

## **District Youth Commissioner Q&A**

Here are some questions and answers about the District Youth Commissioner role. If you have any further questions please get in touch with the District Commissioner or another relevant member of the District Team.

### **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) What support will there be for Local Youth Commissioners?**

A) We are still developing the support systems for Local Youth Commissioners, and hope more details of this in the upcoming months, including the start-up of Youth Commissioner induction weekends.

### **Q) We have very few 18-25 in the District what happens if none are interesting in the role and how do we identify them?**

A) There is no requirement to have a Local Youth Commissioner although of course we are encouraging it, we have requested a report be added to Compass in time to enable all adults 18-25 to be found. We would also encourage an open and inclusive recruitment campaign, and ask Group Scout Leaders and local volunteers to suggest potential members or ex members who may be interested in the role.

### **Q) Why is the three year appointment only suggested?**

A) During the research and piloting of the role description there was feedback that the 3 year appointment should only be suggested to allow local needs to be catered for. We suggest the appointment is for a minimum of 1 year and ideally a maximum of 3 but could be extended if needed.

**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) Will there be a training pathway for Local Youth Commissioners?**

A) Youth Commissioners will be supported with their training through working with local Training Advisers for Managers and Supporters, who are developing increased knowledge about the role and what training for the role looks like. Currently, in order to gain their wood badge, Youth Commissioners must validate their learning of modules 1, 2, 4, 12A, 5, 7, 11, 10 and 6. They will also need to complete the relevant training, to gain the six core skills for Managers and Supporters. It is also recommended, they complete module 1e and module 14. Training Advisors are encouraged to use whatever validation criteria they deem fit in line with current regulations, and guidance into additional validation criteria should be released soon.

**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.

**Q) What support will there be for Local Youth Commissioners?**

A) We are still developing the support systems for Local Youth Commissioners, and hope more details of this in the upcoming months, including the start-up of Youth Commissioner induction weekends. The best place to get support is from peers on either a Regional or a County level. We are encouraging Regions to work together and share best practice.