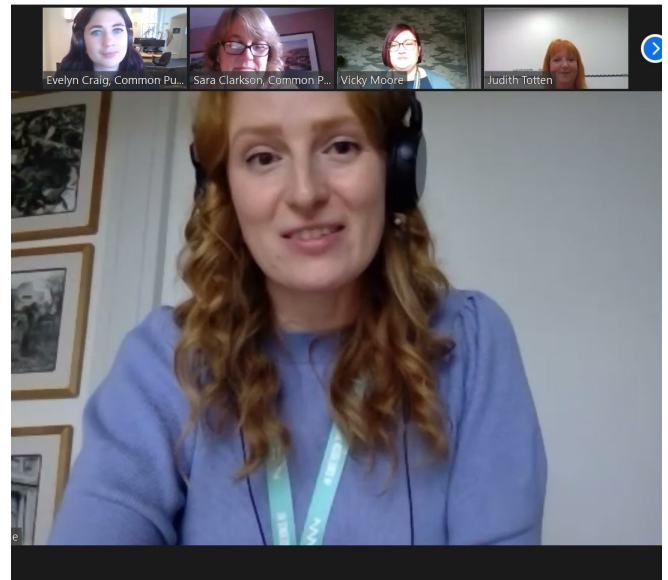




NorthernIreland2035 — What will our legacy be?

NorthernIreland2035
Initial Impact Report

In October 2021 Common Purpose – the leadership development organization that specializes in cross-boundary leadership - delivered NorthernIreland2035 across Northern Ireland.



NorthernIreland2035 is part of Legacy – a global campaign by Common Purpose; it is an initiative that brings together a diverse group of young people online from across a city or country so they can address the question: “What will the legacy of our generation be?”

NorthernIreland2035 challenged this generation of young leaders to think ahead to 2035 when they will be society's decision-makers. The programme asked them to consider the legacy they want to create for Northern Ireland.

This diverse group of 40 young leaders aged 18-25 came from different communities, backgrounds and beliefs. Some in employment, some not; some studying, some volunteering; many were passionate activists, others finding their own causes. The one thing they had in common is their generation.

In the context of Northern Ireland they explored the challenge: “How can we act together to transform Northern Ireland into a cleaner, greener place for all?”

Without NorthernIreland2035, these young leaders may otherwise have never met—especially given the challenges of social distancing—let alone worked together to cross boundaries in Northern Ireland.

