

The Ninth Hull Young People's Parliament

17th June 2009

Report to Children and Young People

What can you do help the Environment in Hull?



The Ninth Hull Young People's Parliament



On Wednesday 17th June 2009 the Hull Young People's Parliament met for the ninth time at the Guildhall. One hundred and ninety eight children and young people from all over Hull came together to discuss what they could

do to help the environment in Hull! To date this was the biggest ever attendance for any of the Hull Young People's Parliaments, even beating the last one (Bullying when 183 children and young people attended) so, well done to those of you returning and welcome to all of you attending for the very first time!

Cllr Christine Randall (Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services) and Cllr Dave Woods (Portfolio Holder for Environmental Sustainability) started off the day by welcoming everyone and saying a few words.

We also took the opportunity to show a brilliant short film put together by some pupils from Pickering High School. This was an idea they had from the 'Bullying' Parliament to highlight some of the positive projects that young people are involved in - the film was titled '**We're not as bad as you think?**' Thanks to everyone involved in the film and for letting us show it. If anyone would like a copy please contact Hull Youth Council on 585297



The Key Question

The key question for the day was "What can **YOU** do to help the Environment in Hull"? Everyone then broke away into workshops to discuss the many issues associated with the environment, and the impact these have in Hull and the wider world we live in.

Workshops

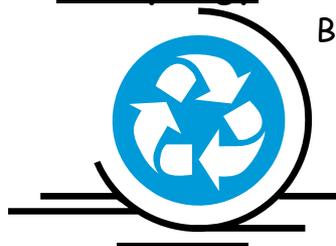


Again we made the workshops appropriate to the different age groups who attend the Hull Young People's Parliament, keeping all primary school pupils together and 'older' young people together also. In total there were 18 workshops all asking the same question. We even had 'Experts' from

many different organisations in Hull who deal with environmental issues such as recycling, wildlife, green spaces, climate change and composting! These people were there to help you out during your workshop discussions, just in case you had any questions you wanted to ask or any information you needed to know to help you make decisions when putting your resolutions and local action points together.

Lots and lots of really good discussions took place within your workshops, looking at the many aspects of the environment and climate change that affect us all. You can read about these further on in the report along with all the great ideas and suggestions you came up with that we could try and achieve to help save more energy, resources and our planet.

An Apology



Before we look at the resolutions and voting, everyone involved with organising the Hull Young People's Parliament would like to say sorry for not doing more to recycle at this Parliament (Environment). Throughout the day many children, young people and teachers pointed out that whilst we were trying to encourage you all to do more recycling within your schools and communities we were not doing any ourselves! This was especially clear over lunchtime when all the paper, plastic and fruit peelings were all just thrown into the same black bin liners! This wasn't a good example to show and we apologise for this. We have been talking to the people at The Guildhall and we can assure you all that at future Hull Young People's Parliaments we will do everything we possibly can to recycle all our waste. We might not get it perfect but, we will be doing our best to make it better.

Resolutions and Voting (Older Young People)



As always we are trying to find ways to make life smoother for everyone who attends the Hull Young People's Parliament, especially within the Council Chamber when debating the resolutions. We have had to look at how we managed the number of resolutions debated during this Parliament and what was the best

way of being fair to everyone and making sure all resolutions were heard!! So, what we did this time was to ask you all to prioritise your resolutions in terms of importance. This way everyone got to hear and debate at least their first choice resolution. We also introduced a time limit which may not have been ideal but was the fairest way of making sure you all had exactly the same amount of time for discussion and voting. Until we find a better alternative way of managing or cutting the number of resolutions brought into the Council Chamber we will have to continue with this way of doing the resolutions.

As mentioned above we had two separate resolution sittings within the Council Chamber - the first sitting was for the older young people and after lunch in went the younger ages. The older young people put together and successfully passed the following twelve resolutions;

- **To have a public graffiti area to cut down on graffiti in parks etc.**
- **A National Spring Cleaning Day for Hull.**
- **More recycling/recycling bins in and around Hull.**
- **To be paid for cans, glass bottles, tins etc when you collect a sackful and hand it in.**
- **To make schools more involved in tree planting programme, plant a tree day, vegetable day, allotments.**
- **To create more awareness for younger generations.**

- We have heard that Queens Gardens is being modernised and that trees will be cut down. We don't want this to happen as trees provide us with oxygen and, especially with the City Centre being so busy, we need it to be as clean as possible.
- For the drain that goes through Hull (Barmston) to be cleaned and for people to be punished more if they dump furniture etc in it.
- Less packaging at Supermarkets (send a letter)
- Citywide parkour for free runners
- After the European election of the BNP into Yorkshire & the Humber, the Warren and CHYP (Coalition of Hulls Young People) would like to reaffirm HYPP position against fascism and racism within our community.
- More Security/Community Wardens, i.e. in parks, streets, around schools.

