14-25 years old and living in Nottinghamshire? Would you like to be part of the Nottinghamshire Youth Commission in 2016-17?

Nottinghamshire Youth Commission on Police and Crime: **Application Notes**
Please read carefully before filling in your application form.

1. What is the Youth Commission on Police and Crime?

The Youth Commission allows young people to get involved and have their say about policing and crime where they live.

The Nottinghamshire Youth Commission enables young people to support, challenge and inform the work of the elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire, Paddy Tipping, and Nottinghamshire Police. This is a very important role, because it helps the Commissioner and the Police to make better decisions to meet the needs of young people.

For more information about what the Youth Commission are doing across the country please go to www.youthcommission.co.uk

2. Who can join the Nottinghamshire Youth Commission?

This year we are looking for participants aged 14-25 years from **the Nottinghamshire policing area** – including Nottingham, Bassetlaw, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood, Ashfield, Gedling, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe. The role is open to anyone in this age group from one of these areas.

In total, we are seeking to recruit up to 20 young people. We are looking for people who are team players and willing to get involved with all the activities of the Youth Commission. We are also very keen to ensure that the Youth Commission 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.

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

Between October 2016 and April 2017, members of the Youth Commission will:

- **Take part in Youth Commission meetings:** You will participate in 4 Youth Commission meetings. (October, November, January, March). At these

events, the members of the Youth Commission 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 workshops. You will also reflect and review the progress of the project.

- **Take part in Subgroups to advise Nottinghamshire Police:** You will have an opportunity to join Subgroups to advise Nottinghamshire police about issues affecting young people, e.g. Stop and Search.

- **Work 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: anti-social behaviour, domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, reducing offending and re-offending among young people, and the relationship between young people and the police.

- **Gather the views of other young people:** You will be given support to carry out peer research with other young people in schools, colleges, universities and youth groups. Peer research means that young people are involved in carrying out research with other young people. As a peer researcher you will help with developing the questions for the research, carrying out interviews with young people, and feeding back the results of the research. As a rough guide, we would expect each member to carry out 20-30 hours of peer research during the project.

- **Plan consultation events:** You will work in a team to design and plan consultation events to engage other young people in conversations about your special topics.

- **Report back to the Police and Crime Commissioner and Nottinghamshire Police:** You will contribute towards the analysis of information gathered from young people in your area, and help to present back your conclusions to the Police and Crime Commissioner and Nottinghamshire Police.

- **Help to host the Youth Commission Conference at the end of the year:** You will have the opportunity to present the Youth Commission's results and recommendations at the Nottinghamshire Youth Commission conference and be a part of discussions with the police, professionals and other young people.

4. What will I get from being part of the Youth Commission?

- **Discuss issues with decision-makers:** You will meet the Police & Crime Commissioner, officials from Nottinghamshire Police and other partner agencies at Youth Commission events and help them to understand what young people in your area think about police and crime.

- **Develop your skills and experience:** You will gain valuable skills and experience, which you will be able to use for your CV or applications to Further or Higher Education.

- **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.

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

5. If I have a criminal record, can I still apply?

Yes absolutely. We are actively looking for applications from young people with relevant personal experience of policing and the criminal justice system.

We would encourage you to let us know about your experiences with the policing and justice system on your application form.

6. How do I apply?

- Please fill in the enclosed application form and email it to kaytea@leaders-unlocked.org by **Friday 23rd September 2016**.

- **Section 1:** If you are under 18, you must also fill out the section regarding your Parent /Guardian /Carer. All Youth Commission members under the age of 18 will be asked to bring along **a signed consent form to the first event**.

- **Section 4:** Please complete the self-declaration statement and tell us about your personal experience of the police, criminal justice system or other experiences that may be relevant. Have you experienced anti-social behavior? Have you had experience with the police? Have you been arrested or convicted of a crime? Have you been a witness or a victim of crime? We welcome applications from people with all these life experiences. If you have any questions about this section, please email Kaytea@leaders-unlocked.org

7. What happens next?

Once we receive your application, we will then carry out brief telephone interviews with a shortlist of applicants. All applicants will be informed by Friday 30th September at the latest.

Remember: please email your completed application form to kaytea@leaders-unlocked.org by Friday 23rd September 2016