

Name of meeting: Corporate Parenting Board
Date: 24th September 2018
Title of report: Care Leavers – Local Offer Keep on Caring

Purpose of report.

To ensure that members of the Corporate Parenting Board are kept informed of the progress of the development of the Kirklees Local Offer and extending Personal Advisor support to care leavers to the age of 25.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not applicable
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	Not applicable
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not applicable
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Elaine McShane (for Sal Tariq) – 12.9.18
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	Not applicable
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	Not applicable
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Viv Kendrick

Electoral wards affected: not applicable

Ward councillors consulted: not applicable

Public or private: Public

1. Background

The local offer

Section 2 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 requires each local authority to consult on and publish a local offer for its care leavers. The local offer should provide information about all the services and support that is available to care leavers from the local authority and partner agencies including information about both their statutory entitlements as well as any discretionary support that a local authority chooses to provide.

Section 1 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 requires local authorities to have regard to seven corporate parenting principles when discharging their functions in relation to looked-after children and care leavers. The local offer should set out what support all local authority departments will provide (not just Children's Services), having regard to the corporate parenting principles.

Details of the services and support that should be included

The local offer should include details of the services and support that may assist care leavers in, or moving to, adulthood and independent living that the local authority provides in relation to:

- **Health and wellbeing:** This will include services that teach about, support and enable good health and wellbeing. It should include links to, or information about, universal health services that might be particularly relevant to care leavers, as well as specific health and wellbeing services targeted at them.
- **Relationships:** having strong and supportive relationships is crucially important for care leavers as they move to independent adult life. Local authorities will want to consider the services and/ or support that is available to help care leavers develop and maintain positive social networks and to understand what positive relationships look like.
- **Education and training:** Care leavers should be supported to access appropriate education or training that will enable them to fulfil their goals. This will include the statutory support available to care leavers, such as the £2,000 bursary for care leavers in Higher Education, as well as any other support from the local authority; and signpost to universal information such as careers advice and financial support for young people.
- **Employment:** this will include information to care leavers about general employment support, such as careers support and links to local Job Centre Plus. Local authorities should also include any other employment support that they or partners deliver that is specifically available to care leavers, for example, any apprenticeships that the local authority offers, in particular where such opportunities are ring-fenced for care leavers.
- **Accommodation:** care leavers should be supported to access appropriate and suitable accommodation. The local authority should include relevant information about their Staying Put policy, the support available from Housing Services and any other assistance that is available to care leavers, such as advice on maintaining a tenancy.
- **Participation in society:** this will include links to and information about activities, events or volunteering opportunities available in the local area that care leavers can get involved in.

2. **Summary**

In October 2017 no 11 was opened as a drop in centre for Children in Care and Care Leavers to access support from a variety of professionals. There are currently a number of services available from a number of partner agencies including housing, health, education, employment and training and local services providing support with drugs and alcohol misuse. It has been identified that there are a number of services available however there is further need for development in relation to providing a more effective service for our Young People.

As a service we have been reviewing our service provision as part of the process of developing our Local Offer for Care Leavers.

In order to progress these developments we have updated the action plan please refer to Action Plan Appendix 1.

3. **Information required to take a decision.**

For information, no action required.

4. **Implications for the Council**

4.1 **Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP)**

Not applicable

4.2 **Economic Resilience (ER)**

Not applicable

4.3 **Improving Outcomes for Children**

The implementation of the Kirklees Local Offer will provide a Partnership Approach in providing support and services that will assist Care Leavers with their transition to adulthood.

4.4 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

Not applicable

5. **Consultations**

Action Plan and proposed draft of the Local Offer - 9th July 2018 members of the Corporate Parenting Board were consulted in relation to the action plan and the proposed draft of the Local Offer.

Views from CICC and CL Forum on the proposed Local Offer - On the 9th and 11th July 2018 members of the steering group attended the Children in Care Council and the Care Leavers Forum in order to discuss the draft proposed Local Offer and to seek their views as part of the consultation process.

On the 31st July 2018 the draft Local Offer was presented to the Senior Leadership Team as part of the consultation process. Recommendations were made to make some amendments to the proposed draft.

Meeting with partner agencies - On the 28th August 2018 meeting was held with partner agencies this was a mix of partners who are already providing services at no 11 along with other partners in order to discuss their role in the Local Offer in relation

to enhancing the service provision for our Care Leavers. The partners have been asked to provide feedback on the proposed draft offer.

Design of the offer - One of our Care Experienced Apprentices is currently looking at the design of the offer in consultation with other Young People.

6. Next steps

Drop in Centre in North Kirklees - On the 13th September 2018 members of the steering group with visit premises in Dewsbury to consider appropriate premises for a drop in centre in North Kirklees.

Partnership meeting - On the 25th September 2018 a further partnership meeting to be held.

Proposed draft Local Offer - On the 30th October 2018 the proposed draft Local Offer to be presented to the Senior Leadership Team.

7. Officer recommendations and reasons

That the Board note the report and the revised action plan attached at Appendix 1.

8. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations

Not applicable

9. Contact officers

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10. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Report to Corporate Parenting Board on the 9th July 2018 "Care Leavers – Local Offer Keep on Caring"

11. Service Director responsible

Elaine McShane (Family Support and Child Protection)