



IMPACT REPORT 2021-22

CEO'S WELCOME

It is with immense pleasure and pride that I welcome you to Solutions for the Planet's Impact Report 2021-22. Following two very challenging years where we had to adapt rapidly to Covid-19 we were excited to get back in to schools in October 2021, as well as launch our first Youth Insights Panel with NGN, as well as deliver other projects helping us achieve our aims.

This year we delivered our Big Ideas Days with 108 businesses employee volunteers to 3,886 amazing 11 to 14 year olds. The students, teachers and mentors who continued to work with us through school closures and lockdowns, in the midst of a global pandemic, are perfect examples of why it's important to build resilience and nurture creativity. They allow us to adapt, find new ways of working, and to get through the darkest of times, as does working together and supporting each other.

Our programmes and services all focus on young people and sustainability, and are all aimed at building relationships between businesses and schools. The power of those relationships and the passion shown by the young people we worked with this year has been nothing short of magical. This Impact Report shares highlights of our journey together and illustrates some of the measurable impacts. However, it has become clear to us, last year more than ever, that being part of the Big Ideas Programme has been a ray of hope and positive action for everyone involved, and the impact of that is immeasurable.

Thank you to everyone involved for your belief, your determination, your passion, your energy, your work, your support, your ideas and for being a daily inspiration.

You are all #HopeinAction



CONTENTS

CEO's Welcome.....	Page 1
Our Values and Our Approach.....	Page 2
The Big Ideas Programme and its Impact:	
Schools and Teachers.....	Page 3
Businesses and Mentors.....	Page 4
Young People.....	Page 5
The Competition.....	Page 6
The S4TP Youth Insights Service and its Impact.....	Page 7
Other Highlights of 2021-22.....	Page 9
Our Environmental Impact.....	Page 10

“Solutions for the Planet's core values reflect our deeply held belief that we can support positive change through our programmes, whilst remaining true to ourselves, and these are promoted through all of the programmes we offer”

Mark Wood

Non-Executive Director Chair, Solutions for the Planet

OUR VALUES



OUR APPROACH

Solutions for the Planet is a social enterprise, that works to create a world where sustainable practices are commonplace; every young person is equipped with essential skills that benefit people and planet; and social creativity, innovation and diversity is built into every business and workplace.

We build partnerships to promote sustainability, STEM careers (science, technology, engineering and maths) and employability skills.

We are driven by our core values and encourage collaboration, both locally and internationally, between young people, schools and businesses to create opportunities for young voices to not only be heard, but acted upon.

Our mission is to bring young people and businesses together to share knowledge and skills and shape a more sustainable world.

We achieve this by inspiring new ways of thinking and behaving through partnerships between young people, teachers and businesses, as we know this mix of knowledge, skills and passion creates a sustainable present and future.

Big Ideas Programme

Our flagship programme, the award-winning Big Ideas Programme, has already involved over 30,000 young people from more than 50 schools, and over 500 mentors from our Business Partners. It lasts a whole school year, starting with a Big Ideas Day and culminating in a competition with the National Final usually being held at the Palace of Westminster.

S4TP Youth Insights

This service offers businesses the opportunity to work with panels of young people from around the UK, giving those young people a voice within the business organisation, and helping shape its future direction and strategy.

Our work supports the Government-adopted Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance and the Sustainable Development Goals.

THE BIG IDEAS PROGRAMME AND ITS IMPACT

SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS

- 93% of teachers feel more confident discussing STEM-focused career options with students
- 96% of teachers said the Big Ideas Day encouraged them to be more creative in the way they tackled key issues like sustainability in the classroom
- 100% of teachers agree that the Big Ideas Programme helps their students understand sustainability
- 86% of teachers said they know more about the STEM skills companies' value



28% had Free School Meals (an indicator of areas of social deprivation). The National Average in Jan 2022 was 22.5%.

