

THE VAPE EPIDEMIC

DYNAMIC EARTH - THE PLASTIC WASTE EXHIBITION

Brief

To create a design proposal and vision for a temporary exhibition about plastic waste. The exhibition is to contain new knowledge, uphold relevance, trigger curiosity and ignite a change for contemporary audiences.

My design is focused on disposable vapes. Disposable vapes are easily accessible and come in a variety of child friendly packaging, colours and flavours.

Peoples first and main concern around vapes is the health effects, and with vapes fast becoming an epidemic amongst children this is a valid worry as nicotine can harm adolescents developing brain. However little of the consumers think about the plastic and materials in these single use products, estimated 5 million vapes are dumped in the UK every week. These vapes are littered into landfill, causing risk of fires and harmful chemicals e.g. battery acid, lithium and nicotine leaking into the environment.



Disposable Vape Epidemic

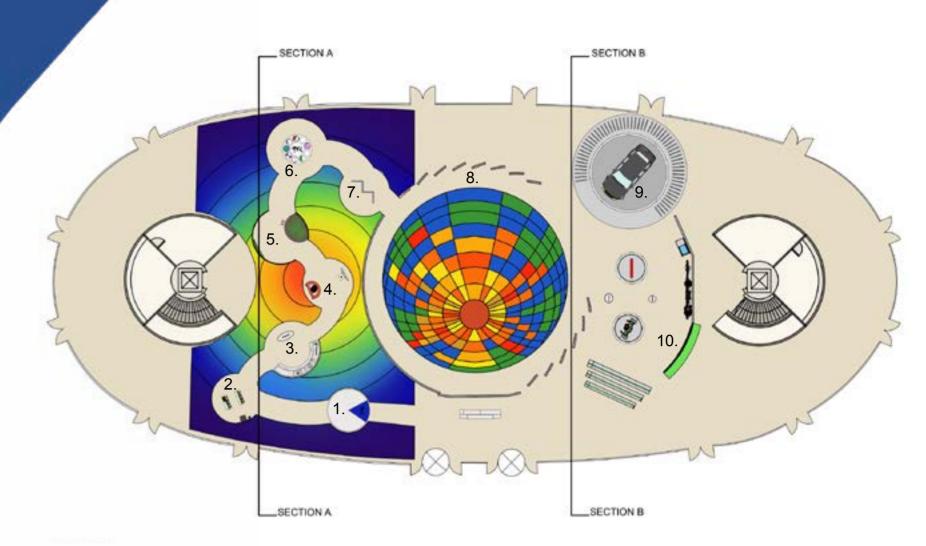
In my design I want to highlight to people the sheer amount of plastic and electronic waste that is produced from E-cigarettes, every week 5 MILLION vapes are consumed and dumped in the UK alone. Vapes are not only a harm to your health but also our environment, I want to educate the public on the effects vapes have on our bodies and our world through a display of 5 million vapes and related artefacts.

The exhibition will spread awareness to all age groups and nationalities as vapes and plastic waste is a nation-wide problem.

Vapes are composed of plastic, copper, lithium and rubber along with Nicotine, propylene and carcinogens. I want the public to know how Lithium is a critical material which is in high demand, and by recycling your vapes properly the 5 MILLION vapes could be recycled into 5000 Electric car battery's.



Plan-



- 1. Infrared vape entrance
- 2. Vape problem on youth and com- 7. What happens when you don't munity's
- 3. Vape break down
- 4. Health effects

3.

- Environment effects
- 6. Lithium source
- recycle vapes
- 8. The Big Bang Globe
- 9. Electric cars
- 10. Vape recycling point

INFRARED ROOM PODS-



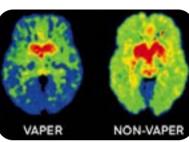
5,000,000 vapes disposed of per week is equivalent to eight per second. Only 17% of vapers recycle their vapes in correct recycling bins. 1% dispose of them by flushing them down the toilet.



Since 2021 a rise in 11-18-year-old vaping (7.6%) has been greater than those smoking (3.6%). Councils reporting of excessive vape pollution and risk for public with second hand smoke.

Vapes are composed of plastic, copper, lithium and rubber along with Nicotine (highly addictive), propylene glycol (used in antifreeze, paint solvent, smoke machines) and Carcinogens (known to cause cancer).





