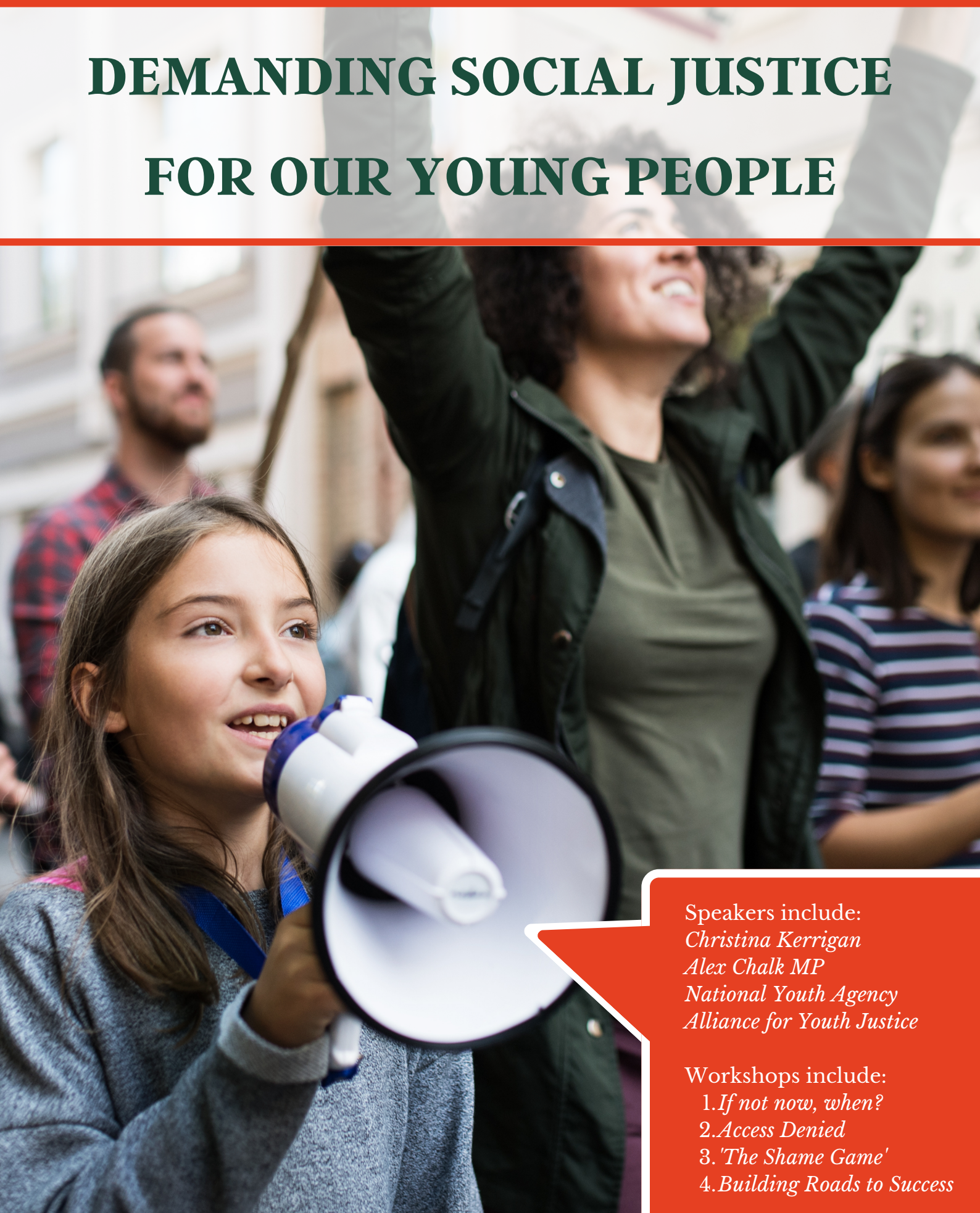




**2021 Annual Conference**

**Online: Thursday, November 18th**

# **DEMANDING SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE**



Speakers include:  
*Christina Kerrigan*  
*Alex Chalk MP*  
*National Youth Agency*  
*Alliance for Youth Justice*

Workshops include:  
1. *If not now, when?*  
2. *Access Denied*  
3. *'The Shame Game'*  
4. *Building Roads to Success*



## **Demanding Social Justice for Our Young People**

A decade of austerity and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic have led to an erosion of civil and political liberties in the UK, which has disproportionately affected Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young people. The political decisions taken in response to the pandemic, and in particular the implementation of the Coronavirus Act by the UK government, has further hampered the human rights and dignities of already marginalised communities. Without an urgent course correction from the Government these communities, including Gypsy Roma and Traveller young people, will be left behind.

