

LANCASHIRE LOCAL OFFER CARE LEAVERS AGED 16-25

Care leaver local offer consultation 2018

Why consult care leavers ?

The government say we have to.

To give young people a voice for change.

To get it right.

Lived experience.

To get involved in Something Big!

How we did it

Online
Questionnaire



We had a
consultation day
at Lancaster
university



Participation
events



What have care leavers told us

Health and Wellbeing

Relationships

Education/Employment/Training

Accommodation

Participation

What are we getting right/
not getting right about
information and support

What care leavers said about Health and Wellbeing

"identify emotional support earlier before going into independence"

"Need better transition between services-child care to adults"

"mental Health services need more training on the support care leavers need
.....and issues effecting care leavers"

"want information on how to access leisure services"

"Healthy living Drop-in for care leavers"

What care leavers said about relationships

"I would like to hear more from other care leavers about what it feels like to live independently and get help from them. Social workers are always busy and don't know anything about leaving care"

"Would like out of hrs groups or activity groups at weekend's and across the county so we can all attend them"

"Participation groups run by care leavers at weekends-especially for lonely care leavers"

"Peer-Peer support from other care leavers"

"Independent visitors up to age 25"

What Care Leavers said about EET

- “care leavers need more opportunities to visit universities”(Partnership work is currently progressing within Lancashire)

“Need summer schools”

- “I would like other care leavers and social workers to know about the employment and support team. They have helped me into an apprenticeship”

“Careers advice at the right time, 15-17 years of age”

- “I think it would be great if care leavers in apprenticeships received support such as the bursary and incentive reward, like what you get if you go to uni because apprentice’s are educational and lead onto employment”

What care leavers said about accommodation

"Need smaller accommodation for care leavers like student accommodation, don't want to live on my own. Staying Put to 25 and what about residential"??

"Accommodation more suited to the needs of care leavers"

"This is where I need a lot of help, don't like the foyer, too big. I would like to live in smaller accommodation with another care leaver so we can help each other. There's not enough options for housing. Like to see training flats so this could have prepared me better. Care doesn't prepare you for living on your own"

Need more preparation with practical skills like DIY" Tenancy training as it is a mind field all the jargon"! SUHA-not 'normal' how this is spent!



What Care Leavers said about Participation

"Participation groups run by care leavers at weekends- especially for lonely care leavers"

I want more information about what a forum is, I know Barnardo's runs one but its too far for me to travel. Want more activities in evening and weekend but leaving care don't work then"

"Some care leavers have children, please consider a crèche when planning things"

"Would like out of hrs groups or activity groups at weekend's and across the county so we can all attend them"

"LCC should get young people involved younger-show the importance of having a voice"

What are we getting right for care leavers?

Support and Information

“There seems to be more focus in providing better services for care leavers including PA training and better communication”

“ Material and advisory support on your part is great”

“Great support financially if in need. Emotional support has always been given when I’ve needed it-don’t make you feel like you’re talking to a professional just doing their job”

“Supportive and consistent worker”

“I like the information on the Youth Zone webpage.

My PA keeps me informed”

“Giving young people information about different organisations and groups. Help with housing and finding jobs. You’ve managed to help a lot and improve my future”

What are we not getting right for care leavers?

Support and information

"I think my PA is good but don't see her as much as I'd like to. She is very busy all the time. If she is supposed to be like a parent to me why can't I see her more often? You need more workers"

"Going about things the wrong way using wrong words"

"I had a lot of problems understanding how to pay bills and apply for benefits before leaving residential into independence I was never shown"

"Social workers need to know more about leaving care stuff"

" Don't like how we spend the setting up home allowance, Don't like how we spend the setting up .

Conclusion

- **A New Belongings Vision for a Gold Standard Leaving Care Service**
- **Cared For**-meet the needs of care leavers, young and old!!!
- **Cared about**-Individual care leavers know there are people he or she can count on for support, help and advice when they need it-now and in the future
- **Able to care for themselves**-Build resilience, and better preparation for leaving care and beyond!