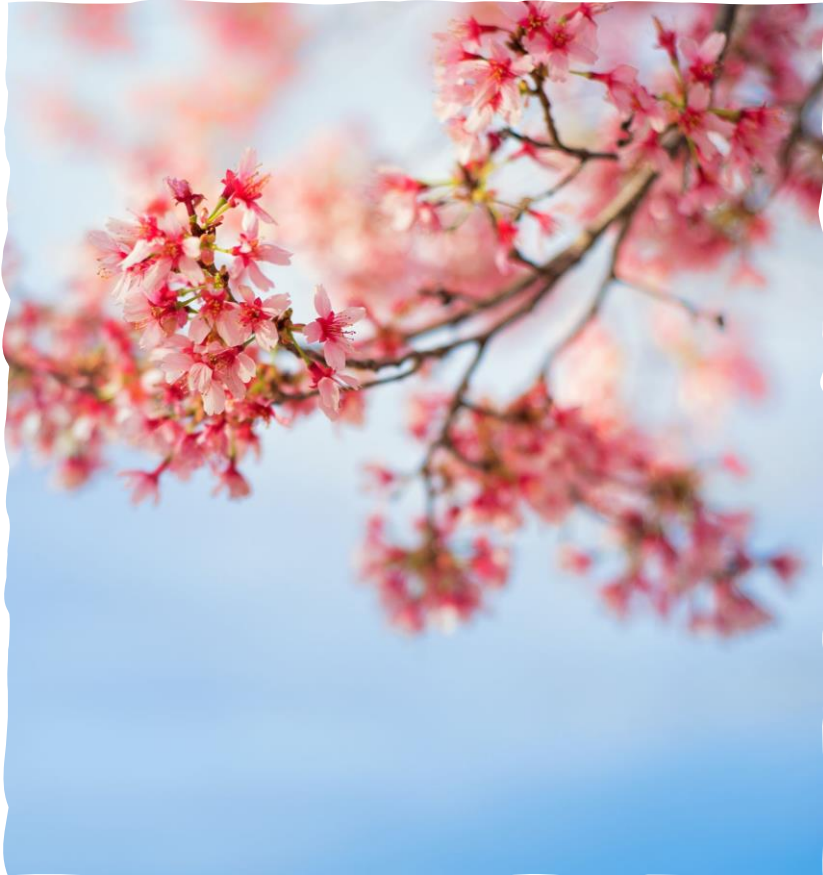


Care Leavers Service



Positivitree

Background



- The Care Leaver Service Management Team attended a Bench Marking Event in Birmingham and one of the visions discussed was the Positivitree.
- The Idea behind the tree it is to build the future vision of the Care Leaver Service by increasing awareness and seeking pledges from partners to improve the Local Offer.
- Quote from the Bench Marking Forum
“The tree will symbolise our aspirations for care experienced young people and determination to help them to grow and thrive.”

What did we do in Durham



We met as a Care Leaver Management Team to consider what we wanted to achieve from what we know young people want, some ideas being:

- Improving our Local Offer.
- Having a county wide approach to corporate parenting.
- How to create opportunities for training/employment with local businesses.
- How do we improve the offer at our HUBS.
- We bought an actual apple tree to plant in our garden at Sherburn Hub.
- We got a “Touring Tree”.
- We planned an event at the HUB on 26 October 2023, where Care Leavers planted the tree, and we started the pledge process.



Some of our pledges

"I pledge that UC shall NOT sanction care leavers and if they do, we will challenge them."

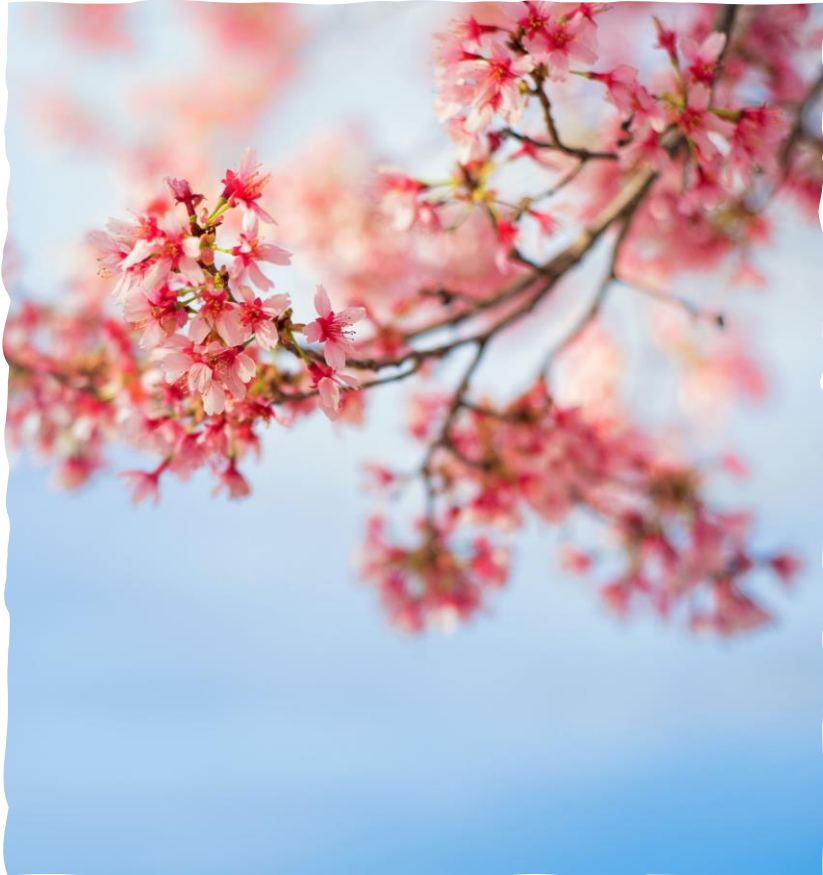
"Work regionally & ensure care leavers get the same offer no matter where they live and then take this nationally.."

"Handcrafted will run practical activity sessions in Sherburn Hill, Stanley and Durham."

"I pledge to help young people identify who is important to them and help them keep in touch with those people.."

"To support young people and give them a voice and enable them to achieve their full potential."

What happens next?



- We will use these to develop our Local Offer by:
 - Taking our touring tree to local businesses, leisure facilities, employers, corporate parenting and to senior managers for further pledges.
 - Taking pledges to the Regional Board for consideration throughout the region.
 - Meeting with young people to identify priority areas and taking these to Senior Managers for buy in.
 - Working with local employers and businesses including as part of a job fayre early next year.