"The Big Ideas Programme is a superb contribution to many areas of our curriculum, including geography, science and careers."

"The Big Ideas Programme has allowed our pupils to pursue their ideas without fear of rejection or judgement. They have shown us more than we could have ever expected; we have learnt that we shouldn't underestimate their creativity, ambition and drive. Our pupils have grown in confidence and have built strong foundations for future success."

"The Big Ideas Programme gave our students the opportunity to explore their creative minds and develop a deeper understanding of how each and every individual has the capability of helping our planet. It also encouraged them to work as a team and think about how their own actions may be affecting others. "

"The Big Ideas Programme is a fantastic programme which inspires young people to think outside of the box, develop their problem solving skills, and most importantly have fun with an idea that they have complete ownership of!"



THE ISSUES THAT MATTER TO OUR STUDENTS

- Food waste
- Fuel poverty
- Domestic energy waste
- Cost of energy
- Pointless plastics
- Unhealthy eating
- Access to clean water
- Animal cruelty
- Racism
- Littering
- Waste water
- Plastic in the ocean
- Biodiversity
- Fast Fashion
- Air pollution
- Coral reef destruction
- Deforestation
- Food poverty
- ...and much more!

Students are eligible for a CREST Discovery Award for participating in the Big Ideas Day. Regional Finalists receive a CREST Bronze Award, and National Finalists can apply for a CREST Silver Award.

We're proud to partner with the British Science Association and the CREST Awards to recognise students' time and commitment to developing their Big Ideas using science, technology, engineering & maths skills.



THE BIG IDEAS PROGRAMME AND ITS IMPACT

BUSINESSES AND MENTORS

Our Business Partner Network and supporters are crucial to the success of the Big Ideas Programme.

Our Business Partners tell us they get involved in the programme because of the opportunities to:

- Develop employees, upskill the talent pipeline and raise the profile of career opportunities in their industries (human resources)
- Network with other businesses, school communities, local organisations and politicians, as well as increase their positive news stories (communications)
- Engage directly in communities that they service, encourage more young people into STEM and provide employee volunteering opportunities whilst stimulating sustainable solutions (social value)

Mentoring with S4TP gave me a fresh perspective on the youth of today, often you can find the biggest reward and the best surprises. I managed to make a small impact on the group, but the group made a massive impact on me."

*Andrew Simcoe EngTech MIGEM, Mentor
Northern Gas Networks*

"One of the most worthwhile and satisfying programs I've been involved in. Helping to develop our future generation with their fantastic ideas is something I'll never forget"

Mentor, Tarmac

"It's a fantastic opportunity to work with students and help bring their ideas to reality."



- 100% of mentors say they've developed new skills from S4TP training and experience on the programme
- 90% of mentors believe the Programme develops STEM, entrepreneurial and employability skills in young people
- 50% of mentors say the Programme gives their company an opportunity to attract diverse new talent

OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS



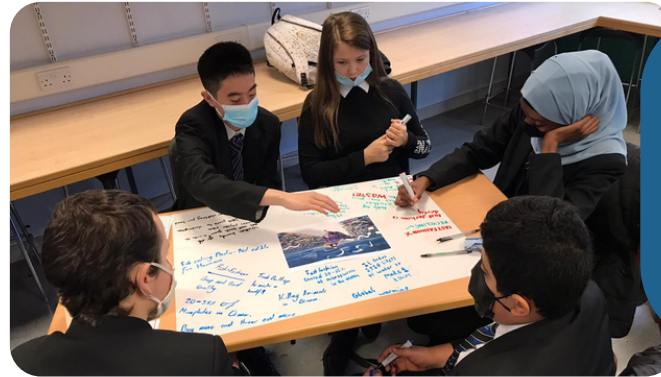
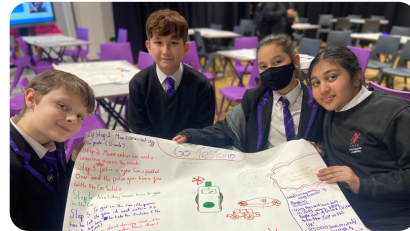
To join the journey contact Solutions for the Planet at solutionsfortheplanet.co.uk