Resolutions and voting (Primary Schools and younger ages)



The younger age group had to wait until after lunch before they went in to the Council Chamber. It was a long morning for you all which was why we broke it up by inviting Scrapstore who kindly brought lots of 'junk' that suddenly turned into weird, wacky and wonderful contraptions that

wouldn't be seen out of place on Dragon's Den!!! Have a look at the six resolutions you passed below;

- A poster/leaflet campaign *'If it's not far, don't use the car'*. A competition for the best designed poster - uploaded on the Clued Up website.
- To make the Council recognise businesses who recycle, a bit like 'Scores on the Doors'.

- Graffiti Walls in parks and around Hull.
- Organise a big clean up in Hull.
- To give more control to groups/people over stopping littering, e.g. more power for the Wardens to give fines. If young people drop their litter, to make up for the fine they should do community service or for every bag of litter a young person collects, a new bin gets put in.
- Collecting scrap metal to go towards making a wind turbine.

What happens now?



In total that means that there were 18 resolutions successfully passed from both Council Chamber sittings so, well done to each and every one of you.

What will happen now is that the resolutions will be passed over to local decision makers from The Children's Trust Board to be

acted on. Some of you (those who wanted to), may be contacted to see if you want to be more involved in campaigning for them but, if not, hopefully we will be able to feed back to you and give you an update on their progress sometime in the near future. Some of the resolutions can take a little longer than others to be sorted out but, don't worry, we haven't forgotten about them!

If you ever wondered what happens to the resolutions that don't get passed, well unfortunately not much! Democracy means that you are able to listen to each one being debated and after this only you can decide whether to vote for or against! However, if a group still feels strongly that they want to do something with their 'failed' resolution then that is up to them - we at Hull Youth Council will still support you to do this if we can - just give us a call on 585297.

Local Action Points



As well as the resolutions, Local Action Points were also put together by many of you. These are usually small manageable ideas that can be done quite quickly with your friends, at school, or at your local youth facility. There have been some brilliant ones from previous Parliaments and this

Parliament didn't disappoint either! In total you came up with 28 Local Action Points - these were:

- **Frederick Holmes School** - To write a letter to the Hooper Building explaining that even though we think it's great that they have a 'changing place' to meet our needs, we found it very small. There wasn't much space at all for the wheelchair and the mobile hoist. Perhaps you could have a ceiling hoist to save space?
- **Wyke College** - Make the Parliament more environmentally friendly through using less packaging for lunch, not having separate bags for dinner, having milk jugs, sending emails to members instead of letters and recycling as much waste as possible.
- **Ganton School** - Special garden for pupils to look after and grow vegetables, flowers, fruit trees.
- **Maybury Primary School** - More control over littering in schools. Make the environment more fun by doing a school project day.
- **Holy Name Primary and Maybury Primary Schools** - To set up an incentive scheme at the two schools, e.g. energy saving (building improvements), recycling (money), littering (for every bag of litter a young person collects, a new bin gets put in).
- **Thoresby Primary School** - Solar panels. Rainwater butts. Plants to encourage wildlife.
- **Sutton Park Primary School** - Solar panels. Dog poo bins and cleaner drains.
- **Gillshill Primary School** - Recycling bins on street.
- **Ainthorpe Primary School** - Vegetable garden. Start up the environment club again.
- **Stepney Primary School** - Create a wildlife garden.

