



IMPACT REPORT

21/22

BLACKBURN & DARWEN
YOUTH ZONE



INTRO
from Hannah

A DECADE AGO,
BLACKBURN YOUTH
ZONE EMBARKED
ON A JOURNEY
TO CHANGE THE
PROSPECTS OFFERED
TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE
WITHIN BLACKBURN
WITH DARWEN.



18,000

YOUNG PEOPLE



387,625

VISITS



RAISED JUST UNDER

£20 Million

In 2022, Blackburn Youth Zone celebrates ten years of making an impact and changing the lives of thousands of young people. On the land where, 100 years ago, Blackburn's first electricity generating station once stood, the Youth Zone is now powering the community through the energy and creativity of young people.

In total, over the last ten years, we have supported over 18,000 young people, had 387,625 visits through our doors, raised just under £20 million and had a staggering 107,543 volunteering hours to support our mission.

It couldn't be more urgent to invest in young people. The latest official data from Public Health shows that 49% of all young people in Blackburn with Darwen live in poverty. To ensure we are meeting the needs of all young people in the borough this year, with the support of our new Darwen patrons and Blackburn with Darwen Council, we have been able to expand our offer in Darwen. Our new 'Youth Zone, Darwen' has been established in the last year. It is now running seven days a week, giving the young people of Darwen the same opportunities as those in Blackburn.

This year also saw the exciting launch of our Youth Hub - the first of its kind in the UK. Removing barriers, providing skills and supporting young people in education, employment and training. Since launching in September, the Youth Hub has supported over 150 young people into education, employment or training.

I couldn't be more proud of the Youth Zone team and our accomplishments. This year we were delighted to have won the Red Rose Award for a not-for-profit organisation and the Queen's Award for Volunteering. The work we have accomplished has been recognised within these awards.

It is reasonable to ask, what have we accomplished this far? What impact have we made with our fantastic donors, partners and supporters? And what will the next ten years bring as we continue to inspire a generation?

This report summarises the impact made in our tenth year, celebrating successes based on Blackburn Youth Zone's Theory of Change.



OUR Membership

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE
AT THE HEART OF
OUR ORGANISATION.

22%
OF THE BOROUGH'S ATTEND

Ensuring all young people have fun, meet different people, try new things and challenge themselves to reach their full potential in life. Our membership is rich in diversity and offers a true representation of the young people in Blackburn with Darwen. 22% of the borough's young people now attend Blackburn & Darwen Youth Zone!

47%

47% OF OUR MEMBERSHIP COMES FROM THE BAME COMMUNITY. HAVING MIXED SOCIAL NETWORKS CONSISTING OF PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT ETHNIC AND MATERIAL BACKGROUNDS HELPS AID SOCIAL MOBILITY REDUCING THE RISK OF ENTRENCHED POVERTY LATER IN LIFE.

