

Research Panel Terms of Reference & Role description

This document outlines the terms of reference for the panel and a brief role description for the panel members.

Girlguiding UK have undertaken research projects and have published five Girls Shout Out reports to date.

- Girls Shout Out!
- Self-esteem: Girls Shout Out!
- Teenage Mental Health: Girls Shout Out!
- Active Citizenship: Girls Shout Out!
- Redefining Risk: Girls Shout Out!

These reports are the result of research carried out by Girlguiding UK and other partner organisations to find out more about what girls and young women feel about certain issues that affect them.

More information on each report (including the reports in full) can be found at: <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/xq/asp/sID.628/qx/whoware/article.asp>

Purpose of panel

- The panel will help the Marketing & Communications Committee decide which current topics should become Girlguiding UK research projects and how these should be produced (e.g. as Girls Shout Out! reports or equivalent).
- The panel will look at the findings of research carried out and will compile the 'calls to action' for different public audiences as appropriate (e.g. MP's, the media).
- The panel will have the opportunity to work in their local areas as 'champions' for Girlguiding UK's research and public affairs. This will help to raise awareness of what research is being carried out, and ultimately will encourage more young members to take part in carrying out the research.

Duration of commitment

- Each panel member will agree to commit to be on the panel for one calendar year from the date they join.
- The first panel will convene in September 2009.
- There will be an opportunity to join the panel three times a year (Sept, Jan, April)
- The panel will be formed of up to 12 members of the Senior Section.

Communication

- There will be a maximum of three face to face meetings a year. All other consultation and input will be carried out online, or through other virtual mediums (e.g. Facebook/e-mail/teleconference).
- It is likely that the majority of the panel meetings will take place in London - but travel expenses will be covered by Girlguiding UK.
- For panel members who are under 18 Girlguiding UK will support them to participate by paying travel expenses for a Leader or Parent to accompany them to meetings

Role description for panel members

- Panel members will be young women who are members of Girlguiding UK's Senior Section.

- Panel members need no prior experience of policy and public affairs work; there will be support in these areas through training while on the panel.
- Panel members need regular access to the internet and to be able to communicate by e-mail/web-based communications. The majority of the panel's work will be carried out in this way.
- Panel members need to be willing to commit to the one years membership (excluding unforeseen circumstances) of the panel and may apply to stay on the panel for a maximum of a further year once their initial term has expired.

[ends]