THE BIG IDEAS PROGRAMME AND ITS IMPACT

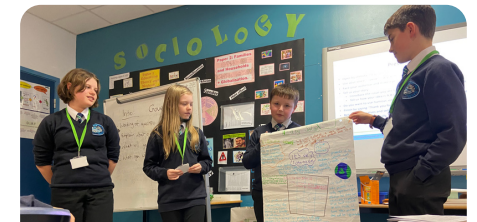
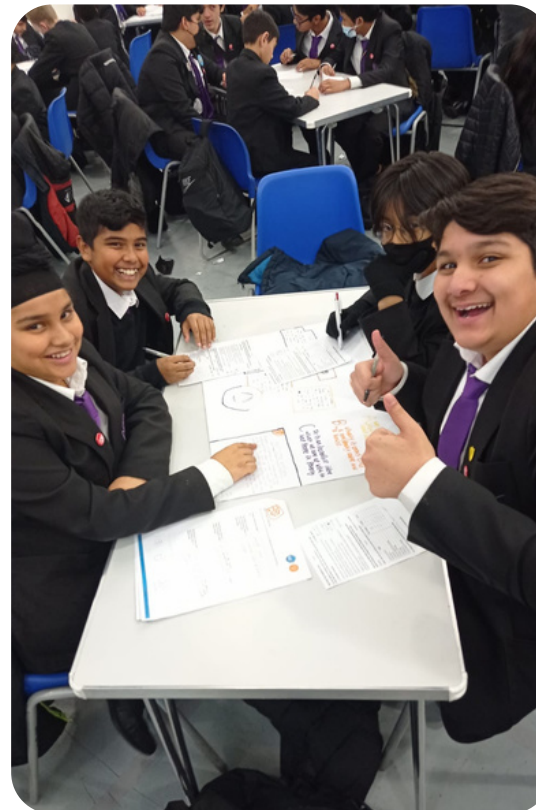
YOUNG PEOPLE



"Today at the Big Ideas Day I learned that young people can make a change"



"Today I met Solutions for the Planet and learned that STEM skills are used almost everywhere"



"I learned about the many jobs in STEM and helping the planet"

THE BIG IDEAS PROGRAMME AND ITS IMPACT

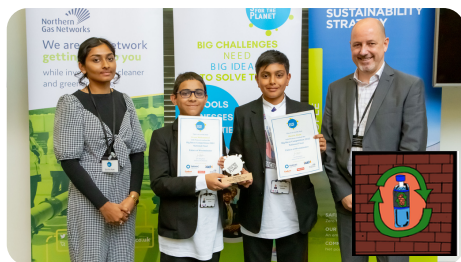
THE COMPETITION

We were delighted to be back hosting our Regional Finals live at seven universities across England and Scotland. We also returned to the Palace of Westminster in London for the National Final where we were joined by 7 MPs and 44 students. It was incredible special to be able to celebrate the achievements of the Big Ideas Teams in person again and crown our 2021 winners.

2022 WINNERS AND THEIR BIG IDEAS



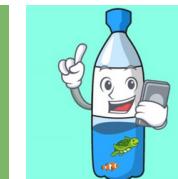
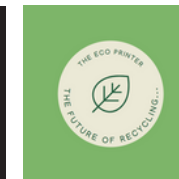
First Place went to **R.H.G** from **Heath Park School**, Wolverhampton. R.H.G recreates plant pots and vases in a planet friendly manner embedding them with plant food to encourage growth.



In second place was **Plement**, from **The Halifax Academy**, Halifax. Plement are trying to reduce our dependence on concrete by creating a new building material made from shredded plastic waste mixed with cement and gravel to create plastic concrete.