266

266 OF THE YOUTH ZONES MEMBERS HAVE A DISABILITY OR AN ADDITIONAL NEED.

48%

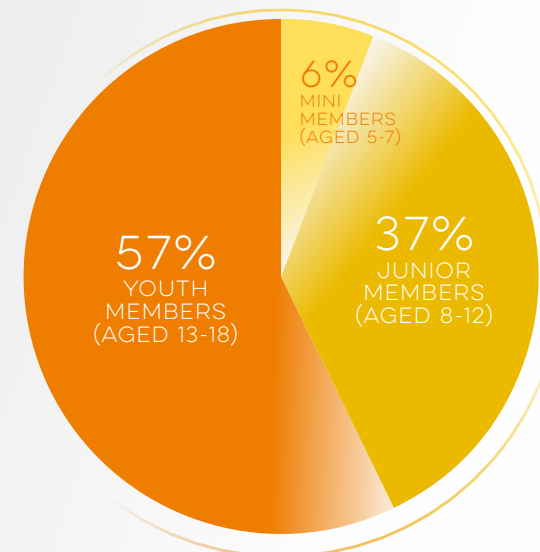
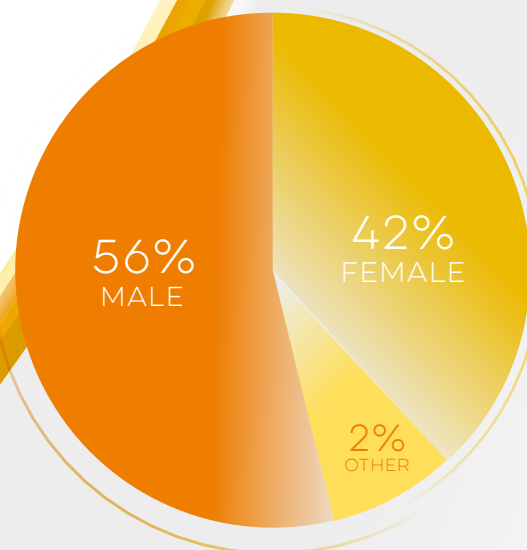
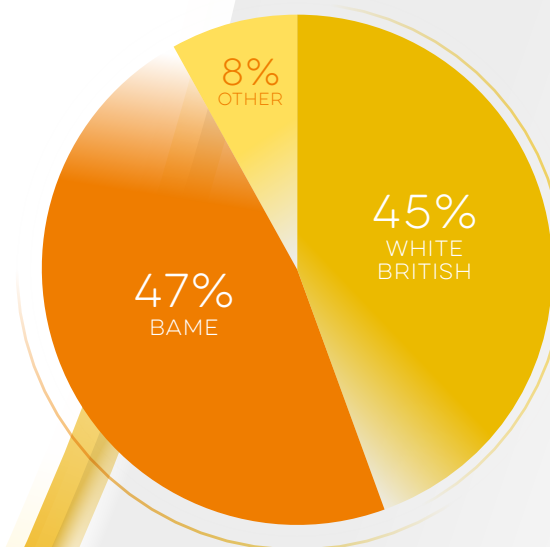
48% OUR ACTIVE MEMBERS COME FROM THE TOP 10% OF THE MOST DEPRIVED WARDS IN THE COUNTRY.

44%

44% YOUTH ZONE MEMBERS COME FROM THE TOP FIVE AREAS WITHIN BLACKBURN, WITH DARWEN WITH THE HIGHEST CURRENT REPORTED ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB).

32%

32% OF OUR MEMBERS RECEIVE FREE SCHOOL MEALS



15

STATE OF THE ART
BESPOKE ACTIVITY
SPACES

439

YOUNG PEOPLE
MENTORED

25

CAREER DAYS HELD

11

NEW PATRONS

Our Year

IN NUMBERS

15

EMPLOYER
MASTERCLASSES
DELIVERED

44,000

FREE MEALS PROVIDED

237

YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE ACHIEVED A
QUALIFICATION OR COMPLETED A
TRAINING COURSE

4,963

INDIVIDUAL YOUNG PEOPLE VISITED OUR TWO SITES EQUATING TO 22% OF THE BWD POPULATION

1,501

YOUNG PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM THE HOLIDAY ACTIVITY FUND (27% OF NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE BOROUGH ACCESSING)

£956,624

RAISED THROUGH GRANTS & TRUSTS

147

YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED IN EMPLOYMENT

502

YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE BENEFITED FROM EMPLOYABILITY SUPPORT

£75,316

RAISED THROUGH EVENTS & COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING

62,004

VISITS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR (A 63% INCREASE SINCE 2012)

64,142

DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES DELIVERED ACROSS THE YEAR

£421,847

RAISED THROUGH PRIVATE SECTOR FUNDRAISING, MAINLY FROM BUSINESS PATRONS

96%

OF PATRONS (LOCAL BUSINESS SUPPORTERS) HAVE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION

2,319

VISITS TO OUR SEND (SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITY) PROVISION

1,941

NEW MEMBERS HAVE JOINED THE YOUTH ZONE THIS YEAR

£392,000

RAISED TO FUND YOUTH ZONE DARWEN



Blackburn

AIMING TO CHANGE THE PROSPECTS OFFERED TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE AREA.

Blackburn Youth Zone's state-of-the-art facilities enable all young people to come together, meet new people and participate in developmental activities, supporting young people with their skills and aspirations, health and well-being and social integration, levelling up by providing them with the same choices, quality of life opportunities and aspirations.

