

Nurturing renewable energy's next generation

The Repowering London youth training programme is a paid education scheme for young people aged 16 to 19, which covers topics including sustainable energy, social enterprise and community development.

The 40-hour course gives participants insight and experience into the world of low-carbon technology and the Green economy, through activities such as: solar-panel making workshops; visits to renewable technology sites; discussions with industry figures, and community engagement. The programme also incorporates learning about social media and brand building, co-operative business models and marketing. There is a large focus on energy efficiency and environmental awareness, looking at climate change and ideas for saving energy in the home.

The programme is often run in areas in which a Repowering London-backed community energy co-operative is already up and running. It targets young people from any educational background, but particularly welcomes those who may disengaged with formal education.

Inspiration + qualifications

Trainees that successfully complete the course are awarded AQA certificates and boost their employability and confidence.



Youth Training programme in brief



So far 120 young people have received paid training through the YTP



Creates an entry point for young people to work in the Green economy



Provides insight into renewable energy technologies and careers



Those who complete the programme gain recognised AQA qualifications





Comprehensive curriculum

Sessions are held at convenient times and locations that are arranged with the trainees, and take place over 2.5 months. Instructors come from the environmental community, Green businesses and the wider Repowering London team. Among a wide variety of topics, students will receive introductions to:

- Renewable energy and fossil fuels
- Community Energy & the energy system
- Solar feasibility studies
- · Solar-panel making
- Energy activism & fuel poverty
- Community engagement
- Power & privilege
- Social media for business
- Coding for community projects
- Business models

At the end of the course, students will create their own concept for a business that would tackle energy issues and present the idea to the group, Dragon's Den-style.

Participant priorities



The programme targets 16-19 year olds, as well as those just beyond that age bracket who have been long-term unemployed. We recruit through Repowering London energy co-ops, community group contacts, educational institutions, environmental groups, youth groups and at Repowering London events. The aim is to involve a diverse group of young people from any educational background.

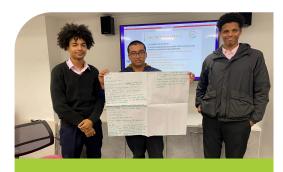
Our most recent student group was funded as part of Notting Dale Future Neighbourhoods 2030 and recruited with the help of local cooperative North Kensington Community Energy.

Employment exploration

Programme participants are also offered the opportunity to do work experience, in Green industry sectors and aligned with their personal interests where possible. Members of the latest cohort worked with Repowering London to manage community events, in sustainable fashion, environmental and human rights law, for example.

Because of Repowering London, I've now developed the skills to be able to go into the world and have open conversations about sustainability and renewable energy sources ... I feel I have the knowledge to really be able to communicate what I feel and what I think, and make a difference in the world today."

- Ahlam Mohmed, YTP 2022



Programme impact

Highlights of feedback received from the 2022 cohort:

Influence

100% of participants who responded said they had shared something they learned on the programme with a friend or family member.

Confidence

Among the personal changes participants noticed over the course of the programme: "Becoming more confident", "Being more sociable".

Empowerment

After the programme, 75% of students agreed or strongly agreed with the statement:
"I feel I can influence decisions within my community."

Before the course, only 38% responded this way.

