**2020-2023/25**

**Foreword**

Dear colleague,

This Strategy provides the foundation of our aspiration for young people leaving care. In Suffolk we believe that corporate parenting is one of the most important responsibilities held by elected members, partner agencies and all our staff.

As highlighted in the Inspection of January 2022, Care Leavers are a high priority for the Local Authority. ‘Many care leavers achieve well, exceeding their own expectations. All are valued and their achievements are celebrated. Persistent efforts are made to reach out to those who are difficult to engage’.

This means that every child in care and care leaver should be listened to, cared for, feel safe, be healthy, receive the best education and have every opportunity to be independent and successful. As corporate parents we need to always ask ourselves “is this good enough for my child?” and hold us, and each other, to this standard. All services need to go over and above to help give care leavers a voice and enable them to succeed. We need all our children to be cared for and cared about. All care leavers are valued, and their achievements are celebrated.

We must ensure we have close, co-ordinated working relationships with partners if we are to succeed in improving outcomes for our children – now and in the future. We must know our children well and listen to what they are telling us.

We are ambitious for all our children in care and care leavers.

Kind regards

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| **Councillor Stephen Burroughes**  **Cabinet Member for Children’s Services** | **Suzy Joyner**  **Interim Executive Director of Children's Services Corporate Services** |
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**Foreword by Our Voice Group**

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Dear Reader,

Coming into care can be a difficult experience for children and young people. We want our Corporate Parents to be committed to ensuring that children in care and care leavers are offered the same level of care and support as other young people would receive from their parents.

We want to work closely with our Corporate Parents and partners to ensure our priorities for children and care leavers are upheld - by working with us and listening to our voices and through consultation with C2C and Our voice groups. We want a strategic plan that makes a difference and improves the quality of our lives, taking into consideration our education, housing, health and emotional needs and a service that really gets to know our views and experiences.

The relationship between a young person and their social worker or young person’s advisor is very important. We want our Corporate Parents to recognise the significance of this role to enable us to develop a trusting relationship and strong bond.

We want to become confident young adults with increased future prospects and improved stability to enhanced lives.

**On behalf of the Our Voice Care Leaver Group**

**Voice of Young People**

We are committed to co-production with children and young people, parents and carers. We spoke to young people about their care leaving experience and this is what they said.

*We need people who go above and beyond to show us love and that they care. Help us build relationships with people who can support us and be there for us.*

I was volunteering for a while and worried that I wasn’t going to get anywhere. I was supported to apply for the job, coached with my interview, and now I couldn’t be happier.

I was supported to make my own decisions and I’m now happy with my part time job and take part in education and activities.

Let us follow our dreams. Have aspirations for us. Help us to see what we can achieve.

I move out today from supported living in my own flat. I’ve been waiting a LONG time for this, and my worker has helped me be patient as you don’t know how long it can take sometimes

*When we become a care leaver at 16, don’t put us in accommodation with other people who are going to be a bad influence or exploit us. Supported Lodgings are a good step towards* *independence.*

*Let us follow our dreams. Have aspirations for us. Help us to see that we can achieve, go to University if we want to, but not just in education, in sports, the Arts, community activities, Scouts, Cubs, Guides, Brownies, Cadets……*

*Involve us in the decision making about where we are going to live and in planning the move*

*Make sure there is always someone that we can go to and talk to. Being a care leaver can be a lonely place.*



**Introduction**

The profile of care leavers is changing. More children come into care as adolescents, and the profile of UASC is increasing. We are supporting an increasing number of care leavers, and we expect these numbers to grow. The Leaving Care Service is currently supporting 788 children in care and care leavers.