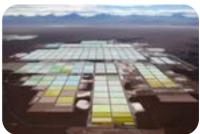
Vaping exposes your gums to both nicotine and hot, drying vapour, this puts you at higher risk of gum disease. Nicotine alters the function of the brain, it imbalances the neurotransmitter activity in the body and affects your muscle movement, increases heart rate and breathing problems and makes it difficult for you to concentrate.





Globally, around 1.9 million tonnes of CO2 is released in the production of disposable vapes, or 0.3% of the Amazons Rainforests annual capacity for absorbing carbon emissions.



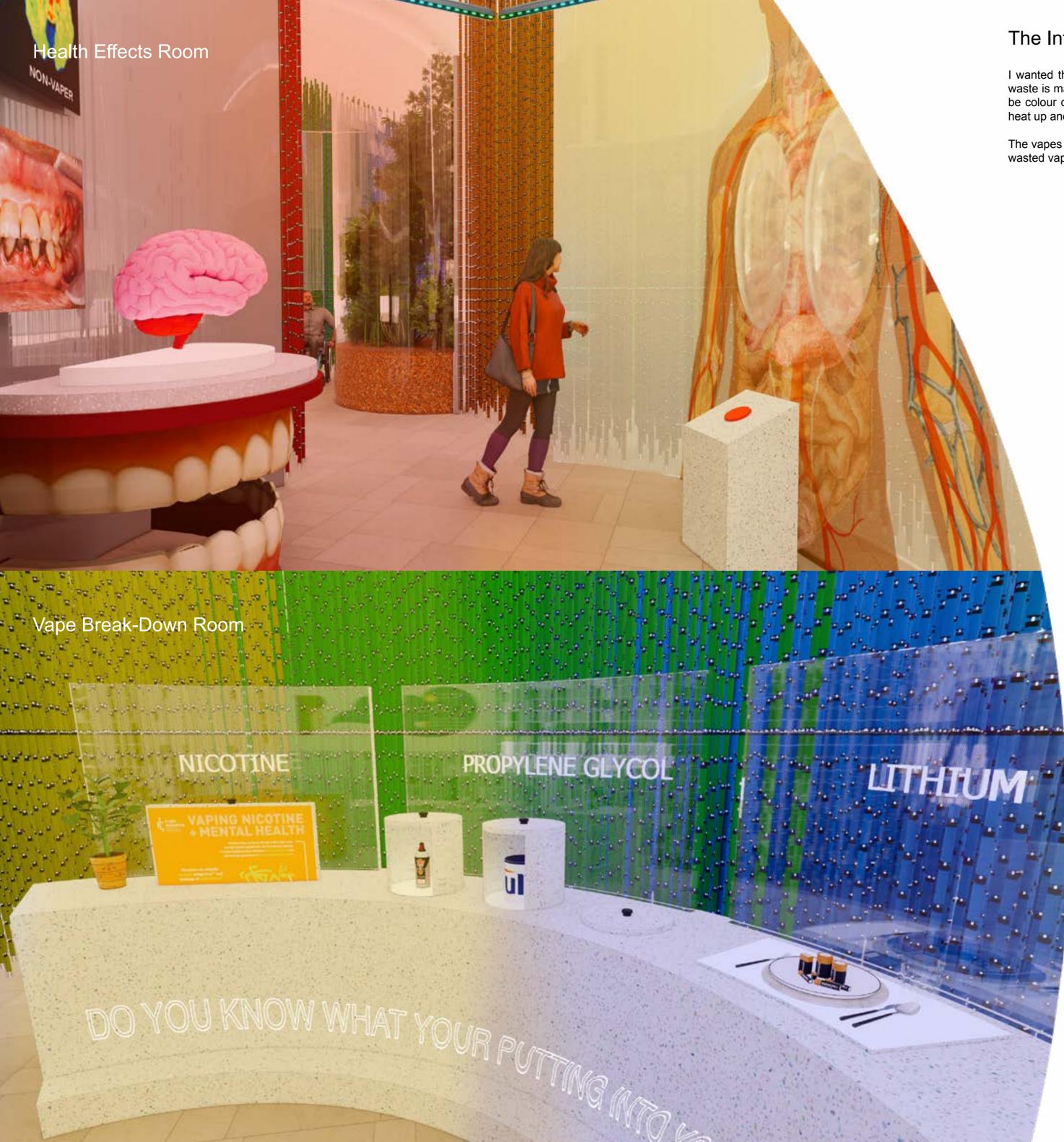


Lithium extraction requires 2.2 million litres of water to produce 1 tonne of lithium. Lithium mining disrupts wildlife habitats and cause soil erosion, leading to Long-term ecological damage. Efforts are being made to mine more sustainably with renewable energy.





