**10am: John Harris and Nikki Bedi introduce the day.**

**Hello and Welcome:**

Welcome to Substance Future Forum: a creative enquiry into the culture, creativity and future of the North.

John: I’m from the North.

Nikki: I’m not from the North.

Introduce yourselves.

You should have in your bags or in your hands a schedule of the day - if you haven’t picked one up you can grab one after this just next door at the registration table for Humber Street Gallery.

As you might notice today does not happen in one place.

The map and street signs should be able to guide you to each of your sessions.

Most of it sits on Humber Street, where you are now. Lunch, however, will take place across the main road at Hull Minster (point right).

As you will also notice the sessions do not happen at the same time – some rooms are also bigger than others with C4DI Theatre being the smallest, seating just 50 – whilst the other spaces hold pretty much all of you.

People are here for different reasons and some sessions will appeal to some much more than others.

If you have any queries throughout the day do ask one of the very friendly volunteers who are so illuminous you can’t miss them. They will either answer your question, or find someone who might be able to.

Your Substance Future Forum Hub will be next door at Humber Street Gallery where staff will be throughout the day if you need further information about anything.

We also have coffee points situated along Humber Street. One at Nibble, another at Thieving Harry’s and another at Humber Street Gallery. If you show your Substance pass you will receive a cup of coffee or tea.

You’ll also see a campaign shop on there presented by Hack & Host that you can visit throughout the day.

Sessions are presented from a whole range of partners such as Guardian Live, BBC Academy, British Council, Hack & Host – who have all come up some meaty and excellent discussions. The panellists come from the north, the entire country and overseas. This is a conversation about the culture, creativity and the future of the north – you do not have to be northern to have an opinion.