This Strategy builds on several areas of policy:

* The key policy framework for care leavers – 2016’s [***Keep on Caring: Supporting Young People from Care to Independence***](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/535899/Care-Leaver-Strategy.pdf), and 2018’s [***Support for Care Leavers***](http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8429/CBP-8429.pdf).
* Responsibilities for care leavers, which were extended in the [***Children & Social Work Act 2017***](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/16/notes), extending corporate parenting responsibilities to all local authorities and extending support to 25 year old’s.
* The National Implementation Advisor for Care Leavers published his [**first annual report into the care leavers’ landscape**](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764710/National_Implementation_Adviser_for_Care_Leavers_Annual_Report.pdf) in December 2018.
* Suffolk’s existing [Local Offer](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/assets/Children-families-and-learning/children-in-care-and-care-leavers/Suffolk-Leaving-Care-Offer-2018.pdf) to care leavers, which details the services and support available.

**Corporate Parenting Principles**

The Children & Social Work Act 2017 extends the duties on all local authorities (including District and Borough Councils) to have regard to a set of corporate parenting principles when exercising their functions in relation to looked after children and care leavers up to the age of 25.

* To act in the best interest, and promote the physical and mental health and wellbeing, of those children and young people.
* To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings.
* To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people.
* To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners.
* To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people.
* For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships, and education or work.
* To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.

**Partnership**

This Strategy sets out our ambition for our care leavers. As an authority and corporate parent, we know that we cannot secure the best outcomes alone. We need the support of the whole Suffolk System. We will work together to be the best corporate parent we can be.

**Governance**

The Corporate Parenting Board is a multi-agency partnership led by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education. The Board will report annually to Cabinet on the Strategy. The Care Leavers Strategy Group will report twice yearly to the Corporate Parenting Board and CYP DMT. Each Outcome Lead will sit on the Care Leavers Strategy Group. The Care Leavers Strategy Group will be chaired by the Assistant Director, Social Care & Youth Justice

**Our Vision**

All children and families in Suffolk have the right to:

* be safe
* the best education
* physical and emotional health
* successful preparation for adulthood and employment.

We will be aspirational for all young people in care and leaving care.

**Promise to Care Leavers**

Our [***Promise to Care Leavers***](https://www.thesource.me.uk/assets/Care/Suffolk-Promise-Booklet-16-plus-2015-11.pdf) sets out our commitment to care leavers and what we will do to achieve this. Delivering on the promises to care leavers is the foundation of our work. The Promise will be discussed with care leavers to make sure the promises are being kept for them.

* We will help you to do the best you possibly can in your education, training or employment.
* We will help you find a home where you are safe, well cared for and can be happy.
* We will help you to be as healthy and happy as you can be.
* We will work with you to give you all the help and support you need to make a success of moving on from care to adult life.
* We will help you follow your interests and hobbies and to be the best you possibly can.
* We will help you to see your family, friends and other people who are important to you.

**Outcomes for Care Leavers**

*Keep on Caring* set out 5 key outcomes, which have been adopted by the National Implementation Advisor for Care Leavers.

We have adopted the following outcomes for Suffolk, based on our Promise and taking into account *Keep on Caring*. We have adopted an additional outcome:

**Outcome 1: Improve access to education, employment and training.**

*Suffolk Promise: We will help you to do your very best in education, training, and employment*.

**Outcome 2: Care leavers should experience stability in their lives and feel safe and secure.**

*Suffolk Promise: We will help you find a home where you are safe, well cared for and can be happy*

**Outcome 3: Improved access to health support.**

*Suffolk Promise We will help you to stay healthy, well and happy as you can be*

**Outcome 4: Care leavers should achieve financial stability and independence**

*Suffolk Promise: We will work with you to give you all the help and support you need to make a success of moving on from care to adult life*

**Outcome 5: Experience strong family networks and be the best they can be**

*Suffolk Promise: We will help you follow your interests and hobbies and be the best you can be*

*Suffolk Promise: We will help you see your family, friends and other people who are important to you*

**Outcome 6: Being the best corporate parent we can be.**

We have taken the opportunity to reflect on and strengthen our objectives as a result of the inspection and have included them in this Strategy. Ofsted noted in their report.

