

LAMBETH PEER ACTION COLLECTIVE



The role of youth spaces and trusted adults in reducing young people's exposure to violence

12 young people (aged 16–22) from different communities (women and girls, young Black people, Latin American and other migrant groups) employed as **peer researchers**.

Young people supported by a **partnership** of eight local youth organisations, VISION researchers, and trauma-informed mental health practitioner.



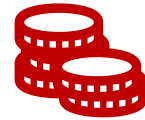
What we know about Lambeth

- *Densely populated¹*
- *Diverse*
- *High deprivation*
- *Young²*
- *Rates of violence in London are highest in UK³*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERNS AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

Young people highlighted that they feel more or less at risk of violence in different spaces or around different adults.

Young people also felt strongly about the importance of youth spaces and youth workers.



Youth services in London have lost around 70% of their local authority funding since 2010.

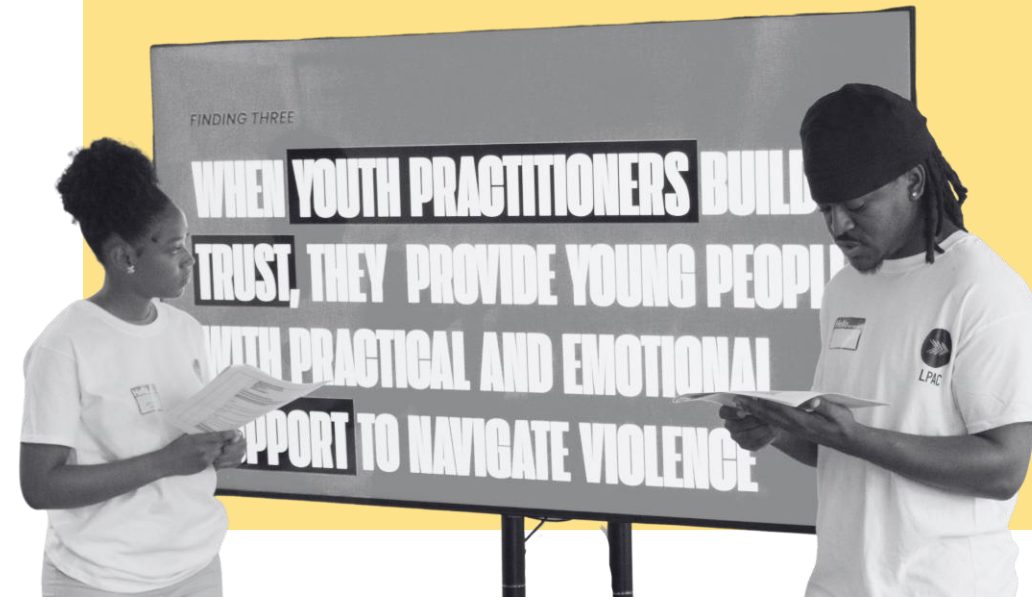


More than 1,500 qualified youth worker posts have been lost nationally over the past decade.

