



SUPPORTING LONDON'S CARE LEAVERS

SEPTEMBER 2023 ISSUE

Welcome to the Supporting London's Care Leavers newsletter.

We will use this space to help develop a 'community parenting' approach, bringing together the wide range of partners who support care experienced young people in London. We will share news, great practice, and look to spark new initiatives to support our care experienced community.



The Newsletter is produced bimonthly by the London Innovation and Improvement Alliance (LIIA), working closely with the London Children in Care Council and the regional Care Leavers Trust Board. We welcome your comments, feedback and news items.

To find out more about regional work to support Care Leavers in London, please visit the **LIIA Care Leavers website page [here](#)**.

THIS MONTH

- Shining Stars
- Voter ID/Registration - Ensuring Care Experienced young people can vote
- Pan London Care Leavers Compact Update
- Improving Employability for Care Experienced Young People.
- UK Shared Prosperity fund
- A New Deal for Young People

SHINING STARS



On 17th July, Partnership for Young London, along with the London Network of Virtual Headteachers and supported by the City of London, hosted a celebration of young Londoners who are care experienced.

Over 150 people attended the event including the deputy Mayor of London, Joanne McCartney, Ian Thomas, the Town Clerk for the City of London Corporation and Ruby Sayed, Common Cllr and Chairman of the Communities and Children's Services Committee from the City of London Corporation.



Awards were given out by the CEO of TLC Live and the Lady Mayoress. The session opened with a [video of support](#) from Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London.

"What an inspirational occasion! This evening has been a wonderful showcase of the talents and potential of care experienced young people across London. Our winners - and all the young people here and those you are representing through your participation - demonstrate the rich array of skills, abilities, and passions we have among those who have experienced care. And as winners, you also represent a challenge to us. A challenge to nurture those talents, to give opportunity to them, and to celebrate them. And when I say "us" I mean all those who can play a part. Not just London's Mayor and London's local authorities, but London's business community, London's cultural community and the schools, colleges and dedicated professionals growing the talents and confidence of our care experienced young people, so they can enrich their lives and the lives of others."

Ruby Sayed, Common Cllr and Chairman of the Communities

VOTER ID/REGISTRATION – ENSURING OUR CARE EXPERIENCED COMMUNITY CAN VOTE



Partnership for Young London have been awarded funding from the Mayor of London to develop our work with care experienced young people on Voter ID and Voter Registration.

As part of this programme, the Pan London Children in Care Council will be running workshops, developing and sharing resources trying to raise the profile of why care experienced young people's voices count, how young people can register to vote and the new requirements on Voter ID.

As part of this we will also be developing resources and sharing best practice across London. If you have any examples of practice you can share or you want to take part in this work please contact louisa.foyle@cityoflondon.gov.uk and get involved.

For more details about #VoterRegistration or #VoterID please see the Democracy Hub website <https://registertovote.london/>

PAN LONDON CARE LEAVERS COMPACT UPDATE

The Pan London Care Leavers Compact will build greater consistency and quality in the support offers available to London's Care Leavers. Click here to read about the [Pan-London Care Leavers Compact](#) and to view the [PYL video](#)

The London Care Leavers Compact will be formally launched around the turn of the year. We anticipate that the first version will incorporate the following, with subsequent versions adding more elements:

Local Authority Commitments – A set of five proposals to support Care Leaver housing, along with LA membership of the Care Leaver Covenant and an invitation to Local Authorities to consider adoption of care experience as a protected characteristic. We have secured the regional support of London's Directors of Children Services, Housing Directors and Lead Members for Children for these proposals and are now looking

Health – All five of London's ICS areas have now agreed funding to exempt care leavers from prescription charges. Two ICS areas are also piloting employability projects for care experienced young people.

50% reduction in bus and tram fares – Delivering this concession requires an identity check of up to 16,000 Care Leavers. We are currently developing and testing the administration system between TFL, LIA and Local Authorities.



IMPROVING EMPLOYABILITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH CARE EXPERIENCE

The Catch 22 National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum would like to invite you to this event that we are hosting with the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, in partnership with the Department for Education.

**catch
22**

Tuesday 3rd October, 2-4:30pm (Online)

Who is this for? The event is for anyone working to support young people with care experience on their journey to employment across the public and third sector. It is for those in education and employment organisations such as Colleges, training providers, Virtual School Heads, and those within local or combined authority economy & enterprise teams.

