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Dear North West Leicestershire District Council

Background

This is a request for information regarding what you offer care leavers. We are aware of the current pandemic, time and resource constraints that you may have, but we would really appreciate this being

Many lower tier district councils are unaware of the Local Offer for Care Leavers. Generally, the County Councils have been creating the local offer, but they are not responsible for council tax, leisure and housing.

Here is the legislation specific to you District Councils

Children and Social Work Act 2017 2

Local offer for care leavers

- (1) A local authority in England must publish information about—
 - (b) other services which the local authority offers that may assist care leavers in, or in preparing for, adulthood and independent living.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), services which may assist care leavers in, or in preparing for, adulthood and independent living include services relating to—
 - (a) health and well-being;
 - (b) relationships;
 - (c) education and training;
 - (d) employment;
 - (e) accommodation;
 - (f) participation in society.
- (7) In this section—

“local authority in England” means—

 - (b) a district council;

Whilst it is vital that young people are aware of their entitlements, it is also important that local authorities are clear about how they will provide any support.

Legislation also recognises the need to review your local offer, and where you may not currently offer some of the things we have listed, or you may not have a local offer in place, now could be an opportunity to add/create a local offer.

I'm a care leaver myself and I've got lots of experience with Local Offers and have worked with many councils across England, I'm more than happy to schedule a Teams/Zoom call free of charge with you if you want any advice and guidance.

Kind Regards

Terry Galloway

Information Request – Lower Tier

Joint Local Offer

Nottinghamshire had the first joint local offer between its County and District Councils. This was co-produced by the county and the districts. You only have a genuine “Joint” local offer if it has been co-produced.

Do you have a local offer for care leavers in partnership with the County Council. YES

If yes – please give details

Co-produced by Leicestershire County Council and districts. However, the final offer is still being developed.

If no – Would you consider creating a joint offer to include all the districts in your County? N/A

Publishing the Local Offer

Have you published the Local Offer for Care Leavers NO

If Yes, how

Printable format (please attached pdf) N/A

Online N/A

If Yes, where

Downloadable App N/A

If yes, please give details (Name/publisher)

Have care leavers fed co-produced the Local Offer with corporate YES

If yes, please give details

This was led on by the county council.

Who would you like to be the main contact for your care leavers to contact you?

Name *Jason Knight*

Email jason.knight@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

Phone *01530 454602*

Gym and leisure center access for care leavers

Gym membership for care leavers YES

Free access to swimming YES

Free access to classes YES

If yes up to what age N/A

Can care leavers take a friend? YES

Who can care leavers contact to apply?

Emma Knight, Health and Wellbeing Team Leader

The health and wellbeing offer is developed on a bespoke basis with the individual and is not generic – it is determined by their individual needs and can include the above, but may not.

Council Tax Exemption

Do you provide council tax exemption for Care Leavers?	YES
If yes up to what age	25
Is this only available to care leavers from your local authority?	YES
Please tell us what care leavers must do to apply?	

Complete a discount application form and be eligible re the other criteria:

- *in care on 16th birthday*
- *in care for at least 13 weeks from the age of 14*
- *Care address must be provided*

Housing

Social Housing

Do care leavers get priority banding for social housing?	YES
If yes up to what age to they get priority	N/A
And what banding priority do they get	<i>Depends on situation</i>
Please tell us any further details on how they qualify and what they should do?	

Details can be found in our Allocation Policy online:

https://www.nwleics.gov.uk/files/documents/allocations_policy_2018/Allocations%20Policy%202018%20Final%20v2.pdf

Deposit in the private rental sector (accepting this is not always a blanket offer)

Do you in principal assist with:

Will your local authority provide a deposit for care leavers in private rented property	YES
If yes, please give details	

Through the councils rent deposit guarantee scheme.

Work and training

Do you offer any work experience within your local authority for Care Leavers?	YES
If yes, how many per year?	<i>Dependent on requests</i>
If no, would you consider it?	N/A
Do you ring fence any apprentices within your local authority for Care Leavers?	NO

If yes, how many per year?	N/A
How many care leavers are working in your local authority as apprentices?	Unknown
If yes, how many per year?	Unknown

Please tell us anything else about work and training that you do to support care leavers?

This is part of the offer that is still being developed

Access to Corporate Parents

Do care leavers have the opportunity to meet with their councilors YES

Do care leavers have the opportunity for mentoring with any of the senior leadership team? YES

If yes, please give details

Care leavers have the opportunity to meet with councilors upon request as any resident of the district does. There is nothing formal established regarding mentoring and requests would be considered on a case by case basis
