

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Young People Shape the Future at Northamptonshire's "Seen & Heard" Youth Strategy Event

Northamptonshire, 17 February 2026 – As part of the leading the work being done to build Northamptonshire as a **Place of Social Action**, Young Northants has led the facilitation of Northamptonshire's first Youth Hack! More than 50 young people from across the county came together on 17th February at the University of Northampton's Engine Shed to shape the future of youth provision in the county. The **"Seen & Heard"** event, part of the national Youth Strategy programme, was held in partnership with the University and the #iwillmovement, and invited young people to share their experiences, concerns and ambitions for the next three years.

The young people discussed the places and people that support them – from youth workers and sports clubs to teachers, counsellors and family members – while highlighting challenges such as expensive transport, limited youth spaces and feeling unheard in schools. Youth Workers were praised as "heroes" with calls for more funding and better communication about how young people's ideas are used.

Working in groups, attendees proposed solutions including more safe spaces, cheaper transport, expanded youth activities, better advertising of support and stronger community safety. Many left the event feeling inspired, hopeful and eager for more opportunities to participate.

To get involved with Northamptonshire becoming a Place of Social Action visit www.youngnorthants.org.uk

For further information, interviews or media enquiries, please contact:
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