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

Allstate Northern Ireland

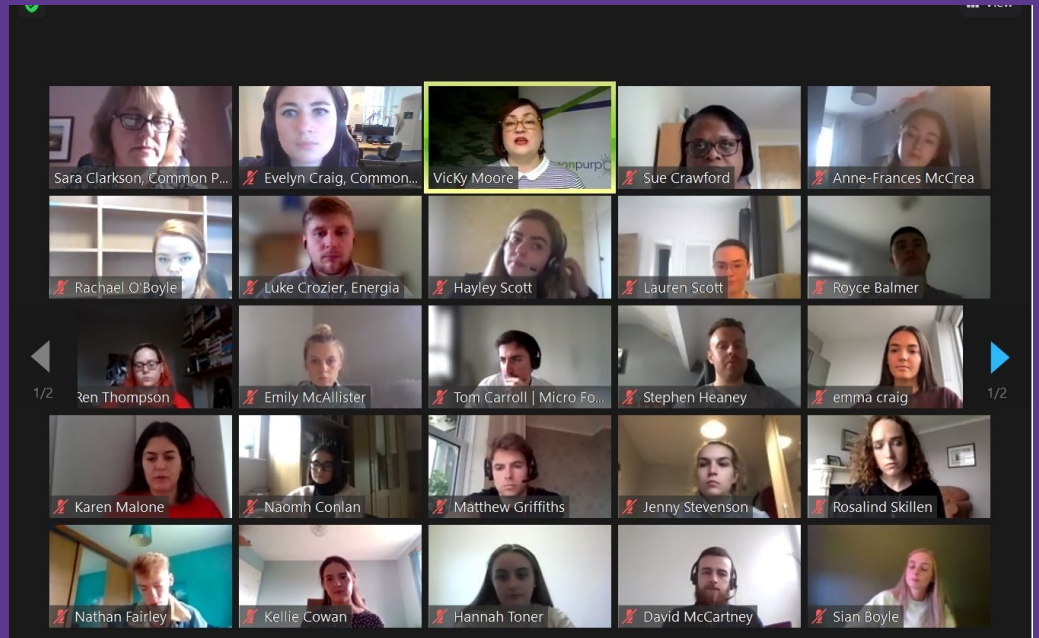
Belfast Charitable Society

Belfast City Council

Belfast Met

Halifax Foundation for Northern Ireland

Power NI



"Overall, the NorthernIreland2035 programme has given me the opportunity to take on a challenge, to fully embrace the challenge and to seek further challenges. In addition, the programme has helped to widen the scope of learning and address the significance of environmental and social impact ."

Stephen Heaney, Participant, NorthernIreland2035

NorthernIreland2035's Impact

NorthernIreland2035 delivers impact in three different but connected areas:

Human
Capital

Social
Capital

Civic
Capital

individual learning outcomes on participants as they develop their Cultural Intelligence (CQ)

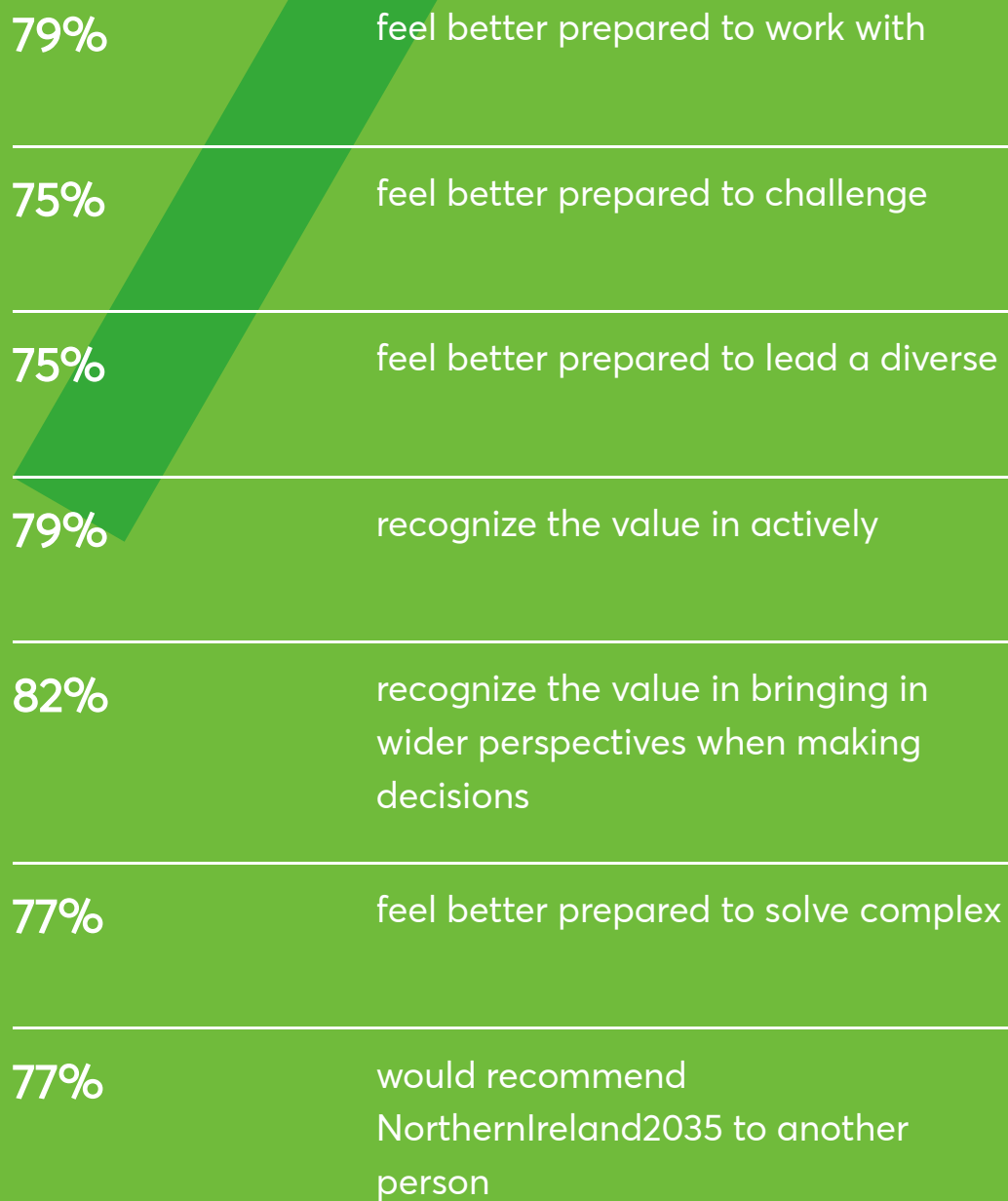
the valuable connections created between peers and across generations in Northern Ireland.