The event will include:

- **Key learning from the DfE-funded care leaver employment Social Impact Bonds in Bristol, Lewisham, and Sheffield – See the [Evaluation Report](#) that has just been published**
- **Hearing directly from care experienced apprentices about what has made a difference to them in their employment journeys**
- **Learning from NLCBF's Employability Peer Learning Programme for local authority leaving care teams**
- **A range of interactive workshops will cover taking a whole Council approach to employability, supporting specific groups of young people such as those who arrived as Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children, and draw on local authority and voluntary sector experience and expertise in this field**

Please [Book Here](#) & feel free to share this invite with people who may be interested.

UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND



HM Government GREATERLONDONAUTHORITY

**LEVELLING
UP**

Please be aware of this upcoming opportunity which may be relevant to those supporting care leavers in their education, training and employment.

LONDON UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND PEOPLE AND SKILLS UPDATE

The GLA is planning to launch a call in early September for projects to support young Londoners. Around £11m of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) will be made available for two programmes of activity:

1. Careers Education for Young Londoners

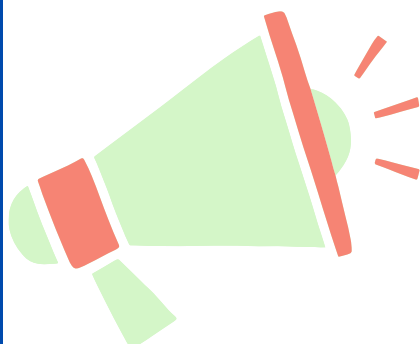
Approx. £2m will be utilised for the commissioning of additional careers provision for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and those at risk of becoming NEET.

This will be achieved through delivering activities such as:

- **Capacity building in education institutions and training for staff including: careers leaders, teachers, senior leaderships teams and governors**
- **Capacity building and training support for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to help them offer support to education institutions and students**
- **Development of quality work experience plans for education institutions, students and employers and delivering a flexible approach to work experience opportunities for students**
- **Support the implementation of post-work experience review to inform learning**

The provision will continue to work with education providers, employers and young people; and will support the delivery of over 4,000 work experience placements, to ensure they have a better understanding of employer expectations and can make better decisions about careers.

2. Support for Young Londoners who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)



Approx. £9m will focus on commissioning interventions for around 5,000 young Londoners aged 16–24 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). These interventions will help them to develop interpersonal skills that increase their employability, and progress into education, employment or further training outcomes.

There are two sets of project requirements within this programme: Universal NEET and Targeted NEET. Universal NEET will support young Londoners who are NEET and not experiencing multiple forms of disadvantage or do not have additional support needs.

Targeted NEET will support young Londoners who are furthest from the labour market and experiencing multiple forms of disadvantage and/or have significant additional support needs, including those that are/with:

- **Looked After Children and Care Leavers**
- **Homeless or at risk of homelessness**
- **Involved in substance misuse and/or criminal activity**
- **Young carers**
- **Special Education Needs or a Disability (SEND)**

We expect that projects will start between January and April 2024 and will finish by 31 March 2025, in line with government's specified end date for UKSPF.

Delivery must be within the Greater London area, and align to the four sub-regional partnership areas for the Careers and Universal NEET programmes. Targeted NEET programmes should be delivered within a sub-regional area, but projects may focus on more localised provision.

Payments will be made against the achievement of activities, outputs and outcomes.

If you have any queries, you can email us at UKSPF@london.gov.uk.

A New Deal for Young People

The Mayor of London has funded a number of mentoring initiatives across London and within this a number of the organisations are focused on care leavers. Initiatives from round 2 have been publicised on the website and there will be new funded groups announced shortly on this link, which details who is funded and where they are working, [please click here to find out more.](#)

FIND OUT MORE

We welcome your comments, feedback and news items - please send to Nafisa.Abdiresak@londoncouncils.gov.uk

To learn more about regional work to support Care Leavers in London, please visit the LIIA Care Leavers website page [here.](#)

GET IN TOUCH

Please visit our website: liia.london for more detailed information on each of the ALDCS priorities, or contact the team directly to discuss anything in greater detail.

Please let us know your feedback on this newsletter [via email](#) so we can keep improving future editions.

THANKS FOR READING!

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