



Transition Assembly
YOUTH CAUCUS
7 - 9 February 2025

Young People & Transition

Suggestions on engagement, presented by the Youth Caucus at the
Transition Assembly

1. Be Clear About How Young People Can Get Involved

Young people may want to engage but often don't know how. Generic calls for involvement aren't as effective as clear, tangible invitations.

✓ Actionable Steps:

- Instead of saying, *"We need more young people,"* say, *"We need volunteers for this specific project—here's how you can help."*
 - Use **clear signposting**: create posters, emails, or social media posts that specify **roles, expectations, and next steps**.
 - Share **success stories**—show young people what others have done and how it made a difference.
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2. Integrate Activism Into Daily Life

Many young people have financial and time constraints that make it difficult to participate in activism.

✓ Actionable Steps:

- Partner with **schools, universities, and workplaces** to make engagement part of **education or professional development**.



- Offer **opportunities that fit around studies and work schedules** (e.g., evening or weekend activities, short-term projects).
 - Provide **online participation options** for those who can't attend in person.
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3. Provide Paid Opportunities for Young People

Financial barriers prevent many young people from getting involved in activism and community work.

✓ Actionable Steps:

- Apply for **funding** to offer stipends or expenses for volunteers.
 - Create **part-time, paid roles** for young people within organisations.
 - Direct young people towards employment through **Vive** and offer opportunities that support employability.
 - Recognise contributions through **non-monetary rewards** (certificates, free training, mentorship).
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4. Acknowledge the Interconnectedness of Issues

Young people are more likely to engage when they see how environmental and social issues are connected to their lives.

✓ Actionable Steps:

- Frame **environmental activism** as part of broader struggles—**housing, racial justice, financial security, mental health**.
 - Partner with **diverse organisations** to highlight these connections.
 - Make space for **young people to discuss what issues matter most to them**.
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5. Engage Young People Through Conversations, Not Assumptions

Young people are just people. Different individuals and communities have different priorities, interests and motivations.

✓ Actionable Steps:

- **Actively ask young people** what they care about instead of assuming.
 - Conduct **informal surveys or host listening sessions** to understand their needs.
 - Involve young people in **decision-making rather than just consulting them**.
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6. Create Open and Accessible Spaces

Young people don't need to be convinced to care—they need space to engage.

Actionable Steps:

- Offer **free or low-cost meeting spaces** for young people to organise.
 - Provide **materials, mentorship, and resources**, but let them take the lead.
 - Remove **unnecessary bureaucracy** that might discourage participation.
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7. Increase Land Access and Outdoor Engagement

Many young people lack access to natural spaces, making environmental engagement difficult.

✓ Actionable Steps:

- Create **partnerships with farms, community gardens, and landowners** to provide free or affordable access.
- Organise **outdoor activities** like camping, nature walks, and permaculture training.
- Lobby for **policies that make land more accessible for young people**, for example, partnering with Land Workers Alliance, or Right to Roam groups.



8. Establish a Strong Online Presence & Visibility

If young people can't find your organisation online, they probably won't engage.

✓ Actionable Steps:

- Maintain an **active website or social media page** that clearly explains what you do and how to get involved.
 - Share **updates, success stories, and event invitations regularly**.
 - Make sure **young people can contact you easily** via direct messages, email, or forms.
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9. Balance Support from Older Generations Without Restricting Youth Leadership

Older activists have valuable experience to offer but must avoid stifling young people's approaches.

Actionable Steps:

- Provide **mentorship without controlling** the direction of youth-led initiatives.
 - Encourage **intergenerational collaboration rather than separation**.
 - Be **open to new ideas and ways of organising**.
 - Learning can be **reciprocal between generations**.
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10. Make Activism Fun, Social, and Community-Based

Many young people are drawn to activism through friendships and social connections.

✓ Actionable Steps:



- Organise **community-building events** that aren't just about work—**social gatherings, music, food, creative activities**.
 - Make activism **welcoming and enjoyable**, rather than overly serious or draining.
 - Encourage **group projects** where young people can work together with friends.
 - Invite Transition-adjacent to join activities and to **invite their friends**.
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11. The Role of Young People in the Transition Movement

Young People Are Not Just “The Future”—We Are Here Now

Young people don't have all the answers, and we don't need to. We are **not just ‘the future’**—we are here **right now**, working alongside you to create solutions that benefit everyone. We're just people who care about the same things as you.

Instead of asking, “*What can young people bring to the table?*” ask yourself:

- ✓ **Why do you want us there?**
- ✓ **How can young people roll up their sleeves and get involved in the work of transition?**

Real Change Requires Intergenerational Collaboration

Change isn't about **one generation stepping aside for another**—it's about **meeting in the middle, learning from each other, and co-creating something stronger together**.

Intergenerational exchange isn't a **one-way street**; it's a conversation, a shared process of discovery. Too often, change is framed as something that happens in **cycles**—but real transformation happens when we recognise that our **strengths are complementary**.

- **Young people bring urgency, bold ideas, and a willingness to challenge the status quo.**
- **Older generations bring wisdom, perspective, and resilience from lived experience.**

When we truly **listen**—when we open ourselves to the **insights of those who came before us and those who are coming**—we don't just **see the world differently**. We shape it differently.

True power is only ever **collective**—and the best ideas happen when we **build them together**.