the tangible actions and outcomes making a difference in Northern Ireland.

"This is my home and it is my responsibility to protect it and develop it so it does not succumb to climate change."

Hannah Toner, Participant, NorthernIreland2035

Human Capital:



Social Capital:

76%

feel a responsibility to shape the future of Northern Ireland

80%

feel the legacy network will help them to make a more positive contribution

62%

will commit to working on a project with at least one fellow participant

76%

will keep in touch with at least one of the programme contributors

75%

recognize that they can bring different generations of leaders together

80%

feel more confident that their generation can create the legacy they want for Northern Ireland.

73%

will volunteer and support future legacy programmes in Northern Ireland.

Civic Capital:

We hope that a lot is going to happen in Northern Ireland as a direct result of NorthernIreland2035. We are delighted that one of the groups is already working on making their idea a reality. The Bum Deal group has written to a number of local authorities to request the background data they need in order to evaluate their

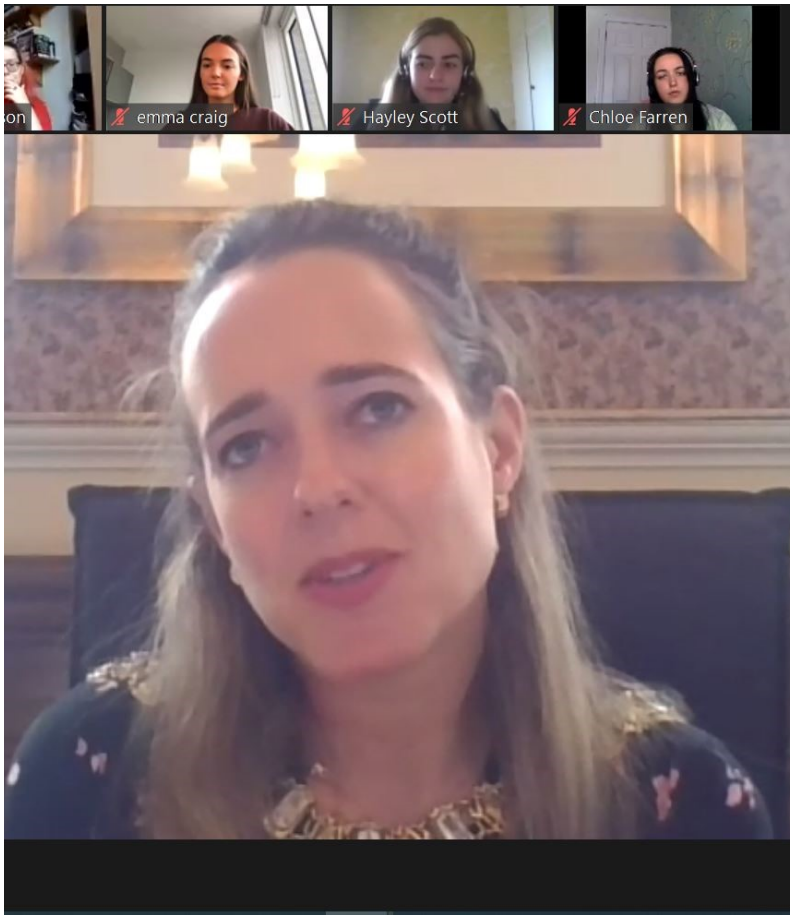
At this stage, the following are committed to working with the young people ahead in the following ways:

