

**YOUR VOICE**

**YOUR CHOICE**

**HAVERING YOUTH PARLIAMENT ELECTION**  
Monday 24 January – Friday 11 February 2022



**Havering**  
LONDON BOROUGH

# Curtis Tobbs

## My Manifesto

Knife crime. The current epidemic ripping families apart across the UK. There's a famous saying "for he who lives by the sword, dies by the sword".

Many young people who carry knives say they carry them for self-protection. Evidence shows that those who carry knives for self-protection are most likely to become a victim of their weapon as a result.

65% of young people who carry knives, ultimately, have it used against them. The MCS (Millennium Cohort Study) found that 3.47% of young people aged 13 to 15 reported knife usage in a sample of approximately 11,000 people.

These statistics are incredibly alarming and require tremendous change, so why are we not doing anything about it? There is no doubt that the mental health of these young people is heavily affected by their experiences.

Additionally, the current pandemic is having a considerable amount of impact also.

## My Pledges

If I am elected, many measures shall be put in place to ensure the safety of young people in this country. To ensure success, to ensure security:

- I aim to organise workshops to guide teenagers away from knife crime and help them use their talents to go forward in life. This will allow teenagers to unlock better lives for themselves and be the best that they can be.
- I aim to provide safety in schools by deploying safeguarding police officers at the gates in the morning and afternoon to protect students walking to and from school to ensure the safety of students.
- Finally, young people's mental health has surely been affected by these experiences as a result of knife crime. Long-term mentors would offer support to those who have experienced knife crime so they have someone they can open up to about their problems. Someone they can build a friendship with and not have to worry about the past.

Things need to change. I am that change.



# Leia Pritora

## My Manifesto

Why should we live like this? Why should we live in these conditions? Well... we shouldn't.

Hi, my name is Leia Pritora, I am 13 and attend Frances Bardsley.

Change needs to start now. All these issues affect our future, and we need to start the change. Why should we live in a world where rubbish pollution is worsening? Why should we live in a world where period poverty exists? Why should we be expected to know how to buy a home or open a bank account after we leave school with no preparation? We shouldn't. We need to use our voices now.

I am determined together and with my communications, leadership and problem-solving skills we can start this change. We need to introduce better environmental solution, more life education and end period poverty. Together let's end these issues. Vote for me!

## My Pledges

- To attempt to end period poverty by: getting more schools to have a stock of complimentary sanitary products in toilets. Host fundraisers for period poverty charities, such as Period Poverty, Freedom4Girls, Hey Girls; Get more people to buy brands which relate to the period poverty cause, such as Always (who are donating millions of products to the cause).
- To help end rubbish pollution: introduce more recycling bins in schools; host fundraisers for rubbish pollution charities such as the Marine Conservation Society, Surfers against Sewage, Greenpeace etc.
- To introduce more preparation about life for when we leave school: I would like to introduce regular workshops in school about how to open bank accounts, buy a house, vote, handle your finances, etc. This will help give young people the basic preparation needed when leaving school. Take young people on trips so they have experience of what a work environment is actually like.



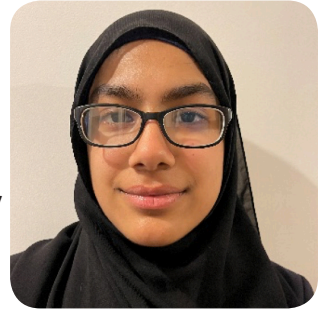
# Momina Ahmed

## My Manifesto

Greetings to all fellow comrades out there! My name is Momina Ahmed. I am 13 years old, in year 9 and have always had a passion to support others. I am extremely inquisitive and always up for a challenge.

Some of my skills, and attributes include resourcefulness, communication, independence, creative problem solving, collaboration, encouragement and aiming high.

I believe that, as Walter Elias Disney famously said, 'The way to get started is to quit talking and to start doing.' With that in mind, I would bring out the best of my attributes (and much more) to be successful in the role of a youth parliament member (if I achieved the role).



## My Pledges

- My first aim is to help tackle discrimination and hate crime within the UK. Hate Crime is one of the worst results of discrimination and thousands of cases everyday are reported in the UK. Statistics show that throughout the years hate crime has only been increasing...and rapidly.  
The ideas of equality should be instilled into our young people from an early age and should continue to be prompted throughout their education. I plan to campaign to spread much more awareness of hate crime in educational systems on how to report it and intervene as bystanders with teaching systems.
- My second aim is to provide better access to mental health support. 1 in 10 young people suffer from mental health issues at different times of their life but, 75% of the cases have been ignored due the lack of diagnosis.  
My plan is to campaign and call on the government to commit to greater investment in the health and social care budget and ensure that services (such as Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services, CAMHS) are funded accordingly to their usage (with equipment etc...). Finally, that every young person is provided with fully accessible and easy to use feedback forms.
- My next aim is to include young people in the plan for Covid recovery. During lockdown young people continued to be aware that our planet is in a crisis of its own, whether it is to do with Covid-19 itself or environmental crises, there are voices out there that are wanting to be heard! I aim to help and start a process where the government would speak directly to young people and work with us to create and publish a strategic plan to help with current issues.