This year the team in Blackburn has provided youth work support to 4,348 young people. We have an average of 1,064 young people a week walking through our doors.

Universal Offer

Giving young people a physical space in their community outside of school is crucial to developing relationships and resilience, which are vital to avoiding negative experiences in childhood.

Our Blackburn universal offer supports over 1,000 young people a week through arts, sports, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths), Music, and much more.

Targeted Services

As we emerged from the pandemic, the impact on young people's emotional and physical health was of paramount importance.

To respond to the increased need, the Youth Zone enhanced and upscaled our Targeted Twilight service. This service offers young people support via programmes and projects with a range of short to longer-term interventions. Helping young people to build self-esteem, self-confidence and resilience and offering support to their families. Young people are referred to us by other agencies as an intermediate step into our more comprehensive services. Since its inception, 'Targeted Twilight' has engaged over 1,652 young people. Working with a range of local partners, the youth zone has built a strong offer.

This year our Youth Safe provision, which safeguards young people and provides need-based intervention, has safeguarded 518 young people and referred 286 young people to specialist organisations to provide professional support.

SEND provision

In addition to our targeted services, our long-standing Diversity provision has moved underneath our targeted umbrella, allowing for growth and change and access to targeted support for the young people who attend. Like the Twilight provision, Diversity is a targeted provision for young people within the local area and beyond with additional needs to access fun, engaging activities whilst supporting their needs, families and the broader community. In the last year, Diversity has had 800 attendances.

Holiday Hunger

Over the year, we provided 21 days of holiday club provision, providing 1,501 young people (27% of those eligible in the borough) from disadvantaged backgrounds with a range of positive activities and a nutritional meal during the school holidays. Helping reduce social isolation, inactivity and holiday hunger. In addition to the holiday club, we have run Zone to Home campaigns, providing food and activity to young people in the comfort of their own homes. In total, 3,267 zone-to-home packages were delivered over the year.

Mentoring

Our mentoring programme supports young people in developing the ability to understand and manage their emotions and build resilience. 439 young people have benefited from having a 1:1 mentor focusing on health and wellbeing or Skills and Aspirations.

Partnerships

We have moved from being a centre-based organisation to thinking more broadly about evolving within communities. We now have a wide range of partners operating from Blackburn Youth Zone, which enriches our offer and becomes more attractive to different sections of the community and different young people's interests.

'There is no better time to champion the needs and support the aspirations of young people. BwD is proud to work in partnership with BYZ and others, and I don't think there has ever been a greater need to put our collective arms around young people.'

Cllr Julie Gunn

In the Community

The Youth Zone's detached and outreach team provides support, advice and guidance to local at-risk young people who use the street as their main socialising space.

Our service aims to deliver activities encouraging street-engaged young people to access universal centre-based activities where more detailed issue-based interventions can be made.

We have had 2,789 street-based engagements with 203 hours of service.



Why WE COME TO BLACKBURN YOUTH ZONE...

'I come to the Youth Zone so I can learn how to box'

'I go because they have excellent football facilities.'

'I spend most of my time socialising with people.'

'I go to the youth zone because there's so much to do, and I can decide what and when I take part in activities.'

'I come to the youth zone because it boosts my confidence.'

'I like to use the gym because it's free to use, and I feel better using it when I'm with friends.'

'I go because I like to meet new people.'

'I come to byz to see my friends and speak to the staff.'

'The youth zone gives me somewhere to go that isn't home but still feels like it.'

'I go because it's a friendly place to be.'

'I go so I can see my friends and be safe.'

'I come to the youth zone Because I like that the facilities are free to use and that anyone can join.'

'THE SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB 2022 HAS BEEN FUN. ME AND MY FRIENDS TOOK PART IN SOME ACTIVITIES THAT WE WOULD NOT NORMALLY DO IN USUAL SESSIONS. THE ACTIVITIES HELPED ME MAKE NEW FRIENDS THAT I WOULD NOT NORMALLY SPEAK TO IN A NORMAL YOUTH SESSION.'

