

Post Scrutiny - Executive Response

In Respect of: Scrutiny Review of Services for Looked After Children Aged 16 Plus

Date:

Cabinet Deputy: Councillor Allison Gwynne, Executive Member (Children and Families)

Coordinating Officer: Joy Dunbavin, Head of Service Looked After Children Resources

Partnership: Prosperous Delivery Board

Recommendations	Accepted/ Rejected	Executive Response	Officer Responsible	Action By (Date)
1. The Council work with ex-care leaving volunteers to contribute more to the development and delivery of supplementary courses and group work sessions, where possible.	Accepted	The Leaving Care Management Team will recruit several volunteers from care experienced adults and other interested members of the Community or Council employees who wish to volunteer in facilitating groups and projects for adolescent Looked after Children.	Joy Dunbavin	15 th September 2013
2. That the Council provide opportunities for care leavers to be able to test out bedsits over a shorter period i.e weekends.	Accepted	The Leaving Care Team will pilot the use of one of the bed sits for Young People aged 16 or 17 for 1 night or 2 and assess their capability and emotional resilience during this period.	Mark Prescott	15 th August 2013

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3. That the Council improve the promotion and recruitment process for supported lodging providers in Tameside. With a view to increasing the number of supported lodging placements that are available in the borough.	Accepted	A Fixed Term contract for a recruitment officer to oversee all recruitment and promotion of fostering, adoption and supported lodgings in the borough has been agreed with a view to increasing our in house placements closer to children and young people's family locations at a lower cost.	Joy Dunbavin	15 th August 2013
4. That the Leaving Care Team work closely with the Economic Development Unit to continue to build relationships with local employers, as part of their on-going commitment to provide essential work experience for care leavers.	Accepted	The Leaving Care Team will build close working relationship links with the Economical Development Unit and have a target of an additional 10 work experience placements for young people in 2013/2014	Mark Prescott	15 th August 2013 and ongoing
5. That the Council supports the development of a peer support scheme, to help combat isolation and loneliness amongst care leavers. Ensuring that volunteers are provided with sufficient information and training, enabling them to deal with a variety of situations.	Accepted	The Leaving Care Team Managers will scope out the development of a peer support scheme for care experienced young people and what the scheme will cover by 15 th July 2013 to be discussed by the Children's Management Team	Mark Prescott	15 th July 2013
6. That the Council consider providing designated mobile phones for peer mentoring volunteers.	Accepted	This will be covered in the scoping of the above with clear cost/benefit analysis and where the additional money will be sourced from.	Mark Prescott	15 th July 2013

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7. That the Council ensures that relevant sign posting is undertaken and information is passed to partner agencies, for young people that do not engage with the support that is offered by the Leaving Care Team.	Accepted	The Leaving Care Team will send monthly information to the Head of Service for Looked after Children on young people who are not actively engaging with the team for their names to be flagged to other partners who may be more likely to engage successfully with them.	Mark Prescott	15 th July 2013
8. That the Council consider increasing the monitoring that takes place with regards to the outcomes of care leavers. Providing information about how transient care leaver's are and employment outcomes.	Accepted	The Leaving Care Team will be looking at all their data needs and what we use it for to produce a monthly data booklet that will include outcomes for older care experienced young people.	Joy Dunbavin	15 th August 2013