



# Young Combined Authority

## Round up of Young Combined Authority (YCA) Board activity, October 2020

### Shaping of the Young Combined Authority Board

The YCA Board is now up and running, and keen to have a greater impact. To help make this happen, the Board has established two co-Chairs and 'Lead' roles aligned to WMCA portfolio areas:

**Co-Chair** : Aisha Masood & Chris Burden

**Environment Portfolio** : Lily Eves & Ibrahim Sohail

**Skills & Digital Portfolio** : Gina Patel & Kari Lawler

**Transport Portfolio** : Asad Kalang & Kashmire Hawker

**Housing & Regeneration Portfolio** : Avtar Purewal & Ayan Aden

**Inclusive Communities & Wellbeing** : Olivia Agbe, Georgia Wiggin & Daniel Ndaty

**Culture & Major Events**: Eman Mowatt & Michael Ayodeji

**Member without a Portfolio** : Grace Lynskey

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**Kashmire DS Hawker**  
@KDSHawker

Following full agreement, on changing @wmyoungboard's structure: it's with great delight to be appointed the YCA's Co-Portfolio Lead for Transport!

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**Kari**  
@KariLawler

Following a restructure of the @wmyoungboard for 2020/21, I'm pleased to announce that I have been appointed the YCA's Portfolio co-lead for both #Digital & #Skills! ... As such, looking forward to working with the @WestMids\_CA to make sure #YouthVoice's are heard. #RunYourRegion

You Retweeted



**Gina Patel**  
@PatelGinaS

Exciting news!  
Following a restructure of the YCA for 2020/21, I'm pleased to say I'll be the @wmyoungboard Portfolio Co-Lead for #Skills and #Digital!  
#Employment #Training #Education #YouthVoice 1/2



2019-2021  
West Midlands  
Young Combined Authority  
Board Member

2020-2021 Co-Portfolio  
Lead for Digital & Skills

**Kari Lawler**



### Initial priorities for the YCA Board

The YCA Board is currently focusing on repurposing the "manifesto" which it drafted in March 2020, to create a post-COVID-19 vision document for the region. The ambition is to bring this to WMCA Board in January 2021 and use it as a springboard for future discussions and collaboration with the region's decision makers.

YCA Co-Leads are also meeting with WMCA directors and policy leads to understand opportunities to engage with and shape WMCA policy development. To date, YCA Board members have been invited to; get involved with shaping the Digital Strategy (Kari Lawler and Gina Patel, Co-Leads for Digital and Skills), participate in Overview and Scrutiny's Transport Sub-Committee (Kashmire Hawker and Asad Kalang, Co-Leads for Transport) and comment on the Regional Health Impact of Covid-19 report (Daniel Ndaty, Olivia Agbe and Georgia Wiggin, Co-Leads for Inclusive Communities and Wellbeing)

## Other activity since WMCA Board on 18 September 2020...

### Covid-19 and youth engagement

Sean Russell, WMCA Head of Thrive, joined the YCA Board meeting on 16 September 2020 to ask for insight from the YCA Board about why there has been a recent spike in young people (17 – 29) testing positive for Covid-19 in the West Midlands.

The feedback from the group was used to shape the COVID-19 Youth Engagement Survey and YCA Board members have since helped to promote the survey with their networks, aiming to secure as many responses as possible.

The group is keen to find out the results of the survey and to help shape any next steps.



wmyoungboard  
@wmyoungboard

 CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

The West Midlands needs you to share your views and experiences of #Covid19, so that organisations like @WestMids\_CA can help us safely out of the pandemic.

Please take the survey and spread the word:  
[snapsurveys.wmca.org.uk/snapwebhost/s...](https://snapsurveys.wmca.org.uk/snapwebhost/s...)

Deadline: Mon 26 Oct



 Beatfreaks and 9 others

4:01 PM · Oct 20, 2020 · Twitter Web App

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### Shaping the YCA Community

During the YCA Board meeting on 30 September 2020, YCA Board members were updated about the current plans to set up a Young Combined Authority “Community” (a wider online engagement panel) – which was outlined in the Inclusive Communities Portfolio Update report endorsed by WMCA Board on 18 September 2020.

YCA Board members provided insightful feedback on how to promote the opportunity and highlighted the importance of encouraging participation from members of local authority youth councils and youth organisations, but also reaching those who do not currently have a platform to speak to decision-makers.

Applications for the YCA Community will open during November 2020.

### Midlands UK Forum for Growth event

Ayan Aden, Co-Lead for Housing and Regeneration, and Kari Lawler, Co-Lead for Digital and Skills, joined the ‘Future Leaders: Delivering Good Growth’ panel at the Midlands UK Forum for Growth event.

### Stay up to date:

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