“Care leavers are a high priority for the local authority. This is evident at all levels. The priority given to care leavers by leaders drives the effective practice evidenced by the workforce, and creates and sustains a culture that is determined, ambitious and creative. Care leavers are helped to successfully transition to independence, and to reach their potential”.

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| **Outcome 1: Education, Employment & Training** |  |
| **What we have achieved:**   * We have established The Virtual College as a distinct arm of the Suffolk Virtual School, focusing on raising the outcomes and engagement in EET of Post 16 and care leavers. * *The Family Business* model has successfully become well-embedded in SCC, and obtained corporate sponsorship, including from Nicola Beach, Chief Executive Suffolk County Council. * The Virtual College has launched The Family Business Skills Academy; a training programme to provide care leavers with necessary skills to help them succeed in the workplace. Care leavers enrolled on the programme have access to ring-fenced opportunities provided through The Family Business. * The Family Business Coordinator post is established and working with Leaving Care and UASC Teams to aid the transition of care leavers from The Skills Academy and into work. * We have a single point of contact protocol with DWP, who sits on the Corporate Parenting Board * We have established a county-wide EET Panel, which includes Youth Justice, UASC and Leaving Care Teams all being invited to present NEET cases for discussion. * All Suffolk care leavers, meeting essential criteria, are guaranteed an SCC job interview. * Care Leavers can be enrolled in the Flexible Resourcing Pool to gain access to SCC jobs. * In 2023, 47 children in care and care leavers attended the Virtual School woodland residentials, in partnership with Thorpe Woodlands Outdoor Adventure Centre, Thetford, with a further 25 due to attend in February 2024. * The Virtual College has developed a data dashboard to support the tracking and monitoring of the EET status of our Post 16 and Post 18 cohorts * We have developed a Post 16 pupil premium funding strategy, linked to the NEET PEP for 16-18 year olds, to support their re-engagement in EET | |
| **Our Further Ambition:**   * *The Family Business* to become a national model, with alumni apprentices acting as consultants to wider local authorities, district, and borough councils. * *The Family Business* to become the umbrella term for all care leaver work-experience brokerage, local business outreach, and apprenticeships within the organisation/s. * We will develop a tailored offer with University of Suffolk for care leavers to access higher education. * We will provide guaranteed interviews for care leavers in Suffolk County Council and our district and borough partner organisation. * Through the Skills Team’s Youth Pledge project, we will continue to raise the profile of our care leavers and aim to guarantee the same offer within the private, third, and voluntary sectors. * We will increase the percentage of young people in employment, education, and training through a range of mechanisms, including the EET Panel, NEET PEP and Post 16 pupil premium to fund EET opportunities. * We will increase the number of completed PEPs – EET and NEET – for 16-18 year olds to raise the engagement and outcomes of young people. | |

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| **Outcome 2:** **Experience Stability; Feel Safe and Secure** | **88.7%**  Care leavers in suitable accommodation (Former Relevant 17-21yr) |
| **What we have achieved:**   * Staying Close has now moved from the pilot stage into a substantiated provider, working with 80 young people across Suffolk. * Care leavers (and foster carers) are supported for young people to ‘Stay Put’, resulting in 80% continuing to live with carers post-18. * We have 90% of care leavers in suitable accommodation. * We have robust quality accommodation standards for children in care aged 16/17. * We have appointed two Specialist YPAs for homeless care leavers. * We have a multi-agency Transitions Panel in place to support care leavers to be independent and suitably accommodated. * We have developed a care leavers’ housing protocol that was ratified by the corporate parenting board in May 2022. | |
| **Our Further Ambition:**   * We will work with partners to avoid placements of care leavers in B&B. * We will work with partners to reduce the likelihood of care leavers being found intentionally homeless. * We will prevent homelessness of care leavers. * We will prioritise the needs of care leavers for affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing. * We will work with partners to quality assure semi-independent accommodation for care leavers. * We will work in partnership to ensure care leavers at risk of exploitation and harm are identified and protected. * We will support the expansion of Staying Close to support young people moving on from semi-independent living. | |

