



**LEADERS  
UNLOCKED**

## **Gwent Youth Independent Advisory Group: Application Guidance Notes**

Please read carefully before filling in your application form.

### **1. What is the Gwent Youth Independent Advisory Group (Gwent YIAG)?**

The Gwent Youth Independent Advisory Group (Gwent YIAG) aim is to develop relationships between Gwent Police and young people who are currently underrepresented/whose voices are not heard as often by policing. This group aims to change that. Through the YIAG, we will ensure that young people most affected by crime and policing are able to act as a critical friend and sounding panel to Gwent Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). We want to hear your voices and what matters to you, so we can build your trust and give you confidence that we'll treat you with respect and keep you safe, no matter how old you are, where you come from or how you identify.

### **2. Who can join the Gwent YIAG?**

We are looking for participants aged 14-25 years old from the Gwent area. The role is open to anyone in this age group living in the Gwent area (the five local authority areas of Newport, Monmouth, Caerphilly, Torfaen or Blaenau Gwent).

In total, we are seeking to recruit up to 15 young people. We are looking for people who are team players and willing to get involved with all the activities of the Gwent YIAG. We are also very keen to ensure that the Gwent YIAG is made up of a diverse group of young people who broadly reflect the make-up of the local population, including those who may have direct personal experience of the police and the criminal justice system.

No formal vetting or background checks are required for participants, as we manage this internally. However, all staff involved are DBS checked to ensure a safe and supportive environment.

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

Between September 2025 and June 2026, members of the Gwent YIAG will:

**A) Take part in YIAG meetings:** You will participate in 5 Gwent YIAG meetings (October, November/December, January, February/March, April/May) At the events, the members of the Gwent YIAG will come together to discuss and set objectives for the project. In these meetings you will develop skills and come up with creative ideas for engagement activities. You will also reflect and review your progress.

**B) Work with Gwent Police on special topics:** You will pick a topic that interests you to work on with a small group of other members. This may include topics such as: Stop and search, hate crime, Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Violence, drug and Alcohol Abuse, Knife Crime, Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), and developing trust and confidence with the police.

**C) Gather the views of other young people:** Over the course of the engagement activities, you will be given the support to carry out peer research with other young people in the community (finding out what other people your age think about the issues you're focusing on). These activities will be driven by the members' areas of interest and YIAG meeting discussions.

**D) Get involved in reflection meetings:** You will be involved in one final reflection meeting with Gwent YIAG members and the PCC and police to come together and reflect on our personal journeys. You will share issues addressed at YIAG meetings, learning points and take-away actions.

**E) Develop blog, articles and social media content:** YIAG members will produce content which gives you a chance to talk about your experiences and will be shared by Leaders Unlocked and Gwent Police

#### 4. What will I get from being part of the GWENT YIAG?

A) **Discuss issues with Gwent Police and the PCC:** You will work with Gwent Police, helping them to understand what young people in your area think about police and crime and how they can make changes to better represent you, keep you safe and earn your trust

B) **Develop your skills and experience:** You will gain valuable skills, confidence and experience, which you will be able to use for your CV or applications to further or higher education.

C) **Become ambassadors for other young people:** You will give a voice to young people in your area by helping them to get their views heard.

D) **Meet new people:** You will meet a diverse range of other young people from the Gwent policing area, and work alongside professionals from different organisations.

E) If you're interested in a career in policing, social work or criminal justice, **this is a great place to start!**

#### 5. Filling in the application form

Please fill in the enclosed application form and email it to: [Ada@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:Ada@leaders-unlocked.org) by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

1. Section1: If you are under18 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.
2. Privacy: Your privacy is really important to us. By filling in the Gwent Youth Independent Advisory Group (Gwent YIAG) 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 anytime, you can contact the Data Protection officer at [info@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:info@leaders-unlocked.org) and if you would

like to see our full Privacy Notice you can do so here <http://leaders-unlocked.org/privacy-notice>

## **6. What happens next?**

Once we receive your application, we will then carry out brief telephone/Zoom/Teams interviews with a shortlist of applicants. All applicants will be informed by 20th October at the latest.

Remember: email your completed application form to: [Ada@leaders-unlocked.org](mailto:Ada@leaders-unlocked.org) by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025**