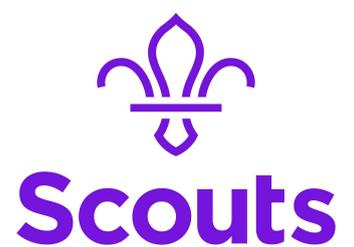




# District Youth Commissioner Information Pack

[scouts.org.uk/join](https://scouts.org.uk/join)  
#SkillsForLife



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# Thank You

Thank you for your interest in becoming our next District Youth Commissioner!

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

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 District Youth Commissioner you will work towards making sure that Youth Shaped Scouting is implemented throughout the District by working closely with Young People, Leaders and the District Team 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 District Youth Commissioner. If you would like to discuss the role further, please contact [Tom Roberts](#) (current District Youth Commissioner) or [Guy Livingston](#) (District Commissioner).

# 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:** District Youth Commissioner

**Responsible to:** District Commissioner

**Length of Appointment:** 3 years (suggested)

### Role Summary:

As a member of the District Leadership Team the District Youth Commissioner works in partnership with the District Commissioner and Chairperson of the District Executive Committee. The role is to ensure that young people from 6 – 25 years are involved and engaged in every decision that shapes their Scouting experience locally and to empower young people to share their ideas and have a meaningful voice in planning, implementing and reviewing their programme and opportunities.

### Responsible for:

District Youth Forum (or similar) Lead, Deputy District Youth Commissioner(s) (if appointed)

### Main Contacts:

Young people within their District, District Commissioner, Group Scout Leaders, District Explorer Scout Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioners, District Chairperson, members of the District Executive Committee and its sub-committees, County Youth Commissioner and other District Youth Commissioners.

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

## Person Specification

### Skills required:

- Ability to lead teams
- Excellent written and communication skills
- Be computer literate
- Be a self motivator and be able to motivate others positively
- Able to work well in meetings
- Excellent presenting and facilitating skills
- Ability to work and engage with young people aged 6 – 25
- Ability to work and engage with adult members
- Be articulate
- Ability to speak publicly
- Ability to be persuasive
- Ability to work within predefined limits (for examples timescales and budgets)
- Ability to accept and positively respond to responsibility

### Qualities required:

- Accept the policies and rules of The Scout Association
- Willingness to become a member, take The Scout Association Promise and wear the Scout Uniform
- Accept and promote Scouting's fundamentals and the implementation of the youth programme
- Have time available, amongst other commitments to commit to the workload
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Be in a position to travel within the District, as required
- A willingness to promote the agreed, viewpoints rather than perpetuate personal views

### 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 DYC is an ever evolving role which will continue to develop as does the District. Your focus as DYC will change as your role develops and as the District works its way through our District Development Plan. Below are a few examples of what to expect:

- Work as a key part of the District Leadership Team contributing and taking an active part in the delivery of the District Development Plan
- Visit Section Meetings to talk and inspire young people and young adults about youth-shaped Scouting and what is happening within their District.
- Support Groups and Sections to provide local youth engagement opportunities including forums
- Together with the District Scout Network Commissioner, and Programme Coordinators, encourage Scout Network members to shape and lead projects and activities for the District Scout Network.
- Encourage youth leadership at all levels within Groups and Sections (Young Leaders, Sixers & Seconders, Patrol Leaders & Assistant Patrol Leaders etc.)
- Work with ADCs (Sections) to support Leaders and other adult volunteers to embed youth shaped Scouting.
- Work with other adults to identify, encourage and develop talented young people and young adults who wish to become more involved in shaping Scouting.
- Provide support to 18-25 year old members on Executive Committees.
- Increase the role and participation of young people in the leadership and management of the District
- Sit on the District Executive Committee in order to represent the Young People of the District

# 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 to 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 holder's 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

Whether nominating yourself or someone else for the role, please contact [Guy Livingston \(District Commissioner\)](#)

## 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 they 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 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 impact 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 District 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:

[Tom.Roberts@wiltshirenorthscouts.org.uk](mailto:Tom.Roberts@wiltshirenorthscouts.org.uk)

[Guy.Livingston@wiltshirenorthscouts.org.uk](mailto:Guy.Livingston@wiltshirenorthscouts.org.uk)