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| **Outcome 3: Improved access to health** | Heart with pulse outline |
| **What we have achieved:**   * We have two CiC Emotional Health & Wellbeing Lead nurses in place. * We provide work experience for care leavers within NHS settings. * We have developed health summaries for care leavers when they reach 18. * We offer a nurse led service for young people over 18 should it be required, which offers information, advice and signposting to adult services. * We have obtained free access to leisure for care leavers residing in the west of the county. | |
| **Our Further Ambition:**   * Each child in care and are leaver to be entitled to free access to a range of sports and leisure opportunities. * We will work with partners to redesign mental health services to ensure that care leavers and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) have appropriate access to emotional wellbeing services from 16-25 * We will ensure care leavers who become parents are supported. * We will improve the training and process of SDQs to ensure we have a more accurate insight into a young person’s wellbeing. | |
| **Outcome 4: Financial stability and independence** | In timescale  ***93.7%*** |
| **Our successes:**   * We have a strong local offer. * We have agreed council tax exemption with all our districts and boroughs for care leavers to age 25. * ‘Our Voice’ have produced a cookbook, which has been published for all care leavers. * We have developed ‘Welcome to Your New Home’ packs for care leavers. * We have negotiated discounted furniture and white goods from Ipswich Furniture Project * We have in place two dedicated Housing PAs to provide information to young people in need of housing advice. | |
| **Our Further Ambition:**   * We will broaden Council Tax exemption for Care leavers that do not reside in the local area; this will be in line with offers from comparable local authorities. * We will increase the setting up home allowance (SUHA) to be more in line with comparable local authorities. * We will provide financial advice and tenancy training for all care leavers. * Continue to develop and review our local offer to support young people’s independence in accordance with their wishes. * We will work will strengthen our relationship with the DCYP Service to explore how to further develop mutual support. * We will support care leavers through the cost-of-living crisis through working in partnership. * We will have a pathway plan in place for 100% of care leavers. | |

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| **Outcome 5: Experience Strong Family Networks and Be the Best You Can Be** | A grey hand with a black background  Description automatically generatedCare leavers in touch (Former Relevant 17-21yr) |
| **What we have achieved:**   * Development of the Grand Mentors model in and around Ipswich. More than 50 mentors have been identified and matches are an ongoing process. * We have an offer of outdoor pursuits to bring young people together and encourage new friendships. * We have residential breaks and expeditions planned and fully funded for 2020. | |
| **Our Further Ambition:**   * We will ensure care leavers have a network of people that support and care about them. * We will increase numbers of care leavers we are in touch with * We will ensure care leavers can experience activities and celebration events. * UASC (16-21) to receive allowance to travel outside of Suffolk to connect with extended family and friends from their community. * We will ensure care leavers have support from mentors and peers. * We will work with partners to enable discounted entrance to entertainment venues in Suffolk. * We will support care leavers to parent well. * Signs of Safety ‘Mapping’ is now operational across the county. | |

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| **Outcome 6: Be the best corporate parent.** |  |
| **What we have achieved:**   * We have expanded our membership of the Board to include the DWP and strengthened District & Borough membership. * Ofsted praised our strong corporate parenting ethos. * We have a robust CiC & Care Leavers Sufficiency Strategy that is scrutinised at each meeting. * Our care leavers are represented within C2C and attend Corporate Parenting Board (CPB) twice yearly. | |
| **Our Further Ambition:**       * We will review our Corporate Parenting Board and make key recommendations. * We will work to develop a Care Leaver ambassador role. * We will aim to have a care leaver sit on the CPB. * We will nominate to Champion roles for members of the CPB and SCC CLT * We will own and develop the Care Leaver Covenant as a CPB * We will nominate a Skills Champion for Care leavers. | |

