

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.