



District Youth Commissioner

**Information for anyone considering
the role of District Youth
Commissioner at South Ribble
District Scouts**

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#SkillsForLife



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 **District Youth Commissioner** to work with us at South Ribble District 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 District. They need to motivate both volunteers and young people. Responsibilities in a youth commissioner role vary, but are likely to include:

- Supporting volunteers to put the views and ideas of young people at the heart of their section's programme
- Promote participation in the YouShape award in their District, as well as top awards
- Help to ensure that young people get regular opportunities to take the lead, including promoting participation in the young leader's scheme
- Inspire and motivate young people in the District, ensuring they know about all the different opportunities available to them in scouting, including when they reach 18 years old
- Influence decisions that are made in the District as a member of the District Executive Committee. Ensuring that young people are at the heart of decisions.

Support every step of the way

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

Each County (or equivalent) also has a County Youth Commissioner who will be able provide support.

And the UK Youth Commissioner team are also here to support Youth Commissioners too - 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 application form or nominate someone else using the nomination form. Nominated people are under no commitment to apply unless they wish to.

Shortlisting will be based solely on the information provided by each candidate in their application form. All applications should address the requirements of the role, as laid out in the role description and person specification

Further information

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

Name: June Holt

Phone: 07714736287

Email: dc@southribblescouts.org.uk



All about the role - District Youth Commissioner

Outline role description

Outline:

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.

Appointment length:

3 years (suggested)

Responsible to:

District Commissioner

Responsible for:

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

Main Contacts:

Young people within their District, District Commissioner, District Youth Forum Lead, Deputy District Youth Commissioners, Deputy District Commissioners, County Youth Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioners, District Chairperson, members of the District Executive Committee and its sub-committees and other local District 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 District is shaped by young people in partnership with adults. This will be achieved by working in partnership and collaboration and with the District Commissioner, District Chairperson and District Team
- 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.

Developing Young People

- 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.

Vacancy Pack: District Youth Commissioner

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Embedding Young People in Local Decision Making

- Work with all members of the District to ensure that the views of young people are represented in decision making.
- Encourage the creation and greater participation in meaningful Youth Forums
- Appoint, support and manage a Youth Forum Lead.
- Ensure that recommendations from the Youth Forum to the District Executive Committee and District Team are considered and appropriately implemented and that an effective method to provide feedback on outcomes to the Youth Forum is in place.

Wider Engagement

- Establish a robust method of communicating with the District Commissioner and young people within the District.
- Work as a key part of the District Leadership Team contributing and taking an active part in the delivery of the District Development Plan.
- Work with the County Youth Commissioner to develop youth-shaped Scouting within the County, providing feedback to adults and young people.
- Work with other local Youth Commissioners to feed into the UK Youth Commissioner Team including taking part in national training and conference opportunities (often virtual).

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

Person Specification

Age	
18 – 25 years old	Essential
Skills required	
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
Knowledge required	
An understanding of the structure and principles of The Scouts	Desireable
Previous experience of scouting	Desireable
Qualities required	
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