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| **Priority 1** | | **Education, Employment & Training** | |
| **Outcome Lead: Matthew Cooke/Wendy Wright**  **Councillor Lead: To be agreed** | |
| **Priority actions:** | | **Targets and timescales** | **Owner** | |
| We will aim to increase the number of care leavers accessing HE opportunities, working within the region and the Network for East Anglian Collaborative Outreach (NEACO) ambassadors. | | Develop tailored offer with University of Suffolk that incorporates information, advice and guidance, UCAS application support, financial guidance, and insight into student life.  Continue to link with UoS and UEA to provide residential and day trips to campuses.  Provide a bespoke event to Leaving Care staff including UoS campus tour, workshops, and hands-on labs – to increase awareness and knowledge of the UoS offer. | *Chris Wright* | |
| Work The Care Leaders to develop *The Family Business* model across the organisation. | | Comms and marketing strategy to be integrated across the organisation via the project board.  Coordinate and respond to the outcomes of the consultancy.  Develop application and interview guidance for care leavers.  Provide key points of contact for personal advisors and social workers to learn more about specific opportunities within the organisation. | *Chris Wright* | |
| The number of completed EET and NEET PEPs for 16-18 year olds to increase to further support the engagement and outcomes of young people. | | Standardised PEP moderation process.  Collaborative working with Post 16 settings and providers to support completion of EET PEPs.  Collaborative working with social care to support the completion of NEET PEPs and, in turn, applications for EET funding to support re-engagement.  NEET PEP to be accessed via Liquid Logic. | *Esther Das* | |
| We will reinvigorate our links with local business to provide greater, sustainable employment opportunities for care leavers through *The Family Business.* | | Monthly Family Business meetings with Nicola Beach from May 2023 | *Chris Wright*  *Wendy Wright*  *Megan O’Keefe* | |
| We will offer up to 5 [FTE] apprenticeships within SCC every two years, working within The Family Business model to fulfil these. | | Bi-annual commitment at CYP LT to ensure rolling funding for care leaver apprentices within SCC. | *Megan O’Keefe* | |
| HR will deliver skills workshops to support care leavers to build employability skills, including how the SCC application works. | | Up to 4 per year | *Chris Wright*  *Megan O’Keefe*  *Sarah Llewellyn* | |
| We will be able to be accurately track and monitor the EET status of our Post 16 and Post 18 cohorts at all times via accurate recording on Liquid Logic. | | New EBI tracking dashboard (using post-16 LiquidLogic backend data) is being developed by Virtual School specialist.  Monthly catch- ups scheduled to ensure no ‘dirty data’  Collaboration with social care teams to ensure that current data is recorded on LiquidLogic and transferred onto the data dashboard. | *Chris Wright*  *Elliot Reynolds*  *Esther Das* | |
| **Priority 2** | | **Experience stability, feel safe and secure** | | |
| **Outcome Lead: Tina Hines**  **Councillor Lead: To be agreed** | | | | |
| **Priority actions:** | **Targets and timescales** | | **Owner** | |
| We will work with partners to avoid placements of care leavers in B&B | 95% of care leavers in suitable provision  Continue to avoid the use of B&Bs and develop alternative emergency accommodation. | | *YPHAG* | |
| We will prevent homelessness of care leavers. | No care leavers will become homeless.  Joint funding with Rough Sleeper’s Initiative and Staying Close to commission Housing Advice and Homeless Prevention Officers  We will work across the system to develop a independence programme for young people | | *Corporate Parenting Housing Group* | |
| We will prioritise the needs of care leavers for affordable, suitable, and sustainable housing | Development and embedding of the care leavers’ housing joint protocol. | | *Suffolk Housing Board* | |
| We will work with partners to quality-assure semi-independent accommodation for care leavers | Ensure that we are increasing the choice and availability of accommodation to care leavers.  We continue to work with partners through the new seven-year contracts, and quality assurance will be delivered through contract management. | | *YPHAG* | |
| We will broaden our offer of accommodation to care leavers through investment | Increase the choice and availability of accommodation for care leavers to help them feel safe and settled in their homes (including emergency accommodation for Care Leavers | | *Staying Close Strategic Board* | |
| To develop a protocol to reduce the involvement of CIC and care leavers in criminal justice system. | Avoid the prosecution of looked-after children and care leavers wherever possible and appropriate, by encouraging a response to incidents which reduces the likelihood of criminalisation, offending or reoffending.  Work with YJS and CYPS to devlop a policy that incorporates CIC and Care leavers involving both Children and Adult Services | | *UCCC*  *Deborah Maddock/*  *Austine Adigwe* | |
| To support the resettlement of Care Leavers upon release | Develop the role of Probation Champion to ensure we are identifying and supporting care leavers that are in custody.  Work collaboratively with HMPS to ensure appropriate resettlement plans are in place to prevent homelessness*.* | | *Probation/RSI* | |
| Gangs and County Lines | A training strategy to developed to aid the understanding of coercion and subsequently criminally exploited through running county lines of children and care leavers.  Understand the impact of trauma and attachment on children in care and how this may increase the likelihood of offending | | *Leaving Care Training programme* | |

