

Annual Report for Care Leavers

Children's Health, Social Care and Education

Overview and Scrutiny

13th April 2016

Author:	Service Manager, Children, Families and Community Health
Wards:	All
Locality Affected:	All
Parishes Affected:	All

1. Purpose and Reasons

1.1 Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000

This Act provides the legal framework for the policy and arrangements in respect of young people leaving the care of the local authority, and after care services. The local authority has a duty to prepare looked after young people for the time when they leave care. Children's Social Care has a range of duties and powers to provide after care advice and assistance to these young people, and to those who have been accommodated by other specified agencies. Good Corporate Parents will provide young people with help and support to access education, employment and training opportunities and to find accommodation suitable to meet their needs.

1.2 This report notifies the Committee of the work undertaken for care leavers for the period September 14 – Dec 2015.

1.3 The work of the Leaving Care Team supports priority 4 of the Vision for Swindon - "Help people to help themselves while always protecting our most vulnerable children and adults"

2. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

2.1 Note and approve the contents of the attached annual report, Appendix 1.

3. Detail

The priorities for the Leaving Care team are:

Ensure that all care leavers have a pathway plan of high quality, and prioritise planning to raise the proportion of care leavers who are in education, employment or training.

Ensure that all care leavers receive independence training to equip them with sufficient skills, such as managing money, to help them to live independently.

Annual Report for Care Leavers

Children's Health, Social Care and Education

Overview and Scrutiny

13th April 2016

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 This report is for information only.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 At the time of writing this report there are no discernible financial implications.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Human Rights considerations have been taken into account fully in compiling this report. It is considered that the recommendations of this report are compatible with Convention rights.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 None

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 This report is covered by the Diversity Impact Assessment for Swindon's Children in Care and Care Leavers Strategy 2014-2016

Risk Management

- 5.5 There are no risk implications

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Board Director, Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – Annual Report for Care Leavers