Third place went to **Charge Find**, from **Alderbrook School**, Solihull. Charge Find have developed an app which owners of an electric car can use to locate their nearest charging point, and private homes can become public charging points..



MORE 2022 BIG IDEAS...

Fashion Waste Warriors upcycle donated clothes that would otherwise go to waste as well as campaigning against textile waste by teaching skills for reducing waste.

Fire Fighting Drone have developed a drone which can not only put out wildfires, but also detect them early to reduce damage.

Litter Buddy have created a fun and interactive app and bin which teaches people about recycling to combat the rising issues of plastics in the environment.

Carbon Vac's mission is to rid the world of excess carbon dioxide using a specially designed carbon capture self-piloting helicopter, which will then feed the CO2 into greenhouses.

1Drop@aTime have developed a sustainable water purifier which filters dirty water into clean drinking water for those most in need.

J.A.G.S produces a product called JAV-1 which absorbs air and releases oxygen. JAV-1 splits the CO2 into oxygen and carbon. The oxygen is released and the carbon is buried in saline aquifers.

G.R.O.W.T.H stands for Growth, Revival, Outdoors, Wellbeing, Togetherness, and Health. A mental health organisation which focuses on nature, creativity and therapy dogs

Eco Tech have developed an Eco Printer. It is a product that will allow people to reuse paper and ink, instead of throwing it away.

Mangrove Mangrovention's Big Idea is to help rising sea levels by planting mangroves along coastal areas which absorb water, reduce carbon and feed sea life.

THE S4TP YOUTH INSIGHTS SERVICE AND ITS IMPACT

YOUTH INSIGHTS

During 2021 S4TP recruited **51 young people** from across the UK for **two youth panels**, with representations from **28 different schools**, colleges and community organisations.

Meeting virtually up to five times a year, the panels hear relevant information about the subject covered in the session from industry experts, then provide feedback and actionable ideas.

The strategies that the panels have worked on include:

- Diversity and inclusion
- Safety
- Careers and education
- Sustainability
- Future energy
- Hydrogen solutions

OUR BUSINESS PARTNER:



28
SCHOOLS,
COLLEGES & OTHER
SETTINGS

51
YOUNG
PEOPLE

2
PANELS

980
HOURS OF
ENGAGEMENT

OUR APPROACH

Mutually Beneficial

Business partners gain real, actionable inputs from young people whilst the young people will obtain a deep understanding of the operations of business.

Co-created

One of the most important parts of developing the Youth Insights panels is to build advocacy (the process of having your voice heard) among the young people and, in turn, champion their views within businesses.

Enduring

Mutually beneficial partnerships need to be sustained over time. It takes time for a young person to really understand a business. It also takes time for businesses to fully understand the potential of young people to help it drive its strategies

Accountable

Being responsive, listening, and acting upon the inputs of young people is essential. Knowing that the work is valued, builds trust and, in doing so, businesses will be giving a voice to those traditionally excluded from processes.

Knowledge Led

In order for young people to make meaningful and actionable suggestions it is imperative that they are given a good level of information in order to give informed thoughts.

CO-CREATION

Co-creation is a form of collaboration, with all participants having influence on the process and final outcome. In order for co-creation to be fruitful, there must be equivalence, reciprocity, openness and trust in the relationship between the business and young people. Co-creation is also very useful in solving complex issues and realising change.

THE S4TP YOUTH INSIGHTS SERVICE AND ITS IMPACT

HYDROGEN HOUSE VISIT

Members of Northern Gas Networks' Young Innovators Council took part in a panel discussion with industry leaders, at an event held by the Decarbonised Gas Alliance in the run up to the COP26 conference.

The panel discussion, which was held at Northern Gas Networks' (NGN) Low Thornley site, focused on the possible career opportunities which will be created as the country transitions to using cleaner energy.

