

## Young Advisors on the Criminal Justice System: Application Guide

*Please read these notes carefully before filling in your application.*

### 1. What is the Young Advisors project?

The Young Advisors project enables young adults aged 18-27 to have a voice on the Criminal Justice System at the national level.

We have an excellent group of Young Advisors who are currently very active, and we're now looking to expand. We are looking for young adults with personal experience of the justice system to join the group.

Being a Young Advisor is all about being an 'expert by experience'. It means expressing your views on the criminal justice system, influencing decision-makers, and conducting research with young adults in prisons and communities.

Since the project started, the Young Advisors have made a real impact at the national level. The group made presentations at the House of Commons, Ministry of Justice and Royal Courts of Justice. Their work was referenced in the final report of the Lammy Review – an independent review into the treatment of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals in the Justice System.

This project is delivered by [Leaders Unlocked](#) and supported by the Barrow Cadbury Trust as part of its Transition to Adulthood (T2A) initiative.

### 2. Who can join?

We are seeking to recruit up to 15 individuals to become Young Advisors in 2020. These Young Advisors can live anywhere in England or Wales.

We are looking for participants aged 18-27 years who have personal experience of the criminal justice system – these experiences may include

policing and arrest, youth offending services and community sentences, courts, or prison. We are seeking young adults who can be 'experts by experience'.

We are looking for people who are team players and willing to get involved with all the project's activities. We are also very keen to make sure that the Youth Advisors group engages a diverse range of young adults from different backgrounds and geographical areas.

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

Between September 2020 and August 2021 Young Advisors will be asked to:

- **Take part in Young Advisors events:** You will participate in 6 Young Advisors events. (September, October, December, February, April, June). At these events, you will come together as a team to set goals for the project and work with experts from the justice sector. In these sessions you will develop skills and come up with creative ideas for workshops. You will also reflect and review the progress of the project.
- **Be involved in peer research in prisons and other places:** You will be involved in carrying out research through interviews and workshops to gather the views of other young adults on the Criminal Justice System. As a rough guide, we would expect each Young Advisor to take part in 2-4 of these research days throughout the year.
- **Feed back findings to decision-makers:** You will contribute towards the analysis of information gathered from young people, and help to present your findings and conclusions to key officials from the justice sector. You will have the opportunity to present the results to experts and professionals at the national level.

### What will I get from being part of the Youth Advisors project?

As a Young Advisor, you will have the opportunity to:

- **Discuss issues with decision-makers:** You will meet key officials from the justice sector, and help them to understand what young adults in your peer group think about justice system.

- **Develop your skills and experience:** You will gain valuable skills and experience, which you will be able to use for your CV and applications to further or higher education or employment.
- **Represent the views of 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 young people from across England, and work alongside professionals from different organisations.

*Travel expenses will be covered for attendance at all meetings and lunch will be provided.*

## **How do I apply?**

Please fill in the enclosed application form and email it to [rose@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:rose@leaders-unlocked.org) by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020**.

## **What happens next?**

After the deadline, we will carry out phone interviews with shortlisted applicants. All applicants will be informed of the outcome by 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**Please note:** If you are not successful on this occasion, there are still a number of ways for you to get involved with the Young Advisors project. If you would like to find out more about how you can be involved, please contact [rose@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:rose@leaders-unlocked.org)

**Remember: Please email your completed application form to [rose@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:rose@leaders-unlocked.org) by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**We look forward to receiving to receiving your application!**