- **Westcott Primary School** - Water butts for our gardening club running from drain pipes. Bike shed so you can bike to school.
- **Rascal Project** - Making sure no litter is dropped on walking bus/ trips out to park etc. Picking up litter dropped by Rascals members.
- **Bricknell Primary School** - Recycle more and sell vegetables at the Summer Fair.
- **St Mary Queen of Martyrs Primary School** - Composting bins for lunchtime waste. We have bins on the corridor but we would like smaller boxes or bins in the classrooms to put waste paper in. Then a monitor to go around the classrooms to collect the paper and put it in the blue bins.
- **St James C of E Primary School** - Encourage more children to walk/cycle to school.
- **Bude Park Primary School** - Bird boxes and also a letter to McDonalds about rubbish in outdoor classroom/wildlife area.
- **St Nicholas Primary School** - Encourage more wildlife - make bird boxes, create pond for frogs, toads etc.
- **Southcoates Primary School** - More recycling bins.
- **Francis Askew Primary School** - Youth club, a fun centre and different activities for kids.
- **St George's and Pearson Park Primary Schools** - . Walking Bus - everyone in the school walks to school for 1 week (National Walk to School Day).
- **Cavendish Primary School** - Recycle more.
- **Wheeler Primary School** - To put a recycling bin in the hall for lunchtime waste (bottles, cardboard, compost).
- **Hessle Road Network** - Build compost bins.
- **Endeavour, David Lister and Wilberforce** - Hull City Council to promote healthy eating and use less packaging.
- **Newland School for Girls** - Queen Elizabeth Park - Get Park cleaned up so we don't go on grass near houses. More stuff for 13+ age group. Clean drain (Barmston).
Wymersley Park - A 13+ play area and more community activities at the park.
- **Wyke Youth Forum** - Plant a Tree Day in Wyke.
We would like to clean up Barmston Drain near Sculcoates.
- **Sydney Smith School** - We want the Parliament to ask the Council what is happening with Boothferry Park and to get them to agree to make it safe. If money is available, make it into a park.

- **Bridges (Hull)** - North Bransholme - Use green areas which have been wasteland, 5-a-side pitches. Dog poo bins needed.

Someone from Hull Youth Council will be in contact very soon to help you get started with all your Local Action Points. So, don't worry, we haven't forgotten about you!

Young People's Involvement



As you know we are always listening to what you tell us and think about the Hull Young People's Parliament, especially when you give us ideas about how we can make it better for everyone. As it is rightly called Hull Young People's Parliament we are

constantly looking at ways to get you and other children and young people more involved in the running of it.

Already we have had children and young people involved in co-facilitating some of the workshops and helping to 'chair' the Council Chamber resolution sessions. Don't forget that if you really want to help out on the day just let us know at Hull Youth Council on 585297. It isn't easy to stand up in front of hundreds of people or facilitate a workshop but don't worry, we will help you along the way - just give us a call if it's something you would really like to have a go at. Remember, it's your Parliament and your day!!

Thank You

A BIG thank you to the many people who helped to make the Ninth Hull Young People's Parliament such a fantastic day. Especially, to all the one hundred and ninety eight children and young people who turned up. Furthermore, a big thanks also to the facilitators and 'experts' who helped out in delivering the workshops. A special mention also to the catering staff at the Guildhall for all their hard work, the photographer Kevin Ladden, Brian for controlling the microphones in the Council Chamber, the compere Craig Clark, the pupils from Pickering High School

for letting us show their film and, as always - all our partner organisations and friends who we continue to rely on, guest speakers, funders and anyone else who helped out along the way

A date for your diary



The next Hull Young People's Parliament will be held on **Tuesday 20th October 2009** at The Guildhall and the issue that we will be looking at (as voted by you) will be **Education**. So, put that date in your diaries and start thinking about how education within Hull

affects or has affected you etc.... Please start chatting with your friends at school, college or at your local youth facility about what worries or concerns you have about education in Hull and what needs to be done to help make things better for everyone living here!

After the Education Parliament it will be 2010! By this time we will probably need to take a step back and look at all your resolutions to date and remind ourselves what they were and what progress has been made.

In the meantime, if you would like more information about the Hull Young People's Parliament, copies of previous reports or about how to become involved or to register your school, college or youth group - please contact Hull Youth Council on (01482) 585297 or e-mail us at hullyouthcouncil@hullcc.gov.uk You can also find out about us or information about our other partner organisations at www.cluedupinhull.co.uk

See You All Soon!

What you said in the workshops!



As mentioned earlier there were 18 workshops in total that you all attended asking the same question - "What can you do to help the environment in Hull"?