KATIE, AGE 16

CASE STUDY

MALE, AGED 13

Luke is a young man with plenty of charisma who, despite this, really struggled socially. Luke began attending Blackburn Youth Zone in 2021 after being referred through Young Peoples Services as they were ready to step him down into a smaller provision. Luke had a history of struggling to control his anger and having outbursts at home and school.

Luke arrived full of energy and jokes however gravitated toward staff and adults rather than peers his age, seeming to struggle to take the first step to building a relationship. Staff quickly noticed Luke's struggle and worked on getting him to try other activities to help him to open up and find others with similar interests.

Luke is a very big music fan and especially enjoys rap, using it as an outlet to channel his emotions. As a result, Luke received some 1:1 targeted time in music, creating a track, writing lyrics and then recording a rap into the song 'Lost Boy'.

Alongside his music project, Luke also engaged in 1:1 mentoring sessions allowing staff to work on social skills and giving him an outlet for any worries he may have. Luke's friendships soon blossomed, with other people bonding over music, games and their common love of pranking staff and telling jokes. Luke became the life and soul of the Youth Zone.

Luke's journey highlights how 1:1 support and a listening ear can do wonders for a young person who feels a little lost, help to repair relationships and help to form new ones.

CASE STUDY

Our youth workers have been attending a local area and attempting to engage with young people. Initially, the young people in the area were not interested. Over a few weeks, we built a rapport with them. They mentioned they were concerned about the local play area and how it was constantly littered with rubbish and was unsafe and unclean for young people to use.

We spoke to the young people and advised them that they could voice their concerns to the local council to see if they could arrange for the area to be cleaned at least once. The young people stated that there was often fly-tipping in the area, and it was hard to keep it clean. It was suggested by the young people that they could start a litter-picking/tidy-up event, which they were keen to do. We said that if they spoke with their friends about a litter-picking group, we could help organise it with them and take part in our visit to this area during our detached sessions.

A couple of weeks later, we again visited the play area on our detached route and met a number of the young people that we had previously engaged with. The play area was visibly cleaner and had less litter around, making it safer to play in this area. After speaking with the young people, they said they had organised a small litter pick and tidy up of the area between their social groups. We praised them on this environmental work, and they seemed very proud of themselves and what they had organised to be done.

We will be continuing the dialogue with these young people now that we have established this relationship and hope to work with them to keep that play area free from litter moving forward.

** Identities changed to keep anonymous.*

‘BLACKBURN YOUTH ZONE HAS PROVIDED A PLACE FOR ME TO GO INSTEAD OF SITTING INSIDE MY HOUSE. I HAVE BEEN GIVEN MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES. THEY PROVIDED FREE FOOD, ENABLING ME TO IMPROVE MY SOCIAL SKILLS.’

KAYLEIGH, AGE 16



Youth Zone Darwen

A SAFE AND EXCITING SPACE FOR DARWEN'S YOUNG PEOPLE.

Youth Zone Darwen is a safe and exciting space for Darwen's young people to spend their spare time seven nights a week. The hub is a social space in the town centre (in 'Meeting Places'), with sports and arts activities delivered from key locations across Darwen, ensuring something for everyone.

Youth Zone Darwen originally opened temporarily during the Coronavirus pandemic. After realising how high the need is for this service, we set it our mission to secure the funding to keep the service alive. Blackburn, with Darwen Council and several local Darwen businesses, came together to invest in the young people of the town. A grand total of £279,000 has already been raised - enough to run the Youth Zone for 12 months. However, this is just the start of our journey!

OUR DARWEN MEMBERS

624

REGISTERED MEMBERS



60%/40%

SENIORS / JUNIORS



56%/44%

MALE / FEMALE

'We've been absolutely blown away by the amount of support for Youth Zone Darwen. Local businesses can see what a difference Youth Zone Darwen is already making and the opportunity that exists to do even more. We're now proud to have 10 patrons who've pledged their support, with a few others close to confirming.'