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| **Priority 3** | **Improved access to health** | | |
| **Outcome Lead:**  **Councillor Lead: To be agreed** | | | |
| **Priority actions:** | | **Targets and timescales** | **Owner** |
| Each child in care and care leaver to be entitled to free access to a range of sports and leisure opportunities. | | Abbeycroft Leisure offer access to Gym and Swim in Stowmarket, Lowestoft and Bungay.  We are working with Everyone Active in Mid Suffolk and Babergh to expand to offer in this area to ensure Care Leavers have access to Leisure and Sports activities. | /Susie McIvor |
| Improved support for the emotional wellbeing and mental health of care leavers at all levels of need | | Gain a more specific understanding from the CCGs and NSFT of demand analysis that has taken place of emotional wellbeing and mental health needs of care leavers (and children in care / adopted / SGOs more generally)  Have a clear map of all services that impact on CiC and care leavers, and ensure pathways are understood.  Develop options to close the gap in meeting the higher tier need outside of NSFT and NSFT Commissioned Services (recognising that significant resources in CYPS, wider services and in the community already directly and indirectly address emotional well-being)   * *Ensuring care leavers are recognised in the new crisis outreach service* * *Ensure prioritisation of service for CIC and care leavers as part of the CHRIS service.* * *Pilot a peripatetic service, that includes support for care leavers.*   Review the potential for the Connect Service to expand in scope to ensure there is a 16-21 seamless service in place.  *Develop processes to collect and monitor diversity trends for care leavers and UASC in all health services to assess the impact on meeting needs on delivery and transition.*  *Improve processes to collect feedback from recognised assessment tools to measure how well we are meeting care leaver's needs through access to specialist and dedicated mental health services when needed.* | *Rebecca Hulme/Tracey Welham*  *Rebecca Hulme/Tracey Welham*  *Rebecca Hulme/Tracey Welham*  *Tina Hines*  *Tracey Welham*  *Tracey Welham* |
| We will improve the training and process for SDQs to ensure that we have an accurate insight into a young person’s wellbeing and that their wellbeing needs are met. | | *Implement SDQ improvement action plan* | *Matthew Cooke*  *Austine Adigwe* |