- Belfast City Council—offered a range of opportunities including an invitation to the All Party Group on Climate at Stormont as well as engaging with the Youth Summit and 1 MT (One Million Trees programme).
- The group was given the opportunity to reconvene with John Tully and attend the Climate Commission Youth Working Group on 5 November
- Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful inviting the young people to take part in its Carbon Literacy Training programme.
- Choice Housing— promoting a new job in its Energy Team to the group.
- One of the group attending COP26 with Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful as a result of the programme

The following are also looking to include the group in some of their thinking and activities ahead but are still to be confirmed.

- Belfast Exposed—looking for members for their youth board
- Allstate NI
- Grainia Long (NIHE)
- Cara Cash-Marley (Groundworks NI)

What happened on NorthernIreland2035?



Day 1:

Building the group:

We helped participants to understand the diversity and different perspectives in the room, to agree how to work together and to share their leadership stories.

Setting the challenge:

The group heard from The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Kate Nicholl who spoke to them

about the challenge we were investigating and why it was important.

"Interacting with people from such different backgrounds was great."
Robbie Grant, Participant, NorthernIreland2035

What happened on NorthernIreland2035?

Day 2:

Virtual Immersions:

Participants explored the challenge through the lens of different organizations, meeting established leaders from across the sectors. The Immersions were as experiential as possible — participants spent time with the organization representatives to see firsthand how the challenge plays out. Virtual immersion organizations included: Belfast Healthy Cities, Power NI, Translink, Ulster Wildlife, NI Fire Service, Deli Lites and Choice Housing



Context - Café conversations:

Participants began to investigate the context of the challenge with senior leaders from across Northern Ireland. In these intimate conversations, these leaders shared their honest views on Northern Ireland and on the challenge. Small groups in virtual break-out rooms for each conversation, encouraged a relaxed atmosphere and genuine sharing.

Map the challenge:

The participants brought together their learning and experiences from the range of leaders and organizations they engaged with. Through sharing their learning in relation to the challenge each group agreed on a key theme to focus on.

What happened on NorthernIreland2035?



Day 3:

Innovation and Prototyping:

Participants were tasked with developing practical and actionable solutions to the challenge. The groups were supported by an Advisor who guided them through the process of working in a diverse group, refining their idea, producing a pitch and receiving feedback.

What happened on NorthernIreland2035?



Day 4:

Presenting Solutions:

Participants pitched their ideas to a panel of experts and city leaders, including John Healy, Managing Director, Allstate Northern Ireland, Cara Cash-Marley, Chief Executive Officer, Groundworks NI, Vincent

Kearney, Northern Ireland Editor, RTÉ News, Dr Callie Persic, City Regeneration & Development Lead, Belfast City Council and William Steele, Director of Customer Solutions, Power NI . They received on the spot feedback on their idea, presentation and how they worked as a group.

Reflection and Action Planning:

Participants reflected on their development across the programme and committed to action, planning how they will put their learning and development into practice as the next generation of leaders in Northern Ireland.

The Challenge Ideas

The participants developed 5 ideas in response to the challenge 'How do we act together to transform Northern Ireland into a cleaner, greener place for all?'. The final ideas pitched to the panel are a culmination of the participant group's experiences and learning during the programme, and of the impact of the contributors on the process.

Group One: sustaiNablility

A sustainability hub informing the local communities of the infrastructure available to improve our cities.

