Development. Social and climate justice. Personal and pro...  
1d • 🌐

...

"Mind the gap," reverberates through the crowded, often frantic, London Underground — a phrase as iconic as the city that it calls home. As I stand behind the yellow line, watching the tube come to a gradual halt, I see a metaphor for leadership in front of me. Leadership is a lot like the yellow line: Guiding others while acknowledging the gaps --- between generations, between cultures, between experiences. It's about recognizing when to step up and when to step back, to make room for voices that haven't been heard, for ideas that haven't been considered. That's the essence of true leadership to me. I want to expand my perspective, connect with driven, diverse people, and become a better leader. Similar to how the Underground is the lifeline of the city, I hope to be a connective thread to ideas, communities, and opportunities that can create positive change. It's not the gaps that define us; it's how we navigate and close them. This is the legacy in which I hope to have a hand. A world where diverse voices rise, resonate and thrive. Mind the gap? I plan to bridge it."

this was an incredible application from [Ayush Basu](#) for London Legacy! Next week Sunderland, application is open for just a little longer! apply and nominate now

[#Legacy](#) [#Yourcity](#) [#Sunderland](#) [#inspire](#) [#mindthegap](#) [#london](#) [#Uk](#) [#together](#) [#changemakers](#)



**Ayush Basu** • 2nd  
LLB(Hons) Graduate, Durham University

22h ...

Thank you Anna! It was so lovely to meet you. Your love for the city and its communities is contagious. London Legacy was such an impactful experience!  
Grateful to [Rupa Ganguli FRSA](#) for introducing me to this opportunity

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# Social Media



**Abdulla Almamun** • 2nd  
UK Programmes Manager at Islamic Relief UK  
5d • 🌐

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I'm honoured to be part of an incredible lineup of speakers at this inspiring event with [Common Purpose](#)

I'll be sharing insights on our programmes and the impact of [Islamic Relief UK](#) work in the UK and beyond. More importantly, I'm looking forward to learning from the contributions of participants and fellow speakers.

Thank you, [Becky Crump](#) [Anna Colao](#) and [Ruhana Ali](#) for the opportunity—exciting times ahead!

[#Leadership](#) [#Impact](#) [#LondonLegacy](#) [#CommonPurpose](#)



**Jess Neil** • 2nd  
An anti-racist, intersectional feminist leader, specialised in g...  
2w • 🌐

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So looking forward to connecting with the young people participating in London Legacy in April - applications are open now!



**Stephen Lawrence Day Foundation**  
4,068 followers  
6d • 🌐

+ Follow ...

🔥 The London Legacy Programme 2025 is now open! 🧡

If you're 18–25 and passionate about making a difference, this FREE two-day programme (happening 1–2 April) is your chance to connect with leaders across the city, gain confidence, build your leadership skills, and join a powerful network of young changemakers shaping London's future. 🌟

Let's make sure our voices are heard. Let's lead the change we want to see. 💬 🔥

Apply or nominate someone now:

👉 <https://lnkd.in/gSshBTuQ>

Deadline: 7 April 2025

Tag someone who should be in the room. [Common Purpose](#)

[#LondonLegacy](#) [#CommonPurpose](#) [#YouthLeadership](#) [#FutureLeaders](#)  
[#LondonChangemakers](#) [#sld25](#) [#knowledgechangeseverything](#)




**Emy Bohorquez** • 2nd  
Events & Marketing Manager @ The Rebel School  
2w • 🌐



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To anyone in my network who knows any 18 to 25 year old Londoners there's this pretty cool opportunity taking place next week, there are still some spaces 🧡

[Mehmet Aygün](#) [Neil Coker](#) [Henry Nicholson](#)



# Social Media

**Engr. Rana Hamza** reposted this

**Zoë Lenkiewicz** • 2nd  
Global Waste Lab | Technical & social waste management specialist | ...  
3w • 

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A great opportunity for young leaders in **#London**! Even if you don't "feel" like a leader yet, this programme will really help you with your vision and self-confidence. Highly recommended.

**John Ewbank** • 2nd  
Proud Mancunian | Fundraiser | Relationship Builder | Hyper ...  
1mo • Edited • 



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**Clare Kanakides Jamie Masraff** is there any value in sharing this with our youth zones across **#London**.

The **Common Purpose** Legacy programme is free to attend with the only qualifying measure being 18-25. From my time at CP and helping run these programmes, they're a very insightful and experiential way of learning leadership skills which cross boundaries and sectors. Thinking of our network of young "delivery team" leaders? I'll let you share if that's ok. Or message **Anna Colao** for more details.

