

**DO YOU
WANT TO
SHAPE THE
FUTURE OF THE
WEST MIDLANDS?**

JOIN THE YCA COMMUNITY TODAY

If you are aged 16 to 25 years and live in the West Midlands, then join the Young Combined Authority (YCA) Community to have your say on key policies and issues for the region.

As a YCA Community member you will...

- **Inform and influence** regional policies and decisions which will shape the future of the West Midlands.
- **Share your views** in an easy and flexible way – by choosing to participate in surveys and online discussions about the issues which matter most to you.
- **Connect** with a wide and diverse community of young people across the West Midlands who want to make a positive difference for their region.
- **Get recognised** for your contributions with virtual certificates and add to the experiences you can put on your CV.

The YCA Community will offer an easy and flexible way to have a say on regional policy. It is anticipated that YCA Community members will be invited to participate in 6 – 8 surveys per year, which they can choose to join, and optional online focus groups and discussions.

Our region has one of the youngest and most diverse populations in the country, and this is something to be proud of. We want to make sure that these voices – your voices – are heard by the people making decisions today which will shape the future of the West Midlands.

Sign up to the YCA Community today to help make that happen:

<https://confirmsubscription.com/h/d/9D33E8E93B6DAC06>



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MORE DETAIL...

The youth and diversity of our population is a huge source of potential for the West Midlands. It is important that these voices are heard by the people making decisions about the future of the region.

To help make that happen, the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) set up a diverse Young Combined Authority (YCA) Board in September 2019 – to build youth voice into regional decision making.

The YCA Community aims to further grow this collective, so that more young people can have their say on regional issues in an easy and flexible way.

Anyone aged 16 to 25 years who lives in the West Midlands is welcome to join the YCA Community – whether you're a current member of a youth council, organisation or professional network, or an individual who wants to see things done differently.

The big and bold YCA Community will speak up for younger generations on topics that affect us all – from the future of cities and transport to how we work together to tackle inequalities.

As a YCA Community member, you will have the chance to have your say on key issues for the region and proposed West Midlands Combined Authority policies and programmes, by opting to participate in online surveys and discussions.

Sharing your views can help to make a difference for your community and your future, and you will be updated on how your ideas are taken forward.

In return for your participation, active members of the YCA Community will be awarded virtual certificate to recognise your contribution.

By working together as one youth voice community, we can speak louder and achieve more.

#RunYourRegion #YouthVoice



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NEED CONVINCING?

“The West Midlands Combined Authority and our partners are working to build the future of our region. We need to hear about the views and experiences of young people who live, learn and work in the region – to make sure that the future we build is fit for purpose.”

Deborah Cadman, Chief Executive of West Midlands Combined Authority

“Being on the YCA allows me to speak about the problems that young people face in their lives, but more than that, it allows me to speak our truth to the people who need to hear it. Too often youth voices are listened to, but not heard. The YCA will allow us to change this.”

Chris, Wolverhampton, Young Combined Authority Board member

“Our regional institutions are fundamental for promoting change, so listening to youth voice shouldn’t be optional for those in charge. That’s why I am a proud advocate for the young people of the West Midlands when it comes to issues that directly affect us.”

Lily, Coventry, Young Combined Authority Board member

“Being a young woman who not only comes from a Black Asian and Minority Ethnic background but also has other medical conditions, I represent three groups of people that don’t always get heard. Being a part of the YCA journey so far has meant that I’m able to use my own personal life experiences to influence the West Midland Combined Authority’s vision for young people.”

Gina, Sandwell, Young Combined Authority Board member

Keep up to date: [@wmyoungboard](https://twitter.com/wmyoungboard) (twitter/ Instagram)

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