Wayne Wild, Youth Zone trustee and chair of Darwen Town Deal

Our Offer

Providing the same life-changing opportunities to the young people of Darwen as those on offer to the young people in Blackburn. Now running 7 days a week, Youth Zone Darwen has supported a total of 624 young people who have accessed our provision over 12,000 times. Young people have access to a safe and inspiring environment designed to raise aspirations, reduce ASB and support the most vulnerable young people in the community.

'MY SON'S ADHD AFFECTS HIM A LOT AND THE PEOPLE AROUND HIM, WHICH MAKES HIM VERY INSECURE AND NERVOUS BUT GOING TO THE YOUTH ZONE IN DARWEN HAS MADE HIM RISE ABOVE ALL HIS FEARS AND WORRIES, HE TRULY ENJOYS GOING AND MAKING ART OR HELPING OUT WITH MUSIC, AND I'M GLAD THAT THE YOUTH ZONE PROVIDES HIM WITH A SAFE PLACE TO LET LOOSE OF ALL HIS INSECURITIES.'

PARENT

Partnerships

Youth Zone Darwen has forged strong links throughout the town:

- Noise
- Junction 4
- AFC Darwen
- Knott Street
- Leisure Centre
- The meeting places
- Young Peoples Services

HAF in Darwen

Through the Holiday Activity Fund, we have been able to provide a safe and enriching space as well as a healthy, nutritious meal to 450 young people throughout the school holidays. We have delivered 200 hours of holiday club in Darwen, tackling holiday hunger and raising aspirations.

CASE STUDY

MOHAMMED, AGED 10

Mohammed is a shy new member of the youth zone, Mohammed's mum was originally hesitant for him to attend due to his diagnosis of Autism and worrying he would struggle to navigate socially. Mohammed's mum allowed staff time to introduce themselves before taking Mohammed for a tour around the building. Mum disclosed that the cost of living has hit the family hard, and she had been struggling to afford the new school year which is fast approaching. Using our community links the Youth Zone has helped the family to access the food larder and has reached out to support with uniforms for the new school year, with Mohammed donating his old uniform to help others in need. Mohammed, despite his mum's fears, has thrived at the Youth Zone. The summer has made way for new friendship groups, experiences and has allowed the family access support they have needed.

'We look forward to his sessions, and to see him come out so happy (but tired!) and excited to tell us all about his afternoon and what he's done has been the best feeling ever. Kids feel safe and happy at DYZ, and the staff are a credit to you.'

Mohammed's Mum

CASE STUDY

JACK, AGED 10

Jack is a junior member to our Darwen provision. Jack is a lovely and caring young person, but lacks the confidence to interact with others. He loves sports and keeping active but rarely gets to experience these activities outside of his home.

When we told Jack we were going swimming during one of our Junior Club sessions, he was over the moon but terrified. Jack made it clear that he had never been swimming with a group before and that he didn't know how to swim properly. Over the course of the summer holidays, Jack began to come out of his shell and began to make friends with most of the young people on the programme.

We then took Jack swimming with the rest of the group and we could see how much his confidence had improved. After swimming, Jack was ecstatic to tell his dad how well he had done in swimming and that he would love to go again.

Jack's dad approached and said how grateful he was for what we have done for Jack and the other young people, he also said that Jack has convinced his dad to take him swimming lessons. Jack approached the staff and thanked us all for the swimming experience and he is now attending the junior swimming sessions at Darwen Leisure Centre every week.

* Identities changed to keep anonymous.

‘THE STAFF ARE BRILLIANT, I HAD SO MANY CONCERNS BEFORE I SIGNED MY LITTLE BOY UP, BUT THE TEAM TOOK THE TIME TO GIVE US A TOUR AND A PRIVATE CONVERSATION TO ADDRESS ALL MY WORRIES. AFTER TALKING TO HIM FOR 15 MINUTES, I SIGNED MY SON UP, AND HE’S LOVED EVERY SECOND OF YZ SINCE.’

PARENT



What DOES YOUTH ZONE DARWEN MEAN TO YOU?

