

Name: Mikail

Age: 16

Connection to borough: residence + schooling

My name is Mikail Jama, and I am 16 years old. I have been part of the Wandsworth Youth Council for the past year, and during this time I have grown more confident and passionate about representing young people. Being a Wandsworth Youth council member has shown me how important it is for youth voices to be taken seriously, and it has motivated me to want to do more. I want to be Youth Mayor because I genuinely care about my community and how young people feel about the issues that affect them. I am committed to listening, speaking up, and working hard to make a positive difference for young people across Wandsworth.

My key priorities:

1. **Support for all Young people** : In Wandsworth, some young people face educational disadvantages due to family circumstances, additional needs, or lack of support. To help address this I will work with Council Leaders/services and local organisations/voluntary sector groups, which offer mentoring and homework support to young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and other youth support services to connect students with mentoring and guidance. By listening to those affected and working closely with schools and community groups, we can help ensure every young person has a fair chance to succeed.
2. **Crime and anti-social behaviour** : When safety is a concern, it impacts the confidence, wellbeing, and daily life of Young people. I believe we can address this by improving communication between young people and local authorities, encouraging youth-led discussions about safety, and promoting positive opportunities that give young people a sense of belonging and purpose. By listening to young voices and supporting early intervention, we can help create a safer community for everyone.
3. **Young people's emotional and physical well being** : To help support young people we need to ensure they are feeling heard and supported. I will help raise awareness of the challenges young people face, by working closely with schools and youth organisations to promote early support, and ensuring young people's experiences are shared with decision-makers. By encouraging open conversations around wellbeing and pushing for better communication between services and young people, we can help make support more accessible and responsive.

I will work with council leaders and services to ensure young people continue to have a voice in decisions that have a direct impact on their lives. Young people are directly impacted by policies on education, safety, housing, and wellbeing, yet they are too often left out of the conversation. We deserve to be heard, respected, and taken seriously, because our ideas, experiences, and perspectives matter. When young people are given a real platform, we can help shape a stronger and more inclusive future for our community — by voting for me as your Youth Mayor, you are choosing a voice that will listen, represent, and stand up for every young person in Wandsworth.