Group Two: Green Giants

To help reduce carbon emissions in Belfast, improve community spaces, increase productivity and to make Belfast a cleaner, greener place by introducing **rooftop community gardens** to Belfast in order to help increase biodiversity in the city.

Group Three: Green Bus Team

To combat the carbon emissions and congestion caused by city-based work commutes and school runs.

Group Four: The Clean Green Machine

Creating awareness, providing education and demanding action through a provocative energy awareness media campaign.

Group Five: Bum Deal

To eliminate non-recycled toilet paper from all public buildings across Northern Ireland.

Padlet example

On Day one of the programme we asked the group what their one wish for Northern Ireland would be...

CommonPurpose + 22 • 19d

I wish

If you had one wish for Northern Ireland, what would it be?

- I hope it could be easier for us to get the chemical orders or research instruments or academic communications and cooperation with other regions around the world! DO NOT BE LIMITED BY THE ISLAND.** (1 like)
- Belfast become a charming city to the teenager! Become more active, provide more culture/education activities, more job opportunities~** (1 like)
- For Northern Ireland to become more efficient with the existing technologies it already has; and to improve on these further- reducing its carbon footprint.** (1 like)
- That young people all had local successful role models, showing them that their lives can be a success** (1 like)
- Better infrastructure & public transport West of Bann** (1 like)
- Increased infrastructure ie train links etc to reduce the need for everyone to drive separately** (3 likes)
- For Northern Ireland to become a more sustainable country through implementation of renewable tech.** (3 likes)
- That renewable energy options such as electric cars would be made more affordable for all.** (2 likes)
- Healthcare confidence in system** (4 likes)
- A tolerant society where we can all work together solve our issues without dividing ourselves.** (1 like)
- That it wasn't entrenched in the past but working to create a shared future** (2 likes)
- For Northern Ireland to Have a bright Future** (3 likes)
- No sectarianism** (2 likes)
- That there was more public education/ initiative re climate change/ net zero** (4 likes)
- That everyone feels safe walking home no matter the time of day or night** (4 likes)
- That Northern Ireland could reach net zero emissions!** (4 likes)
- That Northern Ireland could become a shared place for everyone.** (9 likes)

Padlet example

Groups were able to collaborate via an online notebook.

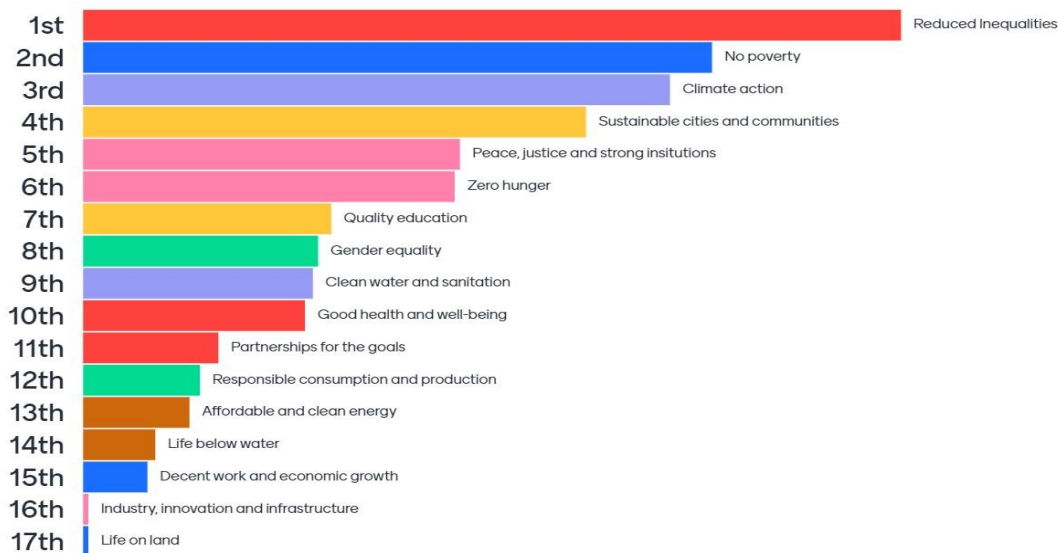
The image shows a screenshot of a Padlet online notebook titled "NorthernIreland2035 Group 1". The notebook is organized into several columns and rows of sticky notes. The top left corner shows "CommonPurpose + 5 + 13d".