'It is where I come when I am bored, and it's a great place to find stuff to do.' Declan, 13

'It is a chill spot, and we can relax here.' James, 13

'I love it here, the staff are so kind and genuinely care about us.' Jasmin, 14

'It's our place to meet up with our mates and chill.' Chloe, 14

'There is always something to do here, and the staff are really good and keep us busy with stuff to do.' Lacey, 13

'It is somewhere that I come to have fun and chat with the staff and my mates.' Eesa, 13

'It is somewhere for me to relax and can have a nice chat with the staff.' Tyler, 14

'I come here to use the music studio because it's kitted out and proper chill, it's an opportunity for me to do things I'm interested in.' Connor, 15

'We get free food and healthy snacks when we're hungry.' Alena, 14

'I have made loads of new friends since coming here, because I used to be shy.' Scarlett, 16

'It just has good vibes with the staff, they're fun but also someone I can talk to.' River, 15

'I like coming here and being able to pursue my interest in music.' Rhianna, 15

'I come here for the staff, they're really kind and fun.' Kayleigh, 14

'WE ARE CREATING A
MOVEMENT IN DARWEN;
THROUGH THE SUPPORT,
ENERGY AND DRIVE
OUR PATRONS AND
SUPPORTERS HAVE GIVEN
US, WE ARE CREATING A
LEGACY FOR THE TOWN.'

WAYNE WILD, TRUSTEE.



Aspirations,

SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

In 2021 Blackburn Youth Zone secured grant funding from the Department of Works and Pension in September 2021 to set up the first Youth Employment Hub in the UK, and what a year it has been!

Since launching in September, the Youth Hub has supported a young person to move into employment or training every day.

502

TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUNG
PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY
THE YOUTH HUB



147

NUMBER OF YOUNG
PEOPLE IN EMPLOYMENT



237

NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE
ACHIEVING/COMPLETING
A TRAINING COURSE/QUAL



25

NUMBER OF CAREER
DAYS HELD

The service in practice offered to every young person,

- Wraparound support to local young people to address health and well-being barriers/inequalities
- Needs-based intervention
- Skill development in preparation for the job market
- Access to social settings with other like-minded peers
- Pastoral support
- as well as work skills development, with the belief that no single agency or organisation can do it alone, and it is through the power of collaborative partnerships, aim to deliver to the our vision.

The Youth Hub's Mission is to ***change how a generation of young people prepare for the world of work.***

We do things differently; our setting offers a fun, creative, engaging environment where young people are supported by experienced youth work professionals who help them identify their natural talents, feelings, and behaviour. We find focusing on their strengths – rather than their perceived weaknesses – is a far more effective approach to improving a young person's life and likelihood to thrive and improve their appreciation of their own beauty, excellence, bravery, creativity, curiosity, fairness, honesty, hope, humility, humour, judgment, kindness, leadership, love of learning, perseverance, self-regulation, social intelligence, teamwork and zest.

Partnerships

Education

- Blackburn college
- Training 2000
- North Lancs training group

Employability

- Department of Work and Pensions
- Get set academy
- FR recruitment group
- Newground (kickstart)
- Blackburn Mall
- Graham and Brown
- Essential furnishings
- Multevo
- Performance Lab
- Vampire Vape

Training Partnerships

- Princes trust
- BWD adult learning
- Training 2000
- North Lancs training group
- Blackburn with Darwen More Positive Together
- Blackburn College
- BWD council

‘THE YOUTH HUB TOUR OPENED MY EYES AND MADE ME REALISE MY POTENTIAL; UTILISING SKILLS I BELIEVED I NEVER HAD HAS MOTIVATED ME TO PUSH MYSELF FURTHER AND TRY NEW THINGS.’

‘THE TRAINING DAY WAS WELL WORTH ATTENDING. THE YOUTH HUB STAFF ARE SUPPORTIVE AND WELCOMING. AFTER THE ENTERPRISE DAY, I HAVE BECOME MORE PROACTIVE WITH MY DAILY DUTIES. I HAVE GAINED CONFIDENCE IN WRITING MY CV GREAT PLACE TO LEARN AND DEVELOP SKILLS BEFORE THE YOUTH HUB, I WASN’T AWARE OF MANY SERVICES IN BLACKBURN.’