The current political climate has pitted cultural and social groups against each other, diminished opportunities for young people, and short-changed priority sectors of public policy in favour of the business sector, and it the Government seems determined to ignore the growing race and class inequalities that thrive in the UK.

The Government has additionally failed to properly invest in young people and their future; whether that be their education, the employability, or their housing prospects. This particularly effects Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young people, and the underfunding of priority policy areas such education catch-up tuition programmes has further hampered a minority which is already marginalised. Backwards steps on public policy are being taken at a time when civil liberties, including the right to assemble and protest, are under threat.

The Traveller Movement's 2021 annual conference will explore these complex, interconnected issues and will consider what the future holds for GRT young people; with a particular focus on inequalities in education, gender, employment, economic inclusion, political & civic participation, and overrepresentation in the criminal justice system.

### **The conference will provide an ideal platform for information sharing, and a vital online space for discussion**

- \* Gypsy, Traveller, Roma community members
- \* Local Authority employees, planners etc
- \* Elected members
- \* Prisons and Probation staff
- \* Youth Workers
- \* Police
- \* Civil Servants
- \* Health and Community Workers
- \* Teachers
- \* Voluntary Sector Professionals
- \* Legal Professionals
- \* Statutory service providers
- \* Funders
- \* Social Services
- \* Media Professionals

# Workshops

## Workshop 1: If not now, when? Securing positive change in the criminal justice system

*Speakers: Auras Marin (Open Doors Education), Pippa Goodfellow (Alliance for Youth Justice), Louise King (Just for Kids Law), Caroline Liggins (Hodge, Jones & Allen Solicitors)*

In this workshop, we will explore the changes, problems, and upcoming reform in the youth justice system. We will continue the conversation on school exclusions and aim to understand in-depth, how the school-to-prison pipeline impacts Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller children in the youth justice system. In light of the challenges, we will consider what is on the horizon in terms of youth justice reform, how individuals and charities can push for change in an ever more carceral environment, and how these changes specifically impact Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller youth

## Workshop 3: Building the Road to Success

*Speakers: Millie Cooper/Phil Reagan (Traveller Movement), Sally Carr (National Youth Agency), Aidel Hanovitch (Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport)*

Gypsies, Roma and Travellers are the ethnic groups with both the highest rate of unemployment and highest rate of economic inactivity. Only 40% of GRT aged 16-64 were employed, compared to 71% of the wider population. (Burchardt et al., 2018). The barriers to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller youth to find sustainable education, employment, or training are complex and require immediate attention from the government and the youth sector. This workshop will introduce an ongoing piece of work into understanding how the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller sector and mainstream youth services are delivering youth provision; and explore how youth services can be tailored going forward to meet the needs of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young people

## Workshop 2: 'The Shame Game': Gender, healthy relationships and abuse in the digital environment

*Speakers: Christina Kerrigan (Traveller Movement), Faith & Communities Programme Manager at Standing Together, Nicole Jacobs (Domestic Abuse Commissioner)*

More than 1 in 2 girls have experienced online harassment (Plan International 2020). 'Image-based abuse', stalking and domestic violence are all forms of gender-based violence and perpetrators are increasingly using online tools to abuse their victims. Women and girls from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities face additional harms and barriers to support. In this workshop, we will examine the impact of these additional harms – such as 'shaming' or 'scandalising' – and the barriers to accessing much needed support. Through an exploration of digital safety, online harm and healthy relationships, we will brainstorm how to create a safer online environment for women and girls in the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities

## Workshop 4: Access Denied

*Speakers: Ben Smoke (HUCK magazine), Extinction Rebellion (XR), Black Lives Matter UK (BLM), Luke Smith (GRT Socialists)*