As usual, the workshops gave you all the opportunity to ask questions, find out some facts and have the chance to take part in some really good and lively discussions. Have a look below and find out what was said:

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT IN HULL?

- Less littering - recycle more.
- Don't use cars as much - walk more, more cycle lanes/paths, car sharing, electric cars, mini-motos, quad bikes.
- Make bikes cheaper so more people will buy them.
- Do not burn things - no pollution.
- Make more nature reserves so the bees will stay. Without bees the plants will die.
- Flower beds - get rid of waste land.
- Use energy efficient items and sell them cheaply.
- Put food waste in compost bins.
- Use both sides of the paper.
- Turn off lights/computers/sockets off when not in use - don't leave TVs on standby.
- Let natural light into the room - don't put lights on in the middle of the day.
- Have more wind turbines/wind farms.
- By rechargeable batteries.
- When you brush your teeth turn the tap off.
- Have more flower beds, trees and community gardens.
- Plant more trees/don't cut as many trees down.
- Use more bags for life take your own bags to the shops.
- More recycling/rubbish bins - colourful bins and design needs to show what the bins collects, e.g. cans, bottles, paper etc. Shape of bin could be what it collects, i.e. if cans, in shape of can.
- Mini/pocket parks for young people.
- Mini allotments in schools.
- Greenhouses - made out of recycled plastic bottles.
- Recycling boxes in every classroom.

- Compost bins.
- Growing vegetables.
- Don't destroy animals' habitats.
- Stop leaving mess on the floor.
- Stop killing wildlife for their fur.
- Stop messing around on motorbikes on wildlife parks.
- Don't drop cigarette ends.
- Stop throwing stones at wildlife.
- Take clothes and other things you don't want to a charity shop instead of throwing them in the bin.
- Recycle paper, bottles and cardboard - reuse them or make things out of them.
- Have more bins so we don't have litter on the floor etc.
- More parks for teenagers so they don't hang around on the streets.
- Reusable bags should be free.
- Free service to collect recycled things/lorry to collect rubbish from people who can't get to the recycling centres.
- Use electric trains.
- More football pitches so kids don't have to play down their street and disturb their neighbours.
- Build graffiti walls so we don't have parks with graffiti on.
- More places for wildlife to live so they don't die.
- Less bottled water - reuse the bottle.
- Buy local products so the food/water/objects you are buying haven't come long distances and wasted fuel.
- Own you own chickens.
- More energy saving light bulbs on the market.
- More varied diet so less cows/pigs/sheep are eaten and the Co2 emissions created by cows when they release gas is reduced.
- More solar energy/solar panels on roofs.
- Less fossil fuels.
- Better drains.
- More places to play.
- More signs to tell people to recycle.
- More leaflets sent out.
- More sandbags so you're prepared for flooding.
- Get dog walkers to clean up dog mess/more dog poo bins.
- Make buses cleaner so more people will use them.
- More play areas so people are not staying indoors playing computers/watching TV - using electricity.
- Good education about the environment/recycling.

- Free water machines on the streets.
- National Spring Cleaning Day.
- More wind power on top of buildings.
- More street cleaners because we need more jobs - part-time jobs for young people.
- More encouragement for car sharing to get to school/work.
- Money for recycling cans, plastic bottles etc - this will make more people want to recycle.
- Not enough bins on streets - need small recycle bins along street so all rubbish is recycled.
- Environmental vacuum cleaners with rechargeable/solar powered batteries.
- Schools/colleges to raise awareness of the use of recycle bins.
- Use waste food for energy in Hull.
- Blue bins for paper are too big, black recycling box too small - so swap bin sizes.
- Small community recycling sites for people without cars/transport.
- More insulation/double glazing.
-

RE-USE

- Plastic bags.
- Clothes.
- Bags for life.
- Games.
- Consoles.
- Compost.
- Paper.
- Books.
- Tins.
- Boxes.
- Phones.
- Water (garden).
- CDs/DVDs.
- Shoes.
- Vegetables (compost).
- Board games.
- Pots and pans.
- Bric-a-brac.
- Ornaments.

- Furniture.

REDUCE

- Turn lights off.
- Walk/bike to school.
- Compost.
- Lower thermostat/heating.
- Save energy.
- Water used in bath/shower.