CASE STUDY

FATIMA, AGED 19

Fatima was referred to the Youth Hub by her DWP work coach; she is a young parent with aspirations of joining the police force. Before the lockdown, Fatima applied to become a police officer with Greater Manchester police. She was invited for an interview and progressed to the fitness test stage. However, this is when Covid restrictions began, and the recruitment process halted. Fatima has been waiting for her fitness test to be rescheduled ever since.

Through regular 1-1s, it became apparent that Fatima still wanted to pursue her dream of joining the police force, as this is something she still feels passionate about. However, Fatima felt she needed to work in the meantime, and for now, this would have to fit in around school timings due to childcare commitments. She was supported in developing her CV further and given techniques to help her conduct successful job interviews and job searching.

Fatima has recently sat a very impressive interview with a Patron of the Youth Zone for a part-time receptionist role at their physiotherapy company. The position will fit her childcare needs and will see her at work until her recruitment process with the police is finalised.

Fatima has been successful and is awaiting a start date.

Youth Hub on Tour

One of our unique training courses has been 'Youth Hub On Tour'. During this training, we have selected a group of young people who are Level 3 (nearest to the job market). We then link up with a Patron organisation that will offer an on-the-job training and information day. For example, Essential Furnishings LTD gave our young people a tour of their factory, information on what each department does and a chance to do hands-on work experience in the company using their machinery under the guided supervision of staff. They then also gave the young people a presentation about the company's history, the benefits of working in that industry and how to get into careers in those jobs.

Volunteering

At the Youth Zone, we are incredibly proud of our award-winning volunteering offer. In 2021 we were presented with The Queen's Award for voluntary service. The award recognises outstanding work by volunteer groups that benefit their local communities.

This year alone, we have seen a 73% increase in active volunteers who have donated their time to support the young people of Blackburn with Darwen. On average, donating 200 hours a month to help us achieve our mission.

"I didn't think I'd be able to volunteer, but with the support of the team, I can!"

Katy Smith

"What a fun place. The vibe is something else, and the kids seem to have the time of their lives!"

Charles Kenyon

"I'll be staying here for a long time; it's like one big family."

Napthens Solicitors "It was fantastic to volunteer with colleagues and support the team at Blackburn Youth Zone. Napthens have been proud patrons for six years. Although 2020 was a challenge, we are proud to have remained strong and supported our community. Having the opportunity to volunteer and witness the direct impact of Blackburn Youth Zone is one of the most rewarding ways we can give back."

Without the support of our incredible volunteers, we would not have been able to provide the level of support we have. Our Volunteers are amazing – so selfless, encouraging, and cheerful; even after all the problematic Covid setbacks, they rose above it all. For further information on volunteering at Blackburn Youth Zone or Youth Zone Darwen, email byzvolunteer@blackburnyz.org

Our Supporters

The impact that the Youth Zone has would not be possible without our supporters and funders. We are incredibly thankful to everyone who has helped us continuously be there for young people. Since launching ten years ago, over 150 local businesses have backed our cause.

For every £1 of funding we receive from the local authority, the Youth Zone raises £5.61 to match this.

"There is no better time to champion the needs and support the aspirations of young people. BwD is proud to work in partnership with BYZ and others, and I don't think there has ever been a greater need to put our collective arms around young people."

Cllr Julie Gunn

Daniel King, Forbes Solicitors

A huge thank you to everyone at the Youth Zone for continuing to make such a positive impact on young people's lives during the past ten years. It is a real honour to be a Patron and see first-hand what a difference you are making.

Mufti Hamid Patel, CEO of Star Academies

Thank you so much to everyone at Blackburn Youth Zone for enhancing young people's lives, nurturing their talents and building their confidence. Your creativity, time and friendship make a huge difference to young people in our community.