YOUTH-LED RESEARCH

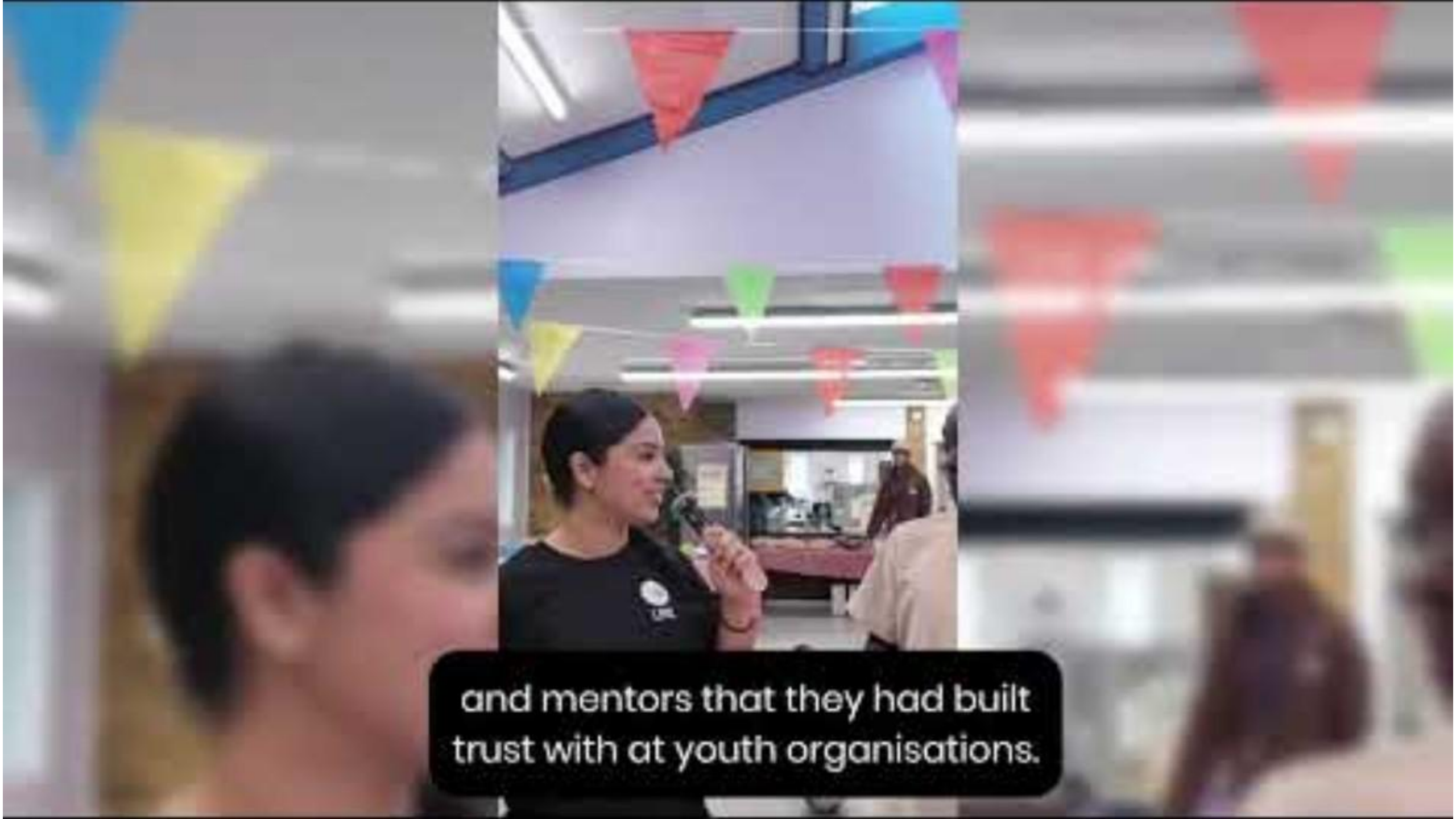
Young people lead all stages of the **research** process: design, data collection (46 interviews) and analysis.

Peer researchers attend weekly planning, training and reflection sessions (18 months) to **build capacity and skills**.



This approach...

- Increased young people's **ownership** in things they care about.
- Fostered **trust** between young people and practitioners.
- Developed rich, **place-based understanding** of realities of violence – and, therefore, solutions – in Lambeth.

A woman with dark hair, wearing a black t-shirt with a small white logo, is speaking into a microphone. She is in a room decorated with colorful triangular bunting (red, yellow, blue, green, pink) hanging from the ceiling. In the background, there are tables covered with white cloths and other people. The scene appears to be a community event or a meeting.

and mentors that they had built trust with at youth organisations.

TAKING ACTION

- Developing **visions**
- Engaging **key stakeholders**
- Social media **campaigns**
- **Training** for youth practitioners
- Evaluation **toolkit**



1. *Lambeth's local youth organisations and community spaces are valued and protected.*
2. *All young people in Lambeth have access to trusted adults who have the skills and qualities to support them.*
3. *Youth organisations work together to support young people to make the most of the opportunities available to them in Lambeth.*



REFLECTIONS FROM THE PROJECT



Partnership working



Support



Flexibility



Energy

FIND OUT MORE

www.lambethpac.com

LPAC have started new research exploring mental health support for young people affected by violence.



www.lambethresearch.com



Read the report



BUILT ON TRUST

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high
trees