RECYCLE

- Paper.
- Cardboard.
- Cans.
- Bottles.
- Plastic bags.
- Batteries.
- Tyres.
- Plastic.
- Green waste.
- Food waste.
- Phones.

We have to destroy parts of the environment to live so:

- Replant trees when we cut a tree down for human use.
- Slow down the destruction.
- More green belt areas to stop more houses being built.
- More flats in Hull so not as many big houses being built.
- Use solar power.

Evaluation: What you thought of the day!

Young People: 64 forms completed

Have you enjoyed the day?

No	0
It was okay	23

What have/haven't you enjoyed?**Enjoyed**

- Council Chamber - Resolutions/Voting/Debating x 22.
- Scrapstore x 12.
- The food/lunch x 6.
- Sharing my views/ideas/having my say x 3.
- Everything x 3.
- I loved speaking with a microphone and sharing my ideas x 2.
- I enjoyed the conversations x 2.
- The free stuff x 2.
- The resolution session was the funniest part of the day.
- The workshops.
- Designing the bottles.
- The general approach was great but the lack of time was detrimental to enjoyment.
- I had fun and learnt a lot.
- It was cool.
- Parliament still provides an important voice.
- Missing school.
- Being part of changes in the community and knowing my ideas were counted.
- Getting a recycled bag.
- Working with different people.
- Organisation was better than last time - there was more time for resolutions.
- It was better than all of the previous Parliaments.

Not enjoyed

- The Council Chamber x 5.
- Our video getting shown x 2.
- Sitting down all the time x 2.
- Disagreed with some of the people who were chosen to come.
- The lack of respect that young people have towards each other.
- It wasn't very organised.
- Pretty boring during 'Your Choice' but otherwise it was okay.
- Not enough debating time.
- Too many small children, especially 'bad' ones.

- The young person's comment 'I'm not a black person, I'm more of a people's person'.
- In our group we had 3 people who messed about and spoilt it for the others.
- Not made aware of what food we could have and it wasn't that healthy.
- The food.

Have you learned anything today?

No	16
Yes	47

What have you learned today?

- Different things about the environment x 7.
- What things can/can't be recycled x 6.
- About MP's/politics x 5.
- To think about how you recycle x 3.
- To say what you think/speak your mind x 3.
- That we need to do more for the environment x 2.
- That people have different opinions/views x 2.
- Ways to help the environment x 2.
- I didn't really learn anything as I already knew how to debate things x 2.
- How to debate things x 2.
- That different people are affected by different things in the environment.
- Brian is awesome!
- To save money by re-using bags.
- That it takes 17 trees to make one paper.
- If you recycle the world will be a better place.
- Different countries and their cleanliness.
- Hull has the most cycle lanes for a City of its size.
- Environments are being destroyed more than I thought.
- That cigarettes take a long time to decompose.
- The environment is in danger.
- That recycling is easy.
- Working with different people.
- That people actually care about the environment.
- About tidal energy in the Humber and 'Sea Snake'.
- Many people's attitudes are weak, as are their morals and values.

- That it is funny to disagree because everyone has a go at you.
- That bees are going to be extinct.
- That if you recycle 10 bottles you can power a light bulb for about an hour.
- That this is 'our' Guildhall.

Is there anything you would like to see changed at the next Young People's Parliament?

- No x 17.
- More fun/interactive activities x 9.
- Better food x 6.
- More time for discussion/debate in Council Chamber x 5.
- Make it more enjoyable for everyone, even the older ones x 4.
- Not sitting down all the time x 3.
- Sexism x 2.
- More free stuff x 2.
- Separate days for the Primary and Secondary Schools.
- Numbered seats/cards in the Council Chamber.
- Parliament needs to be more environmentally-friendly.
- More constraints on misbehaviour at the Parliament.
- More older young people - it was better than last time but need more older young people.
- I would like it to be more organised.
- More fruit.
- Timings and make it shorter.
- Less messing around watching pointless videos and shouting 'Brian' and doing Mexican waves - it's moronic.
- Less boring in Council Chamber.
- Time limits abandoned.
- Do Parliament on drugs and how to stop.
- Split groups by age.
- Choose your groups.
- Timings and make it shorter.
- Be more accommodating to wheelchair users.
- People being excluded because of their appearance.

Adults: 16 forms completed

Have you enjoyed the day?

