

**FRONTLINE**

CHANGING LIVES

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SOCIAL WORK  
COFFEE BREAKS

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# We should have the same expectations for care leavers as we do for our own children.

## Ask yourself

- Do you know where your children are staying – is it really suitable
  - Did you stop seeing them when they turned 21yrs
  - Did you turn them away when they needed support
    - Would you give them more than one chance
      - Employ them in the family business

# National/local picture

- We have care leavers living in sub standard accommodation that is unsafe
- We don't know where many of our care leavers are – we don't track their destinations
  - We see care leavers every 4 months – not good enough
  - No eligibility to Adult/ Mental Health – CAMHS ends at 18yrs
  - LA's prosecute care leavers for non payment of Council Tax
    - Housing/HOST can make care leavers homeless
    - DWP can sanction care leavers for up to 3 years
- We cant offer assistance/cash as you are an adult – on your own now!

Is this good Corporate Parenting?

A Good Corporate Parenting Approach  
leads to a  
Good Local Offer

# The 6 Golden threads

If we apply the following threads:

- In everything we do we ask ourselves - **is this good enough for my child**
- **Co-production** - be driven by CiC and care leavers to achieve change
- Agree a set of achievable outcomes – can we get there! **Be ambitious!**
- **Its about relationships** - be their lifelong champion – Remember it is a journey and mistakes will be made. You take a wrong turn – we get you on the right road!
- Does the leaving care model work? **Is it a 16yrs to 25yrs - be proactive**
- Are we joined up enough – **a multi-agency approach?**

# A Good Corporate Parenting Approach – the Board

Boards need to adapt to be more active, participative and a challenging approach –  
A suggested approach is the Champion Model Approach:

1. A themed approach to Boards - 6 themed, 1 to celebrate success and 1 to look at data.
2. Elected members become Champions of a particular area i.e. Housing
3. A Operational Champion is identified.
4. Care leavers tells the story outside of Board – **Co – Production/Participation**
5. The story is presented to the Board with a favoured resolve/approach to care leavers
6. The Board is expected to resolve cross department issues and other partner issues asking - **is this good enough for my child?**
7. Membership of the Board – DWP, YOS, Probation, Police, Adult and Mental Health, Housing, Reps from Business and Vol Sector.

# A Good Corporate Parenting Approach – a multi-agency offer

Engage all key delivery partners to

- Arrange a multi-agency event to discuss the new Corporate Parenting Duties – health, housing, Transitions –Adult and mental Health, EET, Business, leisure and transport representatives, council tax, etc.
- Get each agency to write down their local offer
- Don't forget the soft stuff – driving lessons, free prescriptions, TV licence, home insurance, free travel pass, leisure card, single parent grant, prom outfit, etc.
- Offer signed off by CEO and Leader of Council and presented to Corporate Parenting Board on the principle that this is the best offer to our kids.
- Reviewed yearly.



# A Good Corporate Parenting Approach – a business/community offer

Develop your own Care Leaver Covenant

- Arrange a business/community event and get them to make an offer to a child in care or a care leaver
- Do an Aspiration Audit of all CiC and match to offers made by the event

The Fireman Story

# Leads to a Good Local Offer

- Suitable/affordable accommodation
- No use of Bed and Breakfast for any age
- Financial Policy above the benefits rate
- Incentives to promote EET
- No care leavers are made intentionally homeless and accommodation is of a high standard
- Free bus passes and access to leisure – Plus 1 approach
- Assistance over and above leaving care grant
- Use of mentors and Peer mentors

# A few more.....

- A digital offer for care leavers
- Care leavers in the family business - Ringfenced Opportunities in Council that lead to permanent work
- Specialist workers in leaving care team – health, EET, housing
- Accommodation offer – taster flats, rent covered for first month
- National Living wage for apprentice care leavers
- Clear Rights and Entitlements
- Council Tax Exemption across boundaries

Thank you

***What's your role in Corporate Parenting?***

***What have you learnt today?***

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