

West Yorkshire Youth Commission on Violence & Exploitation 2023:

Application Guidance Notes

Please read carefully before filling in your application form.

1. What is the Youth Commission?

The Youth Commission enables young people to inform and support, the work of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) for West Yorkshire. The project allows young people to get involved and have their say about Violence & Exploitation where they live.

For more information about the West Yorkshire Youth Commission please go to: tiny.cc/WYYC

2. Who can join the West Yorkshire Youth Commission?

We are looking for participants aged 14-25 years who are currently residents of the West Yorkshire policing area. The role is open to anyone in this age group living in West Yorkshire.

In total, we are seeking to recruit up to 20/25 young people. We are looking for people who will be good team players, who will be committed to the project and willing to do all the activities involved. We are also very keen to ensure that the Youth Commission is made up of a diverse group of young people who broadly reflect the makeup of the local population, including those who may have direct experience of the police and justice system.

3. If I join, what will I have to do?

Between April 2023 and October 2023, members of the Youth Commission will:

- **Take part in Youth Commission sessions:** You will participate in Youth Commission sessions. The first 2 sessions will take place on a Saturday. Other smaller meetings will generally be on weekdays (early evenings).
- **Work on special topics:** As a group, you will select priority topics to work on during your time on the Youth Commission. The shortlist will be determined by the Youth Commission and may include topics such as root causes of violence, Knife crime etc.

- **Gather the views of other young people:** You will be given training and support to carry out peer research with other young people in schools, colleges, universities and youth groups. This can be done to suit your schedule and can fit around your existing commitments. We anticipate that each member will do in the region of 30 hours of peer research in total by the end of the project.
- **Plan events:** You will work in a team to design and plan interactive workshops to engage other young people and partner agencies in your area. You will be invited to help to run these events wherever possible as long as there is no clash with your school/ college commitments.
- **Report back to the office of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU):** You will contribute towards the analysis of information gathered from young people in your area and help to present back your conclusions to the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).
- **Help to host the Youth Commission Conference in October 2023:** You will have the opportunity to present your findings and recommendations and be a part of discussions with key decision-makers from the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), the West Yorkshire Constabulary, partner agencies and other young people.

4. What will I get from being part of the Youth Commission?

- **Discuss issues with the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), The Mayor's Office and key partners:** You will meet key decision makers and the VRU, The Mayor's Office and other partners at Youth Commission events and help them to understand what young people in your area think about Youth violence.
- **Develop your skills and experience:** You will gain valuable skills and experience, which you will be able to use for your CV or applications to Further or Higher Education.
- **Become a voice for other young people:** You will give a voice to young people in your area by helping them to get their views heard.
- **Meet new people:** You will meet a diverse range of other young people from the West Yorkshire area, and work alongside professionals from different organisations.

Filling in the application form

- Please fill in the enclosed application form and email it to emily@leaders-unlocked.org by **31st March 2023**.
- **Section 1:** if you are under 18 you must also fill out the section regarding your Parent /Guardian /Carer. They will also have to complete and sign a Consent Form to give their permission for you to participate.
- All applicants will need a named professional who supports their application (This could be a teacher, youth worker, tutor, lecturer, or manager):
- **Privacy:** Your privacy is really important to us. By filling in the West Yorkshire Youth Commission application form, you are consenting to Leaders Unlocked using your personal information to keep in touch with you over the course of the project. If your application is not successful, or you decide to withdraw your application, we will delete your personal data from our files. If you want to withdraw your consent at any time you can contact the Data Protection officer at info@leaders-unlocked.org and if you would like to see our full Privacy Notice you can do so here <http://leaders-unlocked.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Leaders-Unlocked-Privacy-Notice-May-2018-1.pdf>

6. What happens next?

Once we receive your application, we will then carry out brief telephone interviews with a shortlist of applicants. All applicants will receive a message to let them know the outcome.

Remember:

Email your form to Emily@leaders-unlocked.org by **31st March 2023**.