**Ruhana Ali** • 1st  
Leadership, Development, Facilitator, Community Organiser, Expert Relations...  
1mo • 

Calling all leaders in London - our **FREE** leadership development programme for young people 18-25years old is coming to London this April in sha Allah- it's such a wonderful opportunity to encourage those talented in your community to apply and for us to give back to the city together - leaders come in all shapes and sizes and the power of the programme is in the diversity of room and the lived experiences of the group so a big push to encourage any young person you know to apply to London Legacy and take benefit- **Common Purpose** - I'll be chairing with a dream team ...more

**Junior Smart** • 2nd  
Founder Business Development Manager of SOS Project at S...  
3w • 

**+ Follow** ...

Are you aged 18-25 and passionate about making a real difference in your community?



Common Purpose's London Legacy programme is designed to empower young leaders from diverse backgrounds across London. This free, innovative programme equips you with essential leadership skills, connects you with influential mentors, and offers hands-on experiences to tackle the issues that matter most.

Join a network of changemakers, boost your confidence, and make a lasting impact.

Find out more and apply today: <https://lnkd.in/eR3-W9zd>

Please share with your networks!!!

**#Leadership #YouthEmpowerment #LondonLegacy #SocialImpact #CommunityLeadership**

**Anna Colao** • 1st  
leadership Development. Social and climate justice. Personal and professiona...  
3w • 

Seeing some **POWERFUL** applications coming in! **ONLY 3 weeks** to go. Myself and **Ruhana Ali** are getting so excited about this programme for London's young people ...more

# Social Media

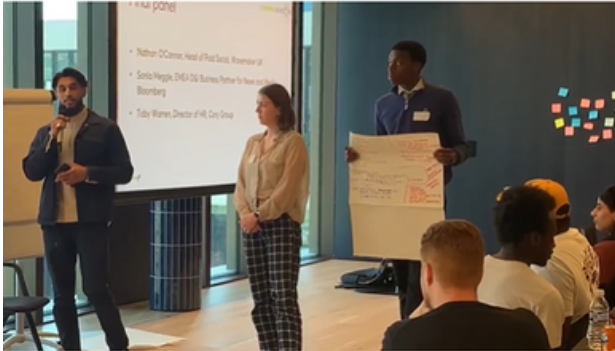


**Hamza Rahman** • 2nd  
Marketing and Social Media Consultant at Nikkah First | East Lo...

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The rise in juvenile offenders in London is alarming, and we must act now. I strongly believe in the Islamic principle of prevention before cure. Instead of seeking approval through delinquency, we must inspire young people to contribute positively to society. We need to guide them to become beacons of light in their communities.

Last week, I had the privilege of presenting at the London Legacy Programme with **Common Purpose** where I discussed actionable solutions to help prevent youth from falling into crime. Let's redirect their talents towards building brighter futures and becoming servant leaders.



Anna Colao and 39 others

3 comments • 4 reposts

Reactions



**Georgie Wilde** • 2nd  
Account Executive at Octopus Electric Vehicles

+ Follow ...

A Great Day Collaborating with Common Purpose for **#LondonLegacy** this week! ⚡

It was an absolute pleasure partnering with **Anna Colao** and **Common Purpose** at the **#LondonLegacy** event this week to share how **Octopus Energy** and **Octopus Electric Vehicles** are leading the charge in renewable energy and decarbonisation. London Legacy events are all about helping young people think big, gain new perspectives, and understand the power of connecting with others.

I had the opportunity to organise the session and deliver a keynote talk to a brilliant group of young people. The theme of my talk focused on growth, vulnerability, and the importance of not comparing ourselves to others – it was fantastic to see the message spark such great engagement from the audience!

Following my session, we had the pleasure of hearing from **Stephanie Barker**, our next keynote speaker, who inspired the group with a talk on leadership. There was fantastic audience participation, and it was really amazing to see so many people getting involved with questions.

We wrapped up the afternoon with a group task, where participants worked together to come up with creative solutions for how renewable energy can benefit our city. The ideas shared were innovative, and it was exciting to see everyone contributing their energy and creativity!

Lastly, a quick reminder to those from London Legacy as well as any others interested: the deadline for our Account Executive Octopus Internship (for candidates from Black, Black British, African, or Caribbean backgrounds) has been extended to 14th April. If you or someone you know might be interested, please spread the word!

Link to find out more here: <https://lnkd.in/ewhWZzi6>



commonpurpose

"Ultimately this course has taught me how inspirational collaboration can be. No person on their own can create great impact - it is the combined approach of a diverse group of people that will achieve effective change."

-Legacy London alumni