**Do you want to make a difference to young people’s lives in Wales?**

**We are the Young People’s Advisory Panel and we have been advising the Children’s Commissioner for Wales on the team’s work since 2016.**

**We’re a group of young people from across Wales and we’re looking for more members to join us.**

**What does the Commissioner do?**

The Commissioner and her team promote and protect the rights and welfare of children and young people in Wales.

**Who do we need?**

We need young people from across Wales who:

* Are aged 11-17
* Are confident to share their ideas and opinions with others
* Have an interest in one of the following topics: Mental Health, Poverty, Equalities, Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

(If you are 17 and turning 18 during your term, this is fine; we will prioritise those who will be under 18 for at least the first year of their term).

We want to live and work in a more equal Wales, where difference is celebrated and valued and where everyone has an equal chance whatever their background. We welcome applications from everyone and particularly encourage young people with diverse backgrounds and/ or interesting experiences to apply for this role.

**What will you do?**

**Support** the Commissioner and the team to make good decisions on behalf of children and young people

**Listen** to other young people on the panel and learn about their experiences

**Advise** the Commissioner by providing them with new ideas and feedback

**Influence** policy and create positive changes for young people in Wales via the Commissioner

**Speak out** on issues affecting young people

**What’s in it for you?**

During your time on the panel, our team will support you to experience the following rights:

All children and young people should be treated equally

The right to be listened to and taken seriously

The right to find out and share information and say what you think

The right to meet with friends and join groups

The right to be the best you can be

You can read more about what our current members have said about the experience here.

[Advisory Panel](https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/about-us/advisory-panels/young-peoples-advisory-panel/)

[Annual Report](https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/CCFW-Annual-Report-and-Accounts-22-23.pdf)

**What do you have to do?**

1. **Take part in an online training session – Monday 29th January or Wednesday 31st January from 5:30pm – 6:30pm**
2. **Take part in three meetings each year.**
* An in- person meeting on **13th February 2024 (NORTH WALES)** or **15th February 2024 (SOUTH WALES)** – Venues TBC
* A joint online meeting with the Adult Panel on **31st July 2024**
* An in-person meeting on **29th October 2024 (NORTH WALES)** or **31st October 2024 (SOUTH WALES)** – Venues TBC

Panel members can also meet online as a group for a catch up with the Commissioner, as an optional extra.

**Keep in touch with us between meetings using email/text.**

**There are optional extra opportunities to get involved in other work e.g. interviews, events, projects, and shadowing opportunities, if you choose to.**

**What else?**

A place on the panel lasts for two years.

You will need to make your own way to meetings and extra opportunities, but the Commissioner will cover reasonable travel expenses for you and an adult (if you need a parent/ guardian to come with you).

If you are under 16, we will keep your parents/carers informed.

***Please note – we are prioritising applications from young people who have not had the chance to be on a national panel yet.***

**How do you apply?**

You can fill in an application form and tell us more about yourself in writing or in a video. For further information and an application form to apply, visit our recruitment page at <http://www.childcomwales.org.uk/en/recruitment/>.

**Closing date: *18th December 2023***

**Where can you find more information?**

If you’d like to talk to someone about this opportunity or need support with your application, please call our office on 01792 765600 and ask for Jordan Doherty or email post@childcomwales.org.uk.

**What Next?**

We will be in touch with you about your application in January 2024.

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