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| **Priority 4** | **Financial stability and independence** | | |
| **Outcome Lead: Head of Corporate Parenting**  **Councillor Lead: To be agreed** | | | |
| **Priority actions:** | | **Targets and timescales** | **Owner** |
| Strengthen the transitions for young people into independence and for care leavers that continue to have care needs as adults. | | *Develop a practical independence training programme to prepare young people to leave care.*  *To consult with children in care and care leavers regarding their views on independence training and transition into the service.*  *To continue with 6 weekly meetings with ACS and Mental health teams to plan for the transition of care leavers with additional needs* | *Wendy Wright*  *Our Voice groups* |
| Care leavers feel better prepared for independence and, wherever possible, employment. Particular focus should be put on financial and independent living skills. | | *Review of the Staying Put Policy is underway; to be completed by July 2023* | *Wendy Wright* |
| Continue to develop our local offer to support young people’s independence in accordance with their wishes.  Work with Care Leavers to identify how the Offer can be made clearer and more meaningful to Care Leavers | | *To review annually. This will include consultation with care leavers.*  *100% pathway plans in place by September 2023*  *Review of Setting Up Home Allowance April 2023.* | *Wendy Wright*  *Our Voice Groups* |
| We will explore broadening Council Tax exemption for Care leavers that do not reside in the local area; this will be in line with offers from comparable local authorities. | | *Develop business case March 2024*  *Agreement with SCOLT and Public Sector Leaders.* | *Wendy Wright* |

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| **Priority 5** | **Experience strong family networks and be the best you can be** | | |
| **Outcome Lead: Head of Corporate Parenting**  **Councillor Lead: To be agreed** | | | |
| **Priority actions:** | | **Targets and timescales** | **Owner** |
| We will ensure care leavers have a network of people that care and support them | | *Expand Signs of Safety Mapping from the current pilot by December 2022*  *Every young person entering Leaving Care Service has completed mapping within 3 months.* | *Staying Close Project Board* |
| We will ensure care leavers have the opportunity to experience activities and celebration events | | *We will ensure all care leavers have the opportunity to attend an annual residential break.*  *Annual Summer/Winter Balls organised for care leavers to celebrate their successes amongst their friends and peers.* | *Chris Wright*  *Tania Sicling* |
| We will ensure care leavers have support from mentors and peers | | *30 young people being supported by a mentor.*  *We will redesign mentoring services in line with the mental needs of young people* | *Wendy Wright* |
| We will work with partners to enable discounted entrance to entertainment venues in Suffolk. | | *Arrangements in place with at least one venue in Ipswich, Bury and Lowestoft by September 2023* | *Wendy Wright Chris Wright* |
| We will develop a range of interventions and support to ensure care leavers are given every opportunity to parent well, and reduce the likelihood of Care Leavers having children that are themselves taken into care. To explore opportunities be a supportive corporate grandparent. | | *Agree programme of support with Family Nurse Partnership to support care leavers to make positive choices around relationships, mental and emotional wellbeing and child development.*  *Develop resources to prevent unplanned pregnancy.*  *To support care leavers who are prospective parents or who already have children.*  *Work with local stakeholders and volunteer agencies to offer support to young parents and promote their wellbeing.* | *Wendy Wright/Hannah Beeton* |
| **Priority 6** | **Be the best corporate parent** | | |
| **Outcome Lead: Codrutza Oros Marsh**  **Councillor Lead: Cllr Stephen Burroughs** | | | |
| **Priority actions:** | | **Targets and timescales** | **Owner** |
| We will review our Corporate Parenting Board and make key recommendations. | | *Annual Review of Corporate Parenting Board* | *Codrutza Oros Marsh* |
| We will invite representation from young people to the Leaving Care Strategic Board | | *Agreed by January 2024* | *Codrutza Oros Marsh* |
| We will develop appropriate Champion roles for members of the Corporate Parenting Board and SCC Corporate Leadership Team | | *Agreed at CPB by December 2023*  *Member roles to be agreed December 20223* | *Cllr Burroughs* |
| We will appoint a Skills Champion for Care Leavers | | *Agreed by December 2023* | *Cllr Burroughs* |
| We will develop the Leaving Care Covenant with the LEP and the Chamber of Commerce | | *Agreed by March 2023* | *Skills Champion*  *Head of Corporate Parenting* |