- Moving forward...**
 - 1. Creating partnerships
 - ~Belfast City council
 - ~Groundwork NI
 - ~Other educational groups
 - ~Refill Quarter
 - 2. Decide on location
 - ~On the edge of transportation routes
 - ~Speak to Belfast City council planners
 - 3. Finding discreet ways of providing food to the community
 - ~Make it a donation/honesty area
 - ~Have 'perfectly imperfect' fruit and veg available
 - ~Input/partnership from Refill Quarter
- Final Idea**
 - Group Name: sustainNabIlity
 - Our Sentence: "Together let's step into an educated and sustainable future for our cities"
 - Our IDEA: A sustainability hub informing the local communities of the infrastructure available to improve our cities.
- SustainNabIlity**
 - Energia Group (Power NI parent company) formed a consortium with Translink, to launch three new Hydrogen Fuel Cell Buses to Northern Ireland. Energia Group are working to power the double decker buses with renewable hydrogen and are also aiming to install the first hydrogen fuelling station on the island of Ireland early next year. Power NI, is also leading the NI Green Seas consortium in collaboration with local partners Belfast Harbour, Artemis Technologies, NIE Networks, Ulster University to develop zero emissions ferries in the city, that will transform the future of maritime transport in Northern Ireland.
- Pedestrianised City Centre**
 - Belfast is a relatively flat city so there is no reason why it shouldn't be pedestrianised
- Education**
 - Educating others to try and get everyone on the same understanding level to show how climate change affects everyone
- Translink**
 - They have started some new park and ride services, carpark full by the 2nd day, and they should remove 70 million car journeys a year.
 - They have a climate strategy in place, 50% reduction in CO2 by 2030, net zero by 2040 and climate positive by 2050 ie taking CO2 out of the atmosphere.
 - Their first hydrogen bus is operational and they're adding 100 more to the fleet by the end of next year.
 - The biggest restraint atm is the range on electric vehicles, it makes it impractical for buses that need a high mileage.
 - They've just invested in some longer trains that should enable more people to take public transport and less cars on the road.
 - They aim for BREEAM excellent and achieve at least very good when they take on new buildings etc. It's hard for them to balance the cost with the benefit of
- As a result of poor farming practices and human impact on habitat and the food web, there are less than 30 breeding pairs of barn owls left**
- Power NI have also launched products to help customers monitor their energy usage. All their bill pay customers have access to EOL where they can view their usage over the last month, year etc. and compare it with their previous usage. Their Keypad customers have access to a relatively new product, Keypad+, where they can also monitor their usage, and determine which appliances are using the most electric.**
- 1 in 6 species are on the brink of extinction due to habitat loss**
- The Fire Service have introduced hybrid vehicles and battery powered tools in order to reduce their carbon footprint and emissions.**
- Over 50% of the species in N.I are in decline due to human impact**
- It is hard to introduce a**
- Talked about how the possibility**

