

Care Leavers Steering Group Action Plan 2021

OBJECTIVE 1: Ensure that all Pathway Plans have a clear overall objective and timely measurable actions

Ref	Actions	Expected Impact/Outcome	Impact Measure	Lead and Timescale	Progress to date	Progress RAG	Impact RAG
1.	Revise Pathway Plan template in Liquid Logic, to reflect Signs of Safety. Consult young people and their families on revised format.	All Pathway Plans will be written in conjunction with young people, in an outcome focused style which young people are able to understand	Quality of Pathway Plans as measured by audit	Carole Gill/Andrew Grant-Soulsby			
2.	Improve quality of pathway plans and ensure that the young people are fully involved in their plans	Plans reflect young people's transition to adulthood Young people are fully involved in their plans, and we can evidence that we are working with them towards their goals	Quality of Pathway Plans as measured by audit	YPS Teams			

OBJECTIVE 2: Ensure that care leavers have the opportunity to access work experience, sessional work and apprenticeships to increase their opportunities for education and employment

Ref	Actions	Expected Impact/Outcome	Impact Measure	Lead and Timescale	Progress to date	Progress RAG	Impact RAG
3.	Strengthen corporate commitment to providing Care Leavers with the opportunity to access work experience, sessional work and apprenticeships across Durham County Council	Suitable opportunities for LAC/ Care Leavers are available across Durham. This will provide better employment/training opportunities	Number of care leavers in apprenticeships/ work experience	Meg Boustead/ Carole Gill/ Linda Bailey/ Joanne Coppillie			

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4.	Establish a Directorate group, chaired by the DCS, to agree a clear process for the identification of apprenticeships for care leavers across the council	Increased numbers of LAC/Care leavers apprenticeships being offered to young people	Number of care leavers in apprenticeships	Meg Boustead/ Carole Gill/ Linda Bailey			
5.	Develop opportunities for care leavers to work in a sessional capacity throughout the County Council	More opportunities for paid work experience	No. of sessional employment opportunities offered to care leavers / take-up rate	Meg Boustead/ Carole Gill/ Linda Bailey/ Joanne Coppillie			
6.	Develop a clear policy outlining the support available for young people/care leavers at college and university including what sort of financial support they can expect	All young people understand their entitlements	No. of care leavers who progress to Higher Education / retention rate	Carole Gill			
7.	Explore the opportunity for including more positive action in relation to care leavers within the County Council's Recruitment Policy	Increased employment opportunities	No. of Care Leavers recruited to DCC Apprenticeships/ posts	Meg Boustead/ Carole Gill/ Linda Bailey/ Joanne Coppillie			
8.	Identify ways of increasing the awareness of employers throughout the council and beyond to the needs and vulnerabilities of care leavers	Greater understanding of the difficulties faced by care leavers	No. of Care Leavers recruited to DCC Apprenticeships/ posts	Meg Boustead/ Carole Gill/ Linda Bailey/ Joanne Coppillie			
9.	Ensure that Care Leavers access the range of support available through the Government's Plan for Jobs in response to COVID-19, including Kickstart.	Increased proportion of Care Leavers who progress into employment opportunities.	Proportion of Care Leavers in Education, Employment and Training.	Carole Gill / Linda Bailey			

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OBJECTIVE 3: Ensure that all care leavers have a variety of suitable accommodation choices offered to them

Ref	Actions	Expected Impact/Outcome	Impact Measure	Lead and Timescale	Progress to date	Progress RAG	Impact RAG
10.	To continue to develop opportunities for Staying Put	Young people have a choice to stay in their placements until they are ready to move on	Number of care leavers in Staying Put placements	Carole Gill/Claire Morris			
11.	Develop pilot scheme for Staying Close	To work alongside Housing Solutions to secure accommodation 2/3 mile from residential homes. Task and finish group meet every 8 weeks.	Number of care leavers in Staying Close placements	Carole Gill/Claire Morris			
12.	Work with Strategic Housing to maximise the opportunities provided by Durham Lettings Agency	Work with all DKO providers to maximise the chances for care leavers. A representative from each housing association will be invited to join the support accommodation panel meeting to enable supported accommodation and housing to work closer together and share information.	Number of care leavers in rented accommodation through Durham Lettings Agency	Lynn Hall/Carole Gill			
13.	Develop more proactive approaches to identifying the right property for a young person ahead of leaving care	Continue joint working with Housing Solutions to secure accommodation for post 18.	Number of young people	Lynn Hall/Carole Gill			
14.	Explore extending the current offer Hedley House Supported Living Accommodation	We will extend the current offer provided at Hedley House, based on the findings at the 6-month review stage, developing two dispersed supported living properties with outreach support, in line with our increasing care leaver numbers.	Number of care leavers supported by Hedley House	Lindsey Herring/Carole Gill			

