



# SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES OF YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Shah Muhmud – Education and Involvement Expert, UK



# Who am I?

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- **Experiences**
  - **Gangs**
  - **Lacking education**
  - **Poverty**
- **Values**
  - **Free choice**
  - **Education**
  - **Equality**
- **Defying moments**
  - **Police**
  - **Racism**
  - **Extremism**



# Zero Budget

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- Safer Neighbourhood Board
- Chair of Tenants & Residents Association
- Secondary School Governor
- Youth & Community Worker
- Metropolitan Police Advisory Group

**What volunteering options are available to you?**



## Youth in multiple settings

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- Youth inspectors
- Youth grant makers
- Youth advisors
- Evaluation and monitoring
- Young Mayor
- Youth Council
- Takeover Challenge
- Independent Advisory Group



# Takeover Challenge





# Youth Advisory Group





# Young Grantmakers





# Young Mayor Scheme

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# Examples of involvement

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- Young people involved in grant giving  
<http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=16580>
- Young people involved in monitoring and evaluating programmes
- Young people meet regularly with the Mayor, Directors and Councillors  
<http://www.eastlondonlines.co.uk/2011/01/rahman-helps-to-inaugurate-new-youth-mayor/>
- Young people are involved in the interviewing process for senior positions
- Young people checking language is adequate



# The Golden Thread

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- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- English Law Children's Act 1989
- Children's Commissioner
- British Youth Council
- United Kingdom Youth Parliament
- Local Authority Young Mayor
- Youth Council structure
- Local youth groups
- Volunteers
- Service users

**What is your golden thread?**



# Young Mayor Elections 2017

## Tower Hamlets, London

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- In January 2017 the young mayor elections took place
- 20 different schools and 15 youth centres
- A total of 11,153 (67%) young people aged 11-17 voted in the elections
- The new young mayor, Fahimul Islam was elected with a total of 3,633 votes. Together with the runners up Shaiaam Islam and Sadia Ahmed, they form the new young mayor team of Tower hamlets, which has a 2 year term until January 2019.



