**LINX Group Work - "What would you do different if you were in charge of Children's Services"**

**Change**

* More support with mental health, transitioning to college, going to new carers
* More professionals eg Police, GPs – give them advice, get info from them.
* Better assessment of individual needs – not continually asking questions.
* More training to identify issues/problems.
* Bridge 16-18 gap in mental health provision.
* Communication with carers.
* Increase understanding and awareness of teachers and other school staff.
* Better transition from CAMHS to Adult Services.
* Better contact methods with Social Worker.
* Increase support available to the young person.
* Even more opportunities for care leavers.
* More information/background/history of young person being released to carers/foster carers to help them support the young person better/meet their needs eg stop withholding important information relevant to the child.
* Improve CAMHS – more services available – shorter waiting lists/more professionals.
* More support for carers/foster carers.
* Stop changing Social Workers.
* Stop putting extra pressure.
* Give more opportunities and choice for YP about their life and situation.
* Be able to contact people – nobody answers phone.
* More empathy base on situations.
* Base decisions on each case not on protocol.
* Make complaints procedure easier – not our fault if we have to complain.
* Social workers keep in regular contact.
* Make us aware of services available to us.
* Stop making decisions based on money.
* A lot more mental health support.
* Support is "Too little too late".
* Don’t tell children there is nothing that can be done until it's too late.
* Act quicker when children are in danger.
* Should be able to speak to supervisors.
* Keep children updated on their future.
* Help children understand why decisions are being made.
* Stop trying to force children into college – higher education.
* Allow children to be children.
* Start Pathway Plan sooner.
* More detail on Pathway Plan.
* Complete Pathway Plan fully before moving out.
* Change the names of different care leavers.
* Don’t push for people to leave care at 16.

**Keep**

* Helping others/giving peer advice.
* Grants for setting up home and help.