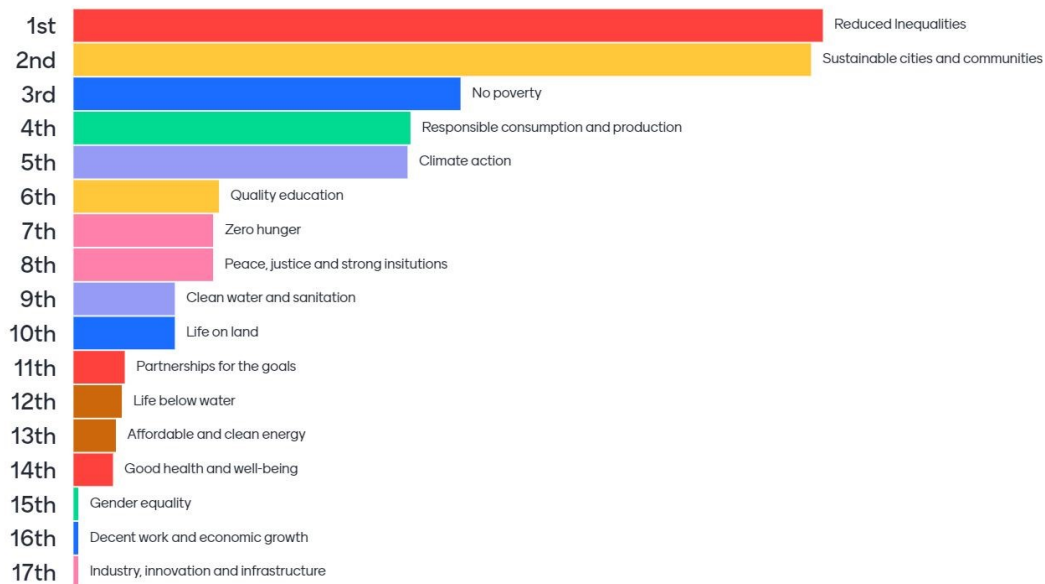
UN Sustainable Development Goals

We asked the group to rate the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals in order of priority at the start, and the end of the programme.

Start of programme results:



End of the programme results:



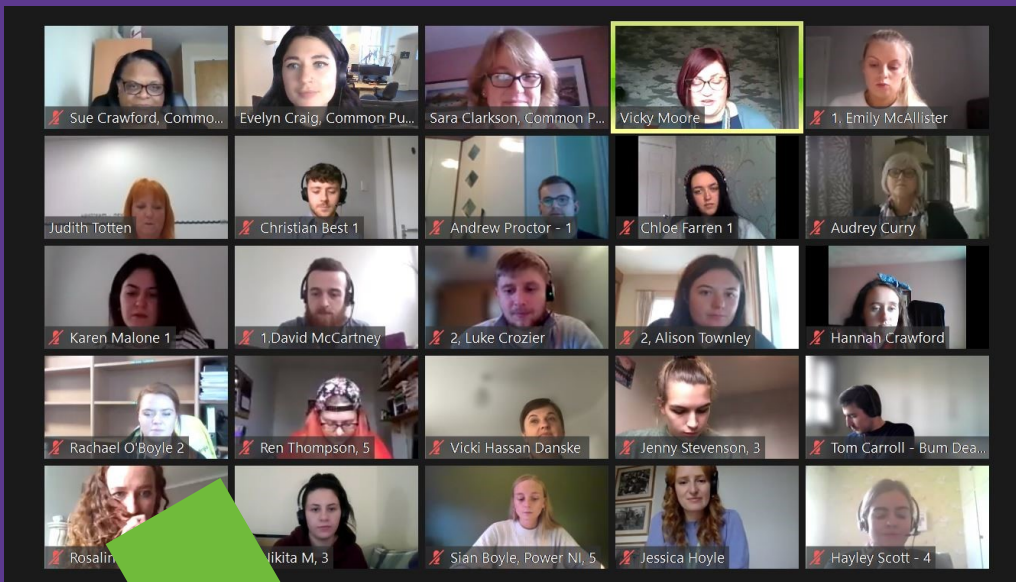
One word summary

We asked the participants to summarize in one word how they felt about the programme.

How are you feeling?

Mentimeter





"Thank you for the opportunity—it has pushed me out of my comfort zone, encouraged me to think differently and given me time to listen to speakers and to hear real life examples including opportunities and the present challenges they face."

Sophie Hilditch, Participant, NorthernIreland2035

NorthernIreland2035: Next steps

We will conduct a six-month post programme evaluation with the participants and contributors to go deeper into the longer term impact of the programme in relation to the leadership learning, the ideas that were generated and broader engagement in shaping the future of Northern Ireland.





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