



# Area Youth Commissioner

**Information for anyone considering  
the role of Gwent Area Youth  
Commissioner**

# About us

## Overview of Youth Shaped

At Scouts, we provide young people with the opportunities to develop Skills for Life – including confidence to speak up, feeling empowered to make a difference and being ready to take the lead.

That's what being youth shaped is all about. Our programmes and decisions are shaped by young people, working in partnership with volunteers.

## The difference you'll make to young people

Youth commissioners help young people to make their voices heard and improve scouts for the better. You'll be working to help more young people get the opportunity to speak up and take the lead – skills and experiences that set them up for the future. And in the process, you'll get to learn plenty of new skills yourself too.



# The current vacancy

We're currently looking for a **Area Youth Commissioner** to work with us at Gwent scouts.

## What does a youth commissioner do?

Youth Commissioners are volunteers responsible for driving youth shaped in their local area. They support volunteers, shape the programme, influence decisions that we make at Scouts and take the lead.

They are aged 18-25 at appointment and enable volunteers to embed the ideas and decisions of young people into local scouting.

They play a key role in the leadership and management of the Area. They need to motivate both volunteers and young people. Responsibilities in a youth commissioner role vary, but are likely to include:

- Help to make sure that the Area programme is shaped by young people.
- Create opportunities for young people to provide feedback (often through a Area Youth Forum).
- Promote the YouShape award and top awards.
- Support the District Youth Commissioners in their Area, bringing them together to support each other, share ideas, and work towards a shared vision.
- Inspire and motivate young people in the Area and make sure they know about all the different opportunities available to them in Scouts, including what they can do when they turn 18.
- Influence decisions that are made in the Area as a member of the Area Executive Committee, making sure that young people are at the heart of decisions.

## Support every step of the way

Area Youth Commissioners are line managed by the Area Commissioner, who will help you set objectives and work with you towards improving local youth shaped scouting.

And the, Scouts Cymru and UK Youth Commissioner teams are also here to support Area Youth Commissioners - running inductions, events, webinars and more. So you'll have support available whenever you need it.

# What you'll get from the role

Being a Youth Commissioner is an amazing role. As well as helping to drive youth shaped locally and giving young people a say, you'll also be learning loads of new skills and having fun along the way.

You'll get experience and develop skills that will look seriously impressive on a CV or university application - things like teamwork, communication and organisation, but also experience with governance, working with young people and leading others.

Across the UK, there are now over 600 Youth Commissioners doing amazing things. Ready to join them?

**“Applying to become Youth Commissioner was genuinely one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. Through this role I’ve learned so much, got to work with a really great team, and made a big difference to the experience of young people in Scouts”.**

**“I never thought I’d get the role, but I decided to apply anyway just in case. 3 years later, I’m so glad I did. I’d recommend applying to everyone who is considering it”.**

**“What surprised me most when starting the role was the amazing support that was available from my local team and other youth commissioners. I’ve made new friends and gotten to work with some great people”.**

**“Seeing the difference this role makes to young people is the best part. I’ve watched young people speak up and shape their scouting experience for the better – and I couldn’t be more proud”.**



# How the process works

## Process

Thank you for your interest in volunteering.

You can apply for the role yourself using the volunteer enquiry form at [gwentscouts.org.uk/volunteer](https://gwentscouts.org.uk/volunteer), or by sending an email to [volunteer@gwentscouts.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@gwentscouts.org.uk) with your contact details and a short paragraph about why you believe you would be suitable for the role of Area Youth Commissioner.

## Further information

For more information, or for an informal chat about this vacancy, please contact:

Name: Chris Owen-Brooks

Phone: 07590200342

Email: [volunteer@gwentscouts.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@gwentscouts.org.uk)



# All about the role - Area Youth Commissioner

## Outline role description

### Outline:

As a member of the Area Leadership Team the Area Youth Commissioner works in partnership with the Area Commissioner and Chairperson of the Area 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 to:

Area Commissioner

### Responsible for:

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

### Main Contacts:

Young people within their Area, Area Commissioner, Area Youth Forum Lead, Deputy Area Youth Commissioners, Deputy Area Commissioners, District Commissioners, Assistant Area Commissioners, Area Chairperson, members of the Area Executive Committee and its sub-committees, District Youth Commissioners and other Area Youth Commissioners.

### Appointment requirements:

18-25 years old at the time of appointment. 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.

### Main Tasks

- Champion, encourage and lead the work to ensure that, by 2025, scouting in the Area is shaped by young people in partnership with adults. This will be achieved by working in partnership and collaboration and with the Area Commissioner, Area Chairperson, District Youth Commissioners and Area Team
- Support youth shaped scouting in the programme
- Embed young people in local decision making
- Develop young people in the Area
- Wider engagement with the work of the Area

**Note:** Some of the tasks for which the Area Youth Commissioner is responsible may be delegated to others in the Area, including a Deputy Area Youth Commissioner, if appointed.

# Person Specification

<b>Age</b>	
18 – 25 years old	Essential
<b>Skills required</b>	
Ability to lead and motivate teams	Essential
Excellent communication skills	Essential
Able to work well in meetings	Essential
Excellent presentating and facilitating skills	Essential
Able to work with young people and adults	Essential
Able to take on responsibility and meet deadlines	Essential
<b>Knowledge required</b>	
An understanding of the structure and principles of The Scouts	Desireable
Previous experience of scouting	Desireable
<b>Qualities required</b>	
Accept the policies and rules of The Scouts	Essential
Willingness to become a member, take The Scout Association Promise and wear the Scout Uniform	Essential
Accept and promote Scouting's fundamentals and the implementation of the youth programme	Essential
Have enough time available to commit to the role	Essential