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15.	To review the marketing and recruitment strategy for Supported Lodgings.	Increased number of supported lodgings providers	Number of supported lodgings providers	Jane Bateson / Rebecca Turner (marketing & communications) Feb 2021			
16.	We will recommission our Supported Living Provider Panel for young people with needs that challenge services, in 2021, enabling new providers to join and broadening our current offer	Broader supported living offer for care leavers who have needs that challenge services (to be completed later in 2021)	Number of providers able to offer accommodation and support for care leavers who have needs that challenge services	Lindsey Herring / Lauren Burns			

OBJECTIVE 4: Improve the health outcomes of care leavers

Ref	Actions	Expected Impact/Outcome	Impact Measure	Lead and Timescale	Progress to date	Progress RAG	Impact RAG
17.	Development of a Care Leavers health pathway following the implementation of the 0-25 contract	Clear health offer developed to support YP transitioning from care to being care leaver	Increased support evidenced to care leavers	HDFT			
	Review the care leavers pathway and commissioning arrangements	Review of health commissioning for care leavers	Primary care networks and 0-25 care leavers pathways are linked	Named GP's Designated Professionals 0-25 commissioners			
18.	Review impact of COVID on health providers ability to meet the needs of CLA	To understand the impact of COVID on health providers in relation to CLA	Number of providers able to meet the needs of CLA and	Designated Doctor CLA			

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			support for care leavers and ensuring what has 'worked well' during COVID is maintained				
19.	To review the access to dental health for CLA and care leaver's during the pandemic	Inequalities for CLA identified and addressed via NHSE	CLA and care leavers are offered dental checks	Designated Nurse for CLA			
20.	Scope and carry out 'So what about health outcomes?' multiagency audit	Audit outcome will inform practice and future development of services for CLA and care leavers	Measured by audit	LA Designated Nurse PH CDDFT HDFT Named GP's TEWV Virtual School			
21.	Ensure all care leavers aged 15 + are offered a Health Passport	Care Leavers are better informed about their health history.	100% of care leavers to have been offered a health passport and 100% to have received the details of their health history or signposted to where they can obtain it. Increased uptake in YP leaving care with a health passport	CDDFT LA Named GP's			

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OBJECTIVE 5: Improve the quality of preparation for adulthood

Ref	Actions	Expected Impact/Outcome	Impact Measure	Lead and Timescale	Progress to date	Progress RAG	Impact RAG
22.	Work with the transitions team and adult services to ensure that there is a smooth transition in respect of care planning and funding arrangements for young people who meet the criteria for adult services	Timely and effective transition plans are in place for all young people who require the intervention of adult services	Smoother transitions for care leavers into adult services (as measured by audits)	Meg Boustead/ Mark Smith/ Tracie Joisce			
23.	Increase the awareness of colleagues in adult services of the vulnerability and life experiences of many of our care leavers	Services to have a greater understanding of the difficulties faced by care leavers	Smoother transitions (as measured by audits)	Meg Boustead/ Carole Gill			
24.	Review, revise and implement a consistent, accredited, independence and life skills programme for care leavers	Young people are prepared for independence	Young people's feedback tells us that they have been prepared for independence	Carole Gill/ Trish Lambert/Lisa Gledson			
25.	Begin the process for preparation for moving on at an earlier stage in order to increase preparedness	Young people are prepared for independence	Young people's feedback tells us that they have been prepared for independence	Carole Gill/ Trish Lambert/Lisa Gledson			

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OBJECTIVE 5: Increase the co-production of services with young people

Ref	Actions	Expected Impact/Outcome	Impact Measure	Lead and Timescale	Progress to date	Progress RAG	Impact RAG
26.	Continue to consult with care leavers and involve them in service design	Young people are involved in service design	Evidence that care leavers have been involved in service design	YPS/CICC/ Corporate Parenting panel			
27.	Involve young people in developing support services/ group sessions/ drop-ins at the Care Leavers' hub	Young people are involved in planning which services could have a presence in the Care Leavers' hub	Evidence that care leavers have been involved in developing the Hub	Carole Gill/ YPS/ Housing/health			
28.	Research apps that can be used to seek the views of care leavers	An app is commissioned to seek care leavers' views that meet the needs of care leavers and the service	An app is in place and being used	Stephanie Pym/Carole Gill			