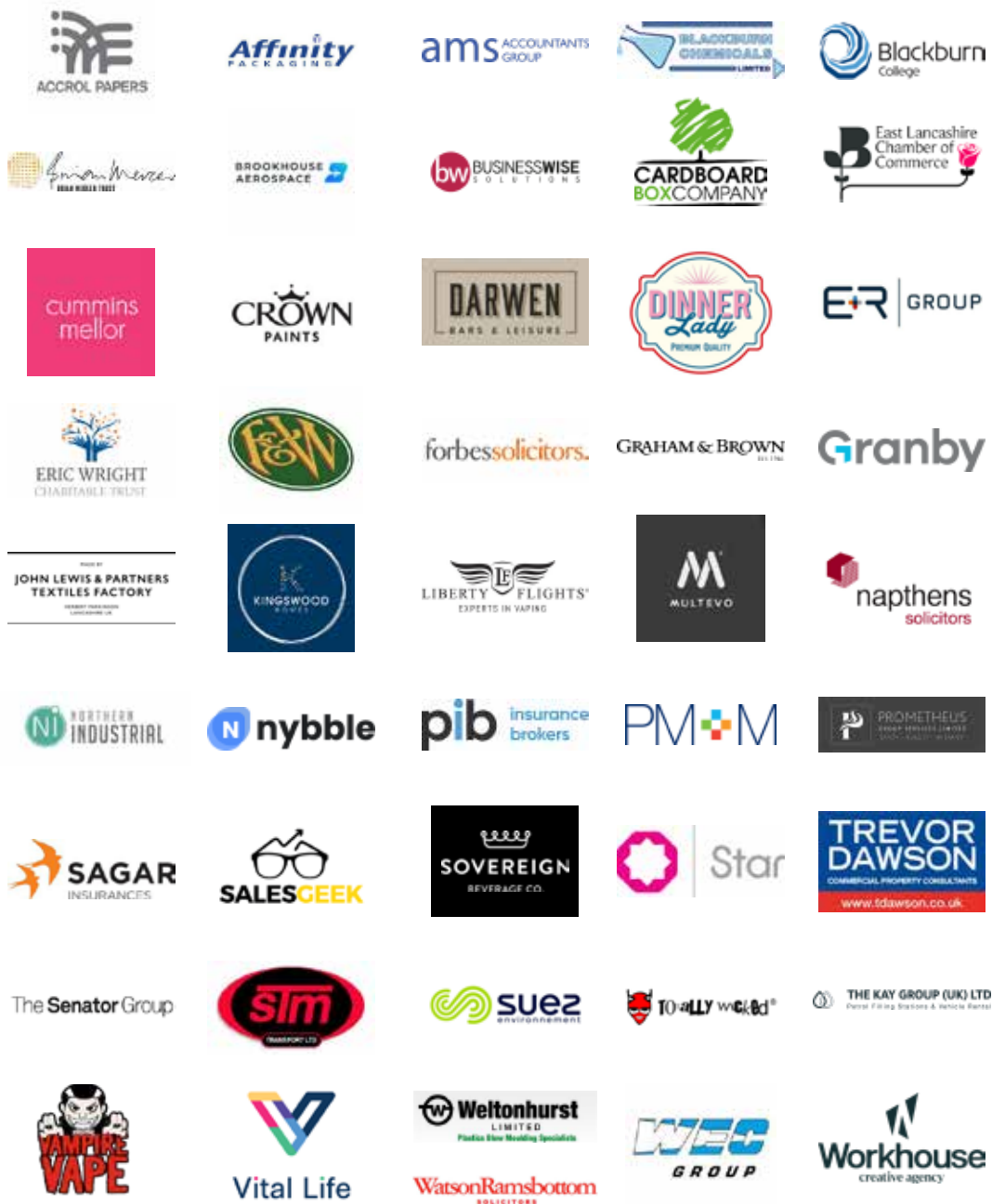
Ebrahim Sidat - MD, AMS Accountancy and Blackburn Youth Zone board member

By providing world-class facilities and bringing together children from diverse communities and social backgrounds to partake in a fantastic array of social activities, the Youth Zone is creating the platform for today's youth to become future leaders of our future society. Over the past ten years, we have seen many inspirational young people being allowed and encouraged to develop because of their involvement with Blackburn Youth Zone.

Gareth Jenkins - CEO Accrol Papers

Accrol Papers are very proud of our partnership with Blackburn Youth Zone, and we are extremely thankful for the valuable work they do with the young people of Blackburn and the surrounding areas. Our partnership has grown from strength to strength and has seen young people grow through the years we have supported them.

PATRONS



GRANTS AND TRUSTS

