

Help make driving safer and fairer for young people: The Young Drivers' Commission

Application Deadline: Friday 18th September 2026

Application Form: Click [here](#)

1. What is the Young Drivers' Commission?

The **Young Drivers' Commission** is an exciting national project that will bring young people from diverse areas across the country together to develop recommendations for making driving safer and fairer for young people.

Young drivers are involved in almost a quarter of fatal or serious road collisions - but rarely involved in discussions about what to do about that. This project aims to change that by putting young people at the centre of the conversation.

The young people who join the Commission (Young Commissioners) will explore the evidence, speak to other young people and road safety experts, develop their own recommendations and present these directly to decision-makers at the national and local level.

The Commission is not only for people who already drive. It is open to all young people whether they use public transport, travel regularly as a passenger, are learning to drive or thinking about it.

Being able to get around safely helps young people access education, employment, training and independence. The Young Drivers' Commission will look for ways of reducing risk that ensure young people still get the benefits of driving.

The project is being delivered by [Leaders Unlocked](#), a social enterprise that supports young people to have a stronger voice and influence. Key local partners include: [Greater Manchester Combined Authority](#), [Vision Zero South West](#), and [West Mercia OPCC](#). Nationally, we are working with the [Parliamentary Advisory Committee on Transport Safety](#). The project has been funded by the [Road Safety Trust](#).

2. Who can join the Young Drivers' Commission?

We are looking to recruit **10 Young Commissioners** from each participating region: **Greater Manchester, Devon & Cornwall, and West Mercia**.¹

We're looking for young people **aged 17 to 24** who are interested in making a difference and improving the experiences and safety of young drivers.

You **do not** need to be a driver to apply. We welcome applications from:

- Learner drivers
- Qualified drivers
- Young people who use other forms of transport
- Those interested in making a difference at the local or national level
- Young people with lived experience of road collisions or road safety issues

You don't need to have any previous experience to apply for this project; you just need to be motivated to take part and be a good team player. In particular, we are looking for people who:

- Enjoy working with others
- Are willing to listen to different perspectives
- Want to share ideas and learn new skills
- Are interested in influencing change

We are committed to recruiting a diverse group of young people who reflect different backgrounds, experiences and communities. We are actively interested in those who may have experience of the policing and justice systems, and those who may have experienced different challenges in their lives.

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

From October 2026 to May 2027, members of the Young Drivers' Commission will:

- **Take part in Commission meetings**

Attend four Young Drivers' Commission meetings. These meetings will be held online via Teams and will last 2-3 hours with breaks. We anticipate that these meetings will be held every 2 months from October (e.g. October, December, February, April).

¹ West Mercia includes Herefordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire and Telford and Wrekin.

At these meetings, Commissioners will have the opportunity to shape the priorities that they want to address, locally and nationally.

We anticipate that the Commission as a whole will look at some of the following areas: Driver education; learning to drive; driving tests; driver licensing; young driver behaviour; rural and urban experiences; and transport options.

- **Explore evidence from the UK and other places**

In between meetings, you will be supported to explore evidence, from the UK and internationally, about what works and doesn't work to make the roads safer and fairer for young people. This might be watching videos or reading articles. There will be no pressure to read long documents and reports (unless you want to!).

- **Carry out peer research**

Towards the end of 2026 and into early 2027, you'll be supported to carry out peer research in your own networks, e.g. with family & friends, and peers at college or university. This peer research will be done via anonymous questionnaires about the key priorities that the Young Drivers' Commission has chosen to focus on. We'll provide training, guidance and support so you feel confident carrying out this research.

- **Work with policy-makers and experts**

You'll have opportunities to meet professionals from organisations involved in road safety, transport, policing, education and government. Together, you'll discuss evidence, ask questions and explore possible solutions. As a Commission, you will be able to influence which experts you hear from.

- **Develop recommendations**

Young Commissioners from each local area will develop local recommendations for their area: Greater Manchester, Devon & Cornwall and West Mercia. There will also be national recommendations created by the whole Commission working together across all areas.

- **Present your findings**

In summer 2027, there will be a local online showcase for each area, where Commissioners will present local recommendations to local decision-makers. There will also be a national showcase to reach a national audience of decision-makers.

4. What will I get from being part of the Young Drivers' Commission?

As a Young Commissioner, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Influence real discussions about road safety policy.
- Meet experts, policy-makers and organisations working to make roads safer and reduce the risks faced by drivers and passengers.
- Build confidence in public speaking, teamwork and communication.
- Develop research, leadership and critical thinking skills.
- Gain valuable experience to include on your CV, university or job applications.
- Meet other young people from different backgrounds and build new connections.
- Help improve road safety for future generations of young people.

You'll also receive support throughout the project and have opportunities for personal development.

5. Is this a paid opportunity?

Yes, this is a paid opportunity. Commissioners will receive £200* for completing the project. The first payment of £100 will be made in January 2027 and the last payment of £100 will be made in May 2027.

Please note: We've calculated this payment based on each commissioner completing 15 hours on the project at £13 per hour. We will be able to pay up to 5 extra hours for any commissioners who do more than the anticipated hours.

6. What happens next?

After receiving your application, we will invite shortlisted applicants to take part in a short informal interview. Following the interviews, we'll let all applicants know the outcome of their application.

Successful applicants will then receive information about the first Commission meeting and the project timetable.

7. How will you protect my privacy?

Your privacy is important to us. By completing the application form, you agree that **Leaders Unlocked** can use your personal information to contact you about the Young Drivers' Commission.

If your application is unsuccessful, or if you decide to withdraw, your personal information will be deleted from our records. We will not share your information outside the project team.

All Commission meetings will be transcribed. Only the project team working on the project will have access to this data. Data will be stored anonymously (without anyone's personal data) and will only be used to inform the project's reports.

If you change your mind about joining the Commission, you can withdraw your consent at any time by contacting our Data Protection Officer at info@leaders-unlocked.org

You can read the Leaders Unlocked Privacy Policy [here](#).

8. Why does this project matter?

Nationally and locally, decision-makers are waiting to hear what this Commission has to say about the issues and risks facing young people on the roads.

By bringing together young people, researchers, policy-makers and road safety organisations, the project aims to create practical, evidence-based recommendations that improve safety while ensuring young people can continue to benefit from safe, accessible transport.

Your ideas could help influence future approaches to driver education, testing, licensing and road safety across the UK.