



County Youth Commissioner

Application Pack

scouts.org.uk/join
#SkillsForLife



Contents

Thank You	3
Our Strategy	4
Personal Specification	4
Qualities Required	4
Benefits to You	4
What to Expect	5
Further Information	5
FAQs	6
Contact Us	6

Thank You

Thank you for your interest in the role of County Youth Commissioner.

Hopefully after reading this pack you will understand the role of County Youth Commissioner and the work involved with the role.

Since the appointment of West Lancs's first County Youth Commissioner, the County has worked towards achieving Vision 2018 and our Skills for Life strategy which also has Youth Shaped Scouting at its heart. We are proud to have appointed the first County Youth Commissioner for the UK in 2015, held three very successful West Lancs Shape events and introduced Mission Possible; our opportunity to highlight the Young Leader Missions and the support available for Young Leaders.

Youth Shaped Scouting has been a large part of The Scout Association's Skills for Life strategy which aims to have a movement that is shaped by young people in partnership with adults. Therefore, as County Youth Commissioner you will work towards making sure that Youth Shaped Scouting is implemented at every level throughout the County with the aim of ensuring that every young person has the opportunity to shape their Scouting adventure and learn valuable skills for life.

We are now looking to recruit our next County Youth Commissioner so if you would like to discuss the role further please contact Becca Webster, County Youth Commissioner at Becca.Webster@westlancsscouts.org.uk or Craig Dewar-Willox, County Commissioner at craig.dewar@westlancsscouts.org.uk



Our Strategy

Our new strategy; Skills for Life lays out a plan for the next five years to 2023 so that we can support even more adults and young people as we develop Scouting's future together. With this plan we're building on the successes of our last plan Scouting for all, by continuing to focus on growth, inclusion, youth shaped Scouting and community impact.

Involving young people in decision making is essential for our governance structures to stay informed and responsive to the fast-paced changes facing young people in the 21st Century. By encouraging a mixture of experiences and ages on our executive committees and District/County teams, we are more likely to encourage healthy debate and make better decisions which are relevant to the lives of young people in today's society.

There are four themes of youth shaped Scouting:

- Programme
- Leadership (Including transition at 18 years)
- Management
- Governance

Role Profile

Title: County Youth Commissioner

Responsible to: County Commissioner

Role summary: To champion and encourage the ambition to ensure that Scouting in West Lancs

Key Relationships: District teams, District Youth Commissioners, the County Team, training teams.

To contribute towards an increase in the role and participation of young people in the leadership, management and decision making in West Lancs.

Contribute towards the creation of meaningful, youth led sectional forums and encourage greater participation in peer leadership.

To assist in supporting adults and providing resources to encourage adult volunteers to involve young people in opportunities that shape their scouting experience.

To help provide opportunities for talented young people and young adults who wish to develop their skills and become more involved in shaping Scouting.

As Scouts we believe in preparing young people with skills for life such as teamwork, leadership and resilience

Person Specification

Skills Required

Skills required:

Ability to lead teams of different ages	E
Ability to work well as part of a team	E
Excellent written and communication skills	HD
Be computer literate	E
Be a self-motivator	E
Be able to motivate others positively	E
Able to work well in meetings	E
Excellent presenting and facilitating skills	HD
Ability to work and engage with young people	HD
Ability to speak publicly	HD
Ability to be persuasive	E
Ability to work within timescales and budgets	E
Ability to respond well to feedback	E

Qualities Required

Accept the policies and rules of The Scout Association	E
Promote the Skills for Life strategy	E
Have time available, amongst other commitments	E
Ability to meet deadlines	E
Be in a position to travel around the County	E
A willingness to promote collective viewpoints	E

Benefits to you

Employability skills
Strategic thinking
Build confidence
Training
Supervisory experience
Key volunteer and trustee for a national charity

What to Expect

The role of Youth Commissioner is an ever evolving role which will continue to develop as does our County. Your focus as Youth Commissioner will change as your role develops and as the County works its way through our Skills for Life strategy. Below are several examples of the types of projects and support you will be expected to deliver as County Youth Commissioner.

- Visit District Meetings to talk and inspire young people and leaders about youth-shaped Scouting and what is happening within their County
- Support Districts to provide local youth engagement opportunities including forums
- Champion and promote peer leadership at all levels within Groups and Sections (Young Leaders, Sixers & Seconders, Patrol Leaders & Assistant Patrol Leaders etc.)
- Increase the role and participation of young people in the leadership and management of the County
- Work with County Team members to ensure that the views of young people are represented
- Encourage the creation and greater participation in meaningful Youth Forums
- Ensure that ideas and feedback from young people are appropriately implemented and that an effective method to provide feedback on outcomes is in place.
- Sit on the County Executive Committee in order to represent the Young People of the County
- Work as a key part of the County Management Team contributing and taking an active part in the delivery of the County Development Plan.
- Lead a team of eight District Youth Commissioners to develop youth-shaped Scouting within the County, providing feedback to adults and young people.)

Further Information

Expenses

Expenses incurred whilst undertaking the role are reimbursed in line with the District Expenses policy. This is designed to ensure you are not out of pocket and that a person's financial situation is not a barrier to being appointed.

Induction

A full induction will be provided for you before you commence your role.

Training

As with all appointments in Scouting you will be required to undertake the relevant training for this role and complete a Woodbadge during your appointment.

Term of Appointment

The person will be appointed for up to three years or the role holders 25th birthday, whichever is earlier, but the initial appointment may be shorter by mutual agreement.

Appointment Process

Appointment Requirements: Must successfully complete the appointment process (including acceptable personal enquiries and acceptance of The Scout Association's policies). During the five months of Provisional Appointment the relevant Getting Started modules must be completed. A Wood Badge must be completed during the Appointment, and ongoing safeguarding and safety training must be completed. Must be eligible for Charity Trustee Status (as a member of the District Executive Committee)

Nomination Form

Whether nominating yourself or someone else for the role please complete the nomination form to the best of your ability. [Please click here for the nomination form.](#)

FAQs

Q) Can you confirm the 25-year-old age limit?

A) A Local Youth Commissioner can be appointed up to the day of their 25th birthday, therefore if they were appointed when there were 25 years old and 0 days, their appointment should end the day of their 28th birthday.

Q) Will Youth Commissioners be ex-officio members of the local Executive Committee?

A) Yes –as of March 2016, Youth Commissioners shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee, allowing them the opportunity to represent the views of Young People to the Committee.

Q) Why is the role only for over 18's?

A) It was decided to ensure the role had credibility and accountability that it needed to be a full adult appointment, which in Scouting terms means it needs to be over 18. The role also needs to be over 18 due to Youth Commissioners now being ex officio members of Executive Committees and thus trustees, due to Charity Law.

Q) What can under 18's year do who would like to be a Local Youth Commissioner but can't?

A) Local Youth Commissioners can have teams to support them in their work. Members of the Youth Commissioners Team could be under 18. Task and finish groups are also encouraged incorporating under 18's too – whether this be in organising the next local event or other time specific activities.

Q) What does success look like?

A) Retaining and gaining more young people as their Scouting Programme is shaped by them. Young People having a place for their voice to be heard. Young People knowing who their Youth and Local Commissioner is. Young people impacting on decision that are made about Scouting in their locality.

Other Questions

If you would still like to find out more about the role of County Youth Commissioner, please feel free to research the role on the Scouts website by searching 'Role of a Youth Commissioner Scouts'.

If you would like to speak to someone about the role, please feel free to contact:

Becca.webster@westlancsscouts.org.uk

Craig.Dewar@westlancsscouts.org.uk