# Tower Hamlets Young Mayor Team





# Tower Hamlets Young Mayor candidates 2017

**YOUNG MAYOR  
OF TOWER HAMLETS 2017**



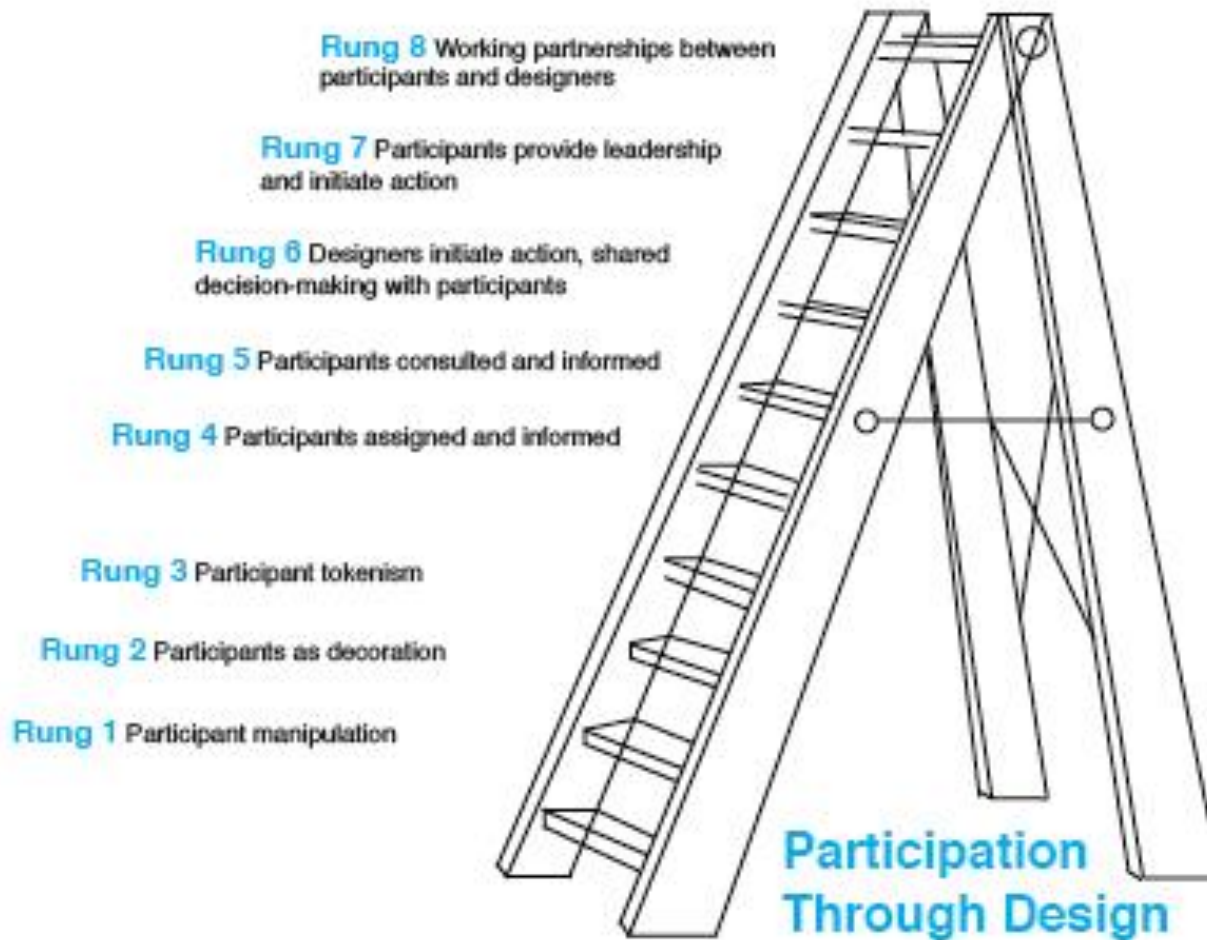
**TOWER HAMLETS**

**Who will you vote to be the next  
Young Mayor?**

 <b>Hodan Ahmed</b>	 <b>Sadia Ahmed</b>	 <b>Mazhar Md Alam</b>	 <b>Christiana Chinedu-Eke</b>	 <b>Jorian Gavalda</b>
 <b>Fahimul Islam</b>	 <b>Shaiam Islam</b>	 <b>Zaynah Khan</b>	 <b>Aaliyah Liburd</b>	 <b>Foosim Van</b>



# Ladder of Participation



Adapted from Hart, R. (1992). Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship. Florence: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre.



# Practical things to consider

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- **Make children visible in policy development processes throughout government**
- Develop a comprehensive national agenda for young people
- Develop permanent bodies or mechanisms to promote coordination, monitoring and evaluation of activities throughout all sectors of government
- Raise awareness and disseminate information by providing training to all those involved in government policy-making and working with young people
- Set up independent statutory offices, ombudspersons, commissions and other institutions
- **Carry out adequate budget analysis to determine the portion of public funds spent on young people and to ensure that these resources are being used effectively**



Activity

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# Values Continuum





## Values Continuum

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Women are equal to  
men in my community



## Values Continuum

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Politics divide people  
more than it brings  
people together



## Values Continuum

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We can improve our  
community without any  
help from outsiders



# The Waiting Game

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- The Young Mayor scheme was pioneered in Middlesbrough in 2002 as another method of youth democracy and participation
- In March 2018 Croydon young people will elect their first Young mayor. Croydon is home to more young people than any other London borough and the Croydon Young Mayor will represent over 37,000 young people

**How many years did they wait and Why?**



# The Waiting Game

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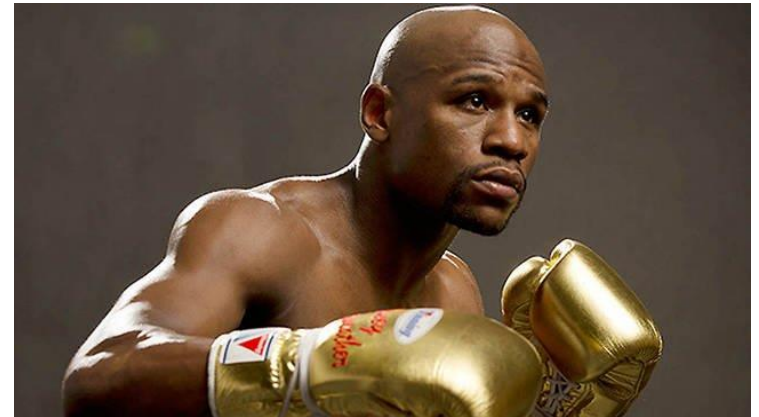
Rome ne s'est pas faite en un jour

لم تكن روما في يوم واح

Rome was not built in a day



# Winning mindset





And finally...

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أحضر الناس جواباً من لم يغضب

“The best answer will come from the person  
who is not angry”