# Saraa Rathore

## My Manifesto

Dear fellow students,

Are you tired of your voice not being heard? Are you tired of being overshadowed? Are you tired of your needs not being met? Well now is the time for change!

I am Saraa, a student who wants to make a difference. I am passionate about expressing young people's views, needs and opinions.

I am interested in youth parliament because I strive to create a society where young people are able to express their views freely and comfortably and I want to educate young people on issues that are close to me.

I believe I am a very resilient person, who is creative yet methodical. I have dedication, drive, and desire and will make a positive change.



## My Pledges

- Promote feminism – I will campaign to make young people aware of gender inequalities and injustices that young people face.  
I aim to encourage girls to take part in STEM workshops (fields of science, technology, engineering and maths) in schools. Other initiatives would include schools integrating the topic of gender inequality in PSHE or citizenship.
- Life skills – No one teaches us about the skills we need for the future, such as paying taxes, how to communicate well and problem-solving.  
I aim to talk to schools and encourage them to integrate these areas into the curriculum. They could introduce these areas as workshops, assemblies or short lessons during “form time”.
- Racism – I aim to publicise the injustice of racism and the impact it has, specifically on students.  
I aim to organise more workshops and assemblies in schools raising the issues of racism for young people today. Young people must have the right to live in a fair society. As Martin Luther King once said, ‘We should not be judged by the colour of our skin, but by the content of our character.’



# Tori Issah

## My Manifesto

If you haven't noticed, I am black. I am a black, Muslim woman living in a world run by white men. It's hard, but subtle discriminations make it so much harder. I believe it's time to change. It would be my pleasure, as well as my duty to change this for you.

If chosen, I would be given the opportunity to give more protections to ethnic students in terms of their hair and begin to take the necessary stands to combat subtle discriminations in schools.

I would do everything in my power to make sure minority students, like myself, feel safe and supported. We have gone through the subtle oppressions in schools for so long and for lack of better phrasing, "it's not giving".

We can make a change. And I need your help. We are the moment and this is the movement. We are the change. Thank you.



## My Pledges

- Introduce the Halo Code – The Halo Code is a code of conduct that schools would have to oblige by when addressing ethnic hair. If elected, I would attempt to introduce this across schools in Havering.
- Gender-nutrifying school uniforms – I would begin to ensure all schools in Havering allow students who wish to, to wear trousers and/or skirts and remove any gender oppressive uniform rules.
- Situate a set of rules regarding micro-aggressions in schools – I will create and put in place a clear set of rules that address how schools should deal with micro-aggressions. That is subtle discrimination racism that affect student and staff in the workplace in regard to their physical traits, gender or sexuality and sets boundaries as to what counts as a subtle discrimination.

# Uno Borlasa

## My Manifesto

My name is Uno. I am 14 years old. I, as a young person, want to represent the next generation that grows up in this country. But there are problems we young people face.

First, let's talk about education. Put your hand up if you feel stressed or anxious about tests. Right, the glaring issue is that a lot of students feel stressed, especially those about to do GCSEs.

Second issue is child abuse. Throughout 2020, there were roughly 25,000 cases of child abuse. Child abuse has long-term effects, such as substance abuse and increases the likelihood of victims committing crime.

And the last issue is about crime - crime committed by young people. In 2018, out of 24,500 convicted youth offenders, over a third of them reoffended.

However, these problems can be tackled. I bring to the table the ability to think critically and the ability to work with everyone. But, most importantly, I bring the drive and determination it takes to fairly represent each young person in this country. I am passionate about tackling your issues. Our issues. And within my term, I will do the best I can to tackle every issue I mentioned.

## My Pledges

- To reduce stress and anxiety of GCSE tests. I will work with teachers to enable more dialogue between students and teachers regarding stress, either in groups and bubbles. I will also work to spread awareness of stress and anxiety within the youth - whether through handing out leaflets or holding assemblies.
- To build awareness of child abuse and to increase support for victims. I will help raise funds within the community in order to aid organisations that help victims of abuse.
- To improve the youth justice system in order to reduce the rate of first time offences and repeated offences. I propose:
  - encouraging local law enforcement to educate and engage with students in a positive way.
  - improving the youth justice system by recommending to the officials a proactive approach focused more on rehabilitation.



# YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

# YOUR DECISION

## CHOOSE YOUR UK YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEMBERS

Havering's Youth Parliament elections will take place between Monday 24 January – Friday 11 February 2022

You will be able to vote at various schools, colleges and youth clubs throughout that period.

Young people in Havering can vote for two candidates to become Members of Youth Parliament for 2022.

Please see the following link for candidates' filmed manifestos: [www.havering.gov.uk/hyc](http://www.havering.gov.uk/hyc)

This is your opportunity to decide who represents you.