Lithium and oil mining are both bad for the environment, however the lifespan of lithium and being able to be reused makes is a better alternative to fossil fuels. Mining practices are in the process to improve but we need to make sure we reuse this scarce material and not add to the environments damage.



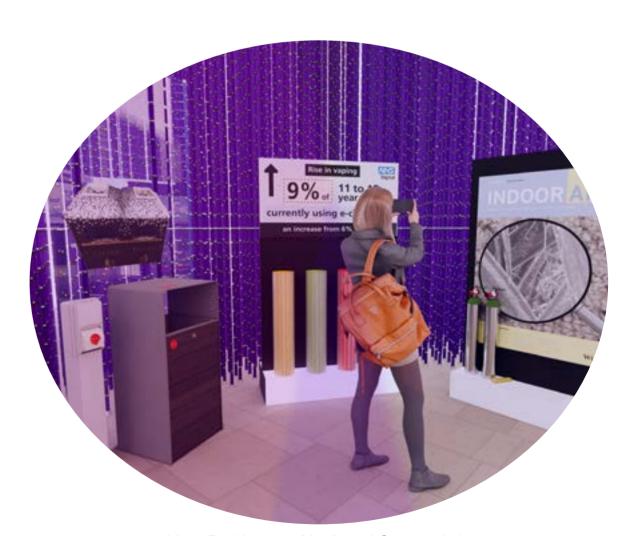
The Infrared Rooms I wanted the main focus of the design to show how much plastic and electronic

I wanted the main focus of the design to show how much plastic and electronic waste is made each week. My design will use 5 million vapes for the structure and be colour coded in a infrared like display to represent how unrecycled vapes can heat up and cause fires in waste bin lorries and waste treatment facilities.

The vapes will hang down creating a curtain of colour and surround you in a sea of wasted vapes and highlight the sheer volume of waste from each week alone.

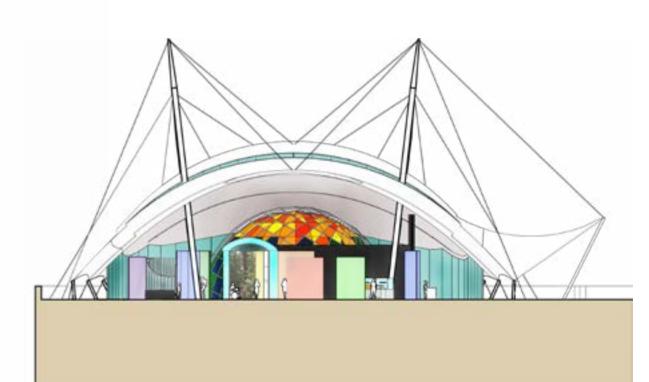


Vape Break Down Room



Vape Problems on Youth and Community's



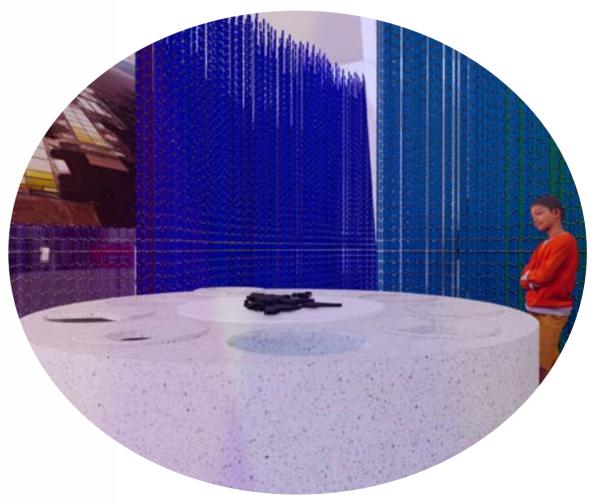


The Big Bang Globe

Section AA-

The Big Bang Globe is made up of used vapes, the globe will glow and flash like how a vape does when it has run out. The globe slowly turns into orange and red vapes to represent fire and a smoke machine will be used for added effect.

This highlights how our world is being damaged by us and installs fear into the viewers before going through into the electric car show, which will restore hope in the fact that its not too late to change our fate.



Lithium Source