The Gypsy Roma Traveller youth community face significant institutional barriers that often prevent full and fulfilling participation in civic life. This workshop will explore nature of these obstacles, and how they impact upon young GRT people at the ballot box and beyond. We will assess how to promote and encourage participation in democratic life and political activism; and consider how we can build capacity in our communities to ensure all young people are empowered and equipped to advocate for positive social change

# Agenda

Please note that times, Keynote Speakers and Workshops are subject to change

**09.30 - 10.00:** Online waiting room

**10.00 - 10.05:** Welcome from the Chairperson  
(**Pauline Anderson OBE**, TM Trustee and Director of Learning Skills for Derby City Council)

**10.05 - 10.20:** Keynote Address  
TBC

**10.20 - 10.30:** Opening Remarks  
Alex Chalk MP

**10.30 - 11.40:** Panel 1: Participation: *Navigating the structural and cultural barriers for civic, social, and economic inclusion for the Gypsy Roma & Traveller communities*  
**Cat Smith MP** – Shadow Secretary of State for Young People and Democracy  
**Eleanor Harrison OBE** - Chief Executive of Impetus (**TBC**)  
**Mike Power** - Deputy CEO Involve Youth Services & Editor of Travellers' Voice  
**Millie Cooper** - Community Development Officer at the Traveller Movement

**11.40 - 11.50:** Short Break

**11.50 - 13.00:** Panel 2: *The School-to-Prison Pipeline: Assessing the role of school exclusions as an obstacle to educational attainment and as an entry point into the criminal justice system for young people in Gypsy, Roma & Traveller communities*  
**Member of Parliament** - TBC  
**Declan O'Driscoll** - Education Policy and Campaigns Officer at the Traveller Movement  
**Zahra Bei** - Secondary and Pupil Referral Unit Recovering Teacher and Founder of No More Exclusions  
**Sue McAllister** - Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

**13.00 - 13.30:** Lunch and refreshment break

**13.30 - 13.40:** Room allocation for workshops (This will be based on your workshop choices which are pre selected at time of booking)

**13.34 - 15.15:** Workshops:

**Workshop 1:** If not now, when? Securing positive change in the criminal justice system

**Workshop 2:** 'The Shame Game': Gender, healthy relationships and abuse in the digital environment

**Workshop 3:** Building the Road to Success

**Workshop 4:** Access Denied

**15.15 - 15.45:** Plenary session



## Prices

This year's conference will be held online on Zoom. The booking link for this conference will be live on our website from the 1st of September

Once payment has been received, access details for the conference will be sent out just before the **12th of November**. Please remember to [check your Spam inbox for emails](#). Places for this year's conference will only be confirmed once full payment has been received

### Band A

Statutory/Commercial organisations and Voluntary/Community/Charitable organisations with a turnover of over £500,000

**PRICE**  
**£89.00**

### Band B

Voluntary/Community/Charitable organisations with a turnover up to £500,000 including Traveller Education Services

**PRICE**  
**£59.00**

### Band C

Voluntary/Community/Charitable organisations with a turnover up to £300,000

**PRICE**  
**£45.00**

### Student

**PRICE £28.00**

**THERE IS A LIMITED NUMBER OF FREE SPACES FOR TRAVELLERS (TM MEMBERS). PLEASE EMAIL OFFICEADMIN@TRAVELLERMOVEMENT.ORG.UK OR CALL 020 7607 2002**

## **DATA PROTECTION**

TM will use the information you provide on your booking form, and additional information you may provide in the future, for administrating our conference. We will not disclose this information to any other person or organisation, except in connection with the above purpose. TM may send you invitations to future events and information on our work. Should you not wish to receive such communications, please tick here

## **BOOKING CONDITIONS SUBSTITUTIONS AND CANCELLATIONS:**

All cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations made more than 2 weeks before the event will receive a full refund minus a charge of 10% per ticket price per delegate. If cancellations are made after this time payment must be made in full. Substitutions can be made at any time without charge

## **CHANGES TO THE PROGRAMME:**

TM reserves the right to alter the programme, venue and the timing of the sessions without notice due to unforeseen circumstances.