No

2

It was okay	6
Yes	8

What have/haven't you enjoyed?

Enjoyed

- The chance for discussion in the teacher workshop.
- The Scrapstore workshop x 3.
- I really enjoyed the resolutions in the Council Chamber.
- A very well organised day and lovely to see so many young people taking an active role.
- I enjoyed watching the older students working with Scrapstore.
- Enjoyed the lively debate.
- I enjoyed seeing the children engaged and interested in the topic.
- The chance for the children to have their say on environmental issues.
- Good interaction with the children. Much better since you have split younger/older groups.
- Discussions.
- Meal.
- Coffee.
- Resolutions.
- I enjoyed seeing the children coming up with well thought out ideas.

Not enjoyed

- It wasn't what I thought. I prepared my question in advance but not needed.
- The hypocriticalness of the organisers - who day talking about recycling etc and dinner time rubbish was all thrown into one bag. Could at the very least have got the kids to separate rubbish into different bins. Bizarre. Would have been perfect way for kids to put into practice what they have been preached to about all morning.
- Not being told where we're supposed to go or knowing who is running the conference.
- Hypocritical subject - recycling etc yet everyone in bin, e.g. at lunchtime.
- I haven't enjoyed having to throw all mine (and the pupils) recyclable rubbish from lunch in the bin - very hypocritical at an environment forum.
- Far too many people - I really feel you should have a day for Primary and another for older pupils.
- Lack of organisation.

- Too many older students/people at the workshop behaving in a juvenile way - this put Secondary pupils off.
- The way the lunchtime was organised. Not enough seating at lunchtime.

Could we do anything to make it better next time?

No	5
Yes	11

What could we do?

- Make better provision for wheelchair users, e.g. leave spaces for wheelchair users in Reception Room to avoid everyone moving chairs at last minute.
- Make it more obvious who event staff are.
- Include more visual props in workshops - not just talking about stuff.
- Better organisation.
- More workshops.
- A break.
- Drinks available all the time.
- Recycle paper bags, tetra packs and organic waste from lunch bags. Get kids to separate rubbish into different bins for recycling.
- The morning session for secondary pupils was chaotic - not organisation. Much better in past when pupils signed up to a talk.
- All Secondary pupils together.
- Youth Parliament should not include students over the age of 16 - have a separate event for over 16's. 19-25 are not 'young people'.
- Should have been more organised activities in the afternoon. Refer back to the Seventh Parliament which was interesting/informative. There should have been opportunities for participants to work on, e.g. endangered species, cities (pollution, overcrowding etc), new forms of power, town and city planning, jungles (environments etc).
- This could have been so much more informative and interesting and given all participants the opportunity to learn more and think more about the environment, whether it be school, city/country or the world.
- The afternoon was a waste of time for many students.
- More presentations from individuals, especially in the afternoon to keep up the concentration. Possibly??
- Food was a little dry x 2

- Provide better lunches (sandwiches are dry). It's very busy over lunch - maybe staff/adults supervising could serve lunch.
- I would like to 'helpers' to service the children at the tables so that it would seem to be that bit more civil and not so chaotic. Everybody should be seated too.
- It was great - thanks to all. Congratulations.

Is there anything you would like to say about the next Hull Young People's Parliament?

- Have Primary and Secondary pupils on separate days. Age gap is too wide.
- Too many people.
- Not enough time.
- At time it appeared organised chaos.
- Looking forward to seeing what next topic is - if we get feedback from success of this one, if kids' ideas have been put into motion.
- Why is it organised by 'adults' and not young people.
- No explanation of fire drill etc.
- Too many resolutions to pass and discuss - should be restricted to a few only.
- The afternoon session should contain organised activities.
- The best Parliament I visited as a teacher was the Seventh Parliament where there were guest speakers in the morning and resolutions to be voted on in the afternoon.
- Definitely separate the Primaries from the Secondaries.
- Make it more interesting.
- Looking forward to it. Future suggestion for topic could be traffic - too much and too fast, particularly around schools and parks. Too many accidents.
- It was my first visit - looking forward to the next one.
- Great - keep up the good work.
- The children love it, keep it up.
- Because of increased numbers attending there wasn't enough seats in Banqueting Hall.
- Have it a bit more organised for the amount of children and adults coming to this event - should be accommodating.
- Keep it up.