The panel was made up of young people aged 15-18, alongside Tim Harwood and Melanie Taylor from NGN, BP's Stuart Walker, Ivan Jepson from Gateshead College and Chris Barron representing the Decarbonised Gas Alliance.

The panel discussed a range of topics including the new jobs that will be created through a net zero transition and how these jobs can be made appealing to young people.



"Being able to see the Hydrogen Home in person truly does give me hope that in the near future, we will tackle climate change, once and for all"

Josh, Young Innovators Council Member, Hexham

IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE

We asked Panel members: Why do you think it's important that young people have a voice through young people's panels?

"Because the decisions made will greatly impact our future, so it's important for us to be able to share our thoughts on those decisions."

"Young people are not usually heard, our ideas are pushed to the side and young people are usually not confident enough to speak up in front of older adults. Having a panel of just young people, we feel supported and as if we can share any ideas we have without being judged."

"We are the future and young people may view things differently and have different ideas that could be beneficial for the future."

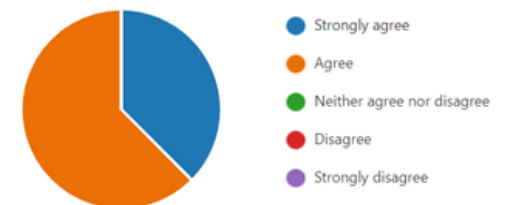
"Because it gives young people an opportunity to have an understanding of industry and how decisions are made."

On a scale of 1-10 (1 being low, 10 being high) how do you feel that the YIC is helping to develop your skills including teamwork, confidence, negotiation, communication?



8.44 Average Rating

Do you feel that you have an influence on Northern Gas Networks' key business agendas and strategies?



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021-22



Growing our tiny but mighty team



We collaborated with European partners to continue to deliver the TEDDY Project, developing ways to use digital technology for learning about sustainable development in schools



Our CEO was a finalist in the Entrepreneur for Good category at the Great British Entrepreneur of the Year Awards



In 2021 Solutions for the Planet were listed on the SE100 as named by Pioneers Post



Our CEO received the 'Above and Beyond Award' at the Future Water Awards



One of our Big Ideas 2021 National Finalist teams, JEHT, presented at IGEN's London Lion's Lair

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

- Using eco-friendly and sustainable materials and supplies throughout our operations and programmes
e.g. recycled paper for printing and Big Ideas Days posters
- Recycling e.g. ensuring any waste materials are recycled after Big Ideas Days
- Reducing our carbon emissions and vehicle emissions
- Keeping food waste to a minimum at events
- Offsetting our carbon
- Using Ecosia, a search engine that donates 80% or more of its profits to nonprofit organizations that focus on reforestation and planting trees where they are needed most.

THIS YEAR WE HAVE WORKED TOWARDS THESE GOALS IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- Continuing to deliver training virtually to minimise excessive travel
- Continuing and expanding our product partnership with BIC who supply all of our schools with samples of their Ecolutions products
- Searching 19,300 times using Ecosia, the Solutions for the Planet team contributed to planting 429 trees
- Continuing to use reusable drawstring bags made from ethically and sustainably sourced cotton for Big Ideas Day activities instead of paper envelopes
- Working from home or in other organisations' premises, significantly reducing our environmental impact in terms of travelling to work and using additional lighting, heating or materials
- Using public transport and/or car share whenever possible
- Ensuring that our home offices and events don't waste electricity and paper
- Using printers that are capable of printing double-sided and are configured to use ink-saving settings. This is a minimum standard for future purchases.

OUR COMMITMENTS FOR NEXT YEAR (2023-24) ARE TO:

- Continue to commit to the goals above.
- Continue to use Ecosia as our search engine and aim to plant at least 500 trees.





#HopeInAction



solutionsfortheplanet.co.uk



Solutions for the Planet



@S4TP_Official



@S4TP_Official



Solutions for the Planet