



Update from National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum

Managers Event December 24

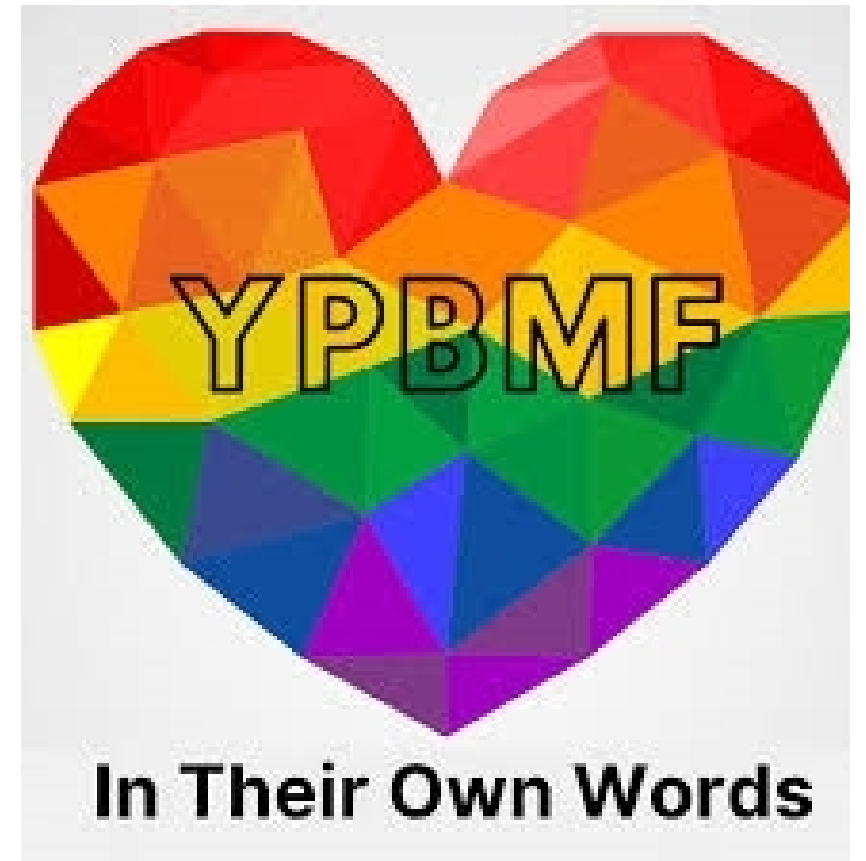
Corporate Parenting Board 23.01.2025



Jane Hylton, Development
Team Manager

NLCBF and YPBMF

- A forum of over 130 Local Authority Leaving Care Teams working together to share good practise to improve the support and services for care experienced young people.
- Young People's Benchmarking Forum (YPBMF) are the heart of the NLCBF. Main aim is to ensure that the voices of care experienced young people are heard loud and clear, as well as to help shape the decisions and priorities of the forum. [National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum](#)



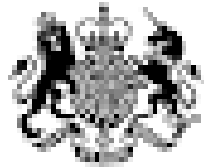
A Fair Offer For All

DfE update-Fiona Erol Head of Care
Leaver policy

YPBMF-Local and National asks-Table
top discussions



DfE update



Department
for Education

- **DfE:** Extending Corporate parenting to wider public sector. Aim is to create a culture change in recognition of unique responsibilities the state has towards Care experience children and young people.
- Recognises the fact that not all LA's can do this on their own, needs a culture change (to improve outcomes)
- Government Departments and NHS will be required to produce a 3-year plan and report at end of this period.
- Staying Close-recognise that LA's will need time to set up. Will be given 3 years after legislation is made. DfE will support during the 3 years practically and financially.

Young People Benchmarking Forum

A fair offer to all-Key Asks



1. Cost of Living

- Local ask-**Cost of living payment** - Ringfenced funds e.g. Household Support Fund for care experienced young people (where not already in place)
- National ask-**Free transport** – Influence all geographic areas of England to provide free or discounted buses, trams, trains...like an over 60's pass but for your children....us.

2. Mental Health/Health

- Local Ask-**Health & Mental Health Specialist within Care Leavers Teams** – Having mental health workers and leaving care nurses who are accessible at Care Leavers Hubs.
- National ask-**National offer around health** – ensure that all Local Authorities and organisations are providing a good health offer e.g. gym memberships, free NHS prescriptions in all areas.



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3. Communities of support

- **Local Ask-Communication** – Tell us about what we can get involved with. Young people's interests - Support young people to explore their interests & see how you can support them to attend new things.
- **National Ask-Wide range of taster & ongoing offers** – Care Leaver Covenant to source a wide range of leisure/interest offers for young people to try and get involved with including cinema, sports clubs, etc

4. Safe and affordable homes

- **Local Ask-Check in** – We might have a job, a house etc. but that doesn't mean we are not struggling. Check in to help us resolve small problems before they get bigger
- **National Ask-Priority Housing** – all care experienced individuals 18 – 25 years should be on priority banding. A national message about this would help



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- **5. Support after 21 and 25**

- **Local ask-A place to return to** – could Care Leaver Hubs host regular over 25 events e.g. reunions, celebrations, meals.
- **National Ask-Be our Corporate parent** – you are all our corporate parents, find out how to be a good one.
- **Great news that we have 2 young people representing Lancashire at Place, Purpose, community in February**

