

## Evidence Session: Music, Media and Role Models

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April  
11.00am-1.30pm  
Wilson Room, Portcullis House

Group 1: Grime, Drill and the Music Industry	
<b>Ciaran Thapar</b>	Ciaran Thapar is a youth worker and writer based in south London. He volunteers at Marcus Lipton Community Centre in Brixton and typically writes about social inequality, youth culture and issues affecting young people in London – including drill and grime.
<b>Kwame Safo</b>	Kwame Safo, more commonly known as Funk Butcher, is a DJ, music producer and record label owner with over 15 years' experience in the music industry. He runs the independent record label Houseology and has experience teaching radio, DJing and music.
<b>Ray Oudkerk</b>	Ray Oudkerk is an Assistant Principal at the BRIT School of Performing Arts and Technology. He has previously worked as an Advanced Skills Teacher, mentored dance teachers and worked with many arts companies and professional artists. Ray is also a director on the board of Rambert Dance Company and is Chair of the GCSE Dance qualification.
<b>Cameron Miller</b>	Cameron Miller, of AOP Music (an online UK rap label) promotes positive messages in grime and drill. He was previously part of the Young Lewisham Project, which offers a wide range of alternative vocational programmes to young people.
<b>Harjeet Sahota</b>	Harjeet Sahota is an adviser to the Mayor of London, covering night time economy and culture, women's safety and knife crime. She successfully lobbied to abolish 696 forms and tackles all forms of racial discrimination. Harjeet researches the role of music, media and role models in tackling youth violence with a focus on grime, U.K. rap and drill.
<b>Kwabz Ayim</b>	Kwabz Ayim works for Mixtape Madness, an online platform for UK urban music, which currently has over 400, 000 subscribers. Mixtape Madness is run by young Londoners who also deliver community engagement programmes. For example, in 2017 Mixtape Madness hosted several events aimed at young people on how to enter the technology industry.
Group 2: Media, Social Media and Role Models	
<b>Gary Young</b>	Gary Young is editor-at-large for The Guardian and author of <i>Another Day in the Death of America</i> , about US gun crime. This year he won both Feature writer of the year at the UK Press Awards and Feature of the Year at the Amnesty Media Awards for articles in Beyond the Blade, a Guardian series about knife crime in Britain.
<b>Andre Johnson</b>	Andre Johnson is an online journalist for Link UP TV. He recently released a documentary called 'On Your Block' exploring the world of UK Drill music and the artists involved, whether they saw themselves as the problem and why their music is fuelled with violent content. The documentary gained over 300,000 views on YouTube.
<b>Jasmine Dotiwala</b>	Jasmine Dotiwala is a multi-platform broadcaster who has worked within the television and music industry (including Channel 4 and MTV) for over two decades. Currently Head of Youth Media at Media Trust, Jasmine leads a team of media specialists who train young people across the UK in multi-media platform skills, after which they are then mentor matched with media specialists into full time employment.
<b>Mark Prince</b>	Mark Prince is a former professional boxer and founder of the Kiyan Prince foundation, after his fifteen-year-old son was tragically murdered in 2006. Since then, Mark has collaborated with ITV to create the documentary "Put the Knives and Guns Down" and received the Children's Champion Award from former Prime Minister Gordon Brown.
<b>Abdul Karim Abdullah</b>	Abdul-Karim Abdullah is the Pathway Coordinator for Young Lambeth Cooperative. He also is the director for Solution Focused World and sits on the London Independent Youth Safety Advisory Board.