



# You Said We Did

Children in Care Council 2022



# Change Grow Live Materials

What do you like/dislike about the independent visitor leaflet and advocacy poster?	In your experience how have you found communication with Independent Visitors? What method do you prefer?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Too formal and not suitable for children or young people</li><li>• Add pictures to make it more visual</li><li>• Too many words and that she would like it to be more colourful to grab attention</li><li>• Remove the ear from the front page and replace with something else</li><li>• Less writing and more pictures would be better</li><li>• Have a young person and adult in the picture rather than two adults</li><li>• The colours were nice.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Used zoom with her independent worker, and it has worked well for her, but she would like more face-to-face visits</li><li>• Didn't mind virtual over the covid period</li><li>• Would prefer to see people face-to-face.</li></ul>



# Change Grow Live Materials

## We Did

- Views were taken back to the service with the intention of materials being changed to reflect these. However, materials had already gone to print.
- Materials in future will be co-produced from an earlier stage with young people ensuring there are no barriers to views being taken forward in the production of materials



# Youth Employment Hub

How do you feel about your career's and education?

- It was ok but the teachers were sometimes annoying with keeping me on track.
- I felt I had lots of information with lots of options and knew which route I wanted to go in.
- They have a relaxed area in the library where they have loads of leaflets and relaxed seating so you can look at the information at your leisure.
- Felt teachers were pushing me down a route I didn't want to go down. Because I have been in care they were saying I should be a Social Worker and that isn't something I wanted to do.

What could school or businesses do better in terms of careers and skills?

- Understand the children more and apply less pressure on kids.
- Listen to what we want to do and help us find a route to get there even if on the face of it, it might seem unachievable.
- Don't push us down a path if we know what it is we want to do.



# Youth Employment Hub

Do you feel there are any challenges/barriers you face when looking for employment?

- Writing CV's
- Employers want to experience but we don't have any so how are we supposed to get it if we don't have a job.
- A lot of children in care have been in trouble with the police. I now volunteer with the forces, but it was hard to get in with my DBS checks it needs to be made easier for us.
- We need help to actually do things, the whole process from start to finish as well as making training and employment easier to access for children in care.
- Practical help with interviews, either in school or with someone you trust as it can be quite daunting.
- Application forms put me off I would rather show someone I can do a job rather than write about it.
- Iceland uses a text messaging service to apply for a job, I used this and found it really easy as it there was no rush to answer the questions and it allowed me time to think. I didn't get the job, but the process was easy.



# Youth Employment Hub

## We Did

- Information and guidance to access all opportunities available to young people will be shared with schools and career leads who can share this with young people. This will form part of the 12-month plan for the Youth Employment Scheme (YES) partnership.
- Youth Employment Scheme (YES) recruitment events have been launched and employers were asked to dress casually to remove some barriers for young people. Workshops took place to help support young people with their CV's, application forms and confidence building in preparation for interviews. We also held a specific recruitment event for care leavers. Here we briefed employers about some of the challenges and difficulties you have faced and worked with them as to how they could support you better in employment.



# Youth Employment Hub

## We Did

- We are carrying out a mapping exercise of what support already exists across the city, this will then be collated on put onto the city-wide gateway so it is clear who you can go to for additional support.
- We are also exploring funding options in order to meet the needs of young people fully
- Recruitment events are in person and the Youth employment gateway which will be online.
- We are also committed to linking youth employment into local community hubs that are accessed by young people.



# Smoking Consultation

Which kinds of young people should we ask about raising the age to buy cigarettes? E.g. which ages, smokers/non-smokers, what kind of background?

adolescence elderly  
any background primary  
17 15 plus 13  
smokers and none smokers  
all types of non and do

What is most important to find out about raising the age you can buy cigarettes/vapes?







# Smoking Consultation

## We Did

- £400,000 bid put by the University of Nottingham to the National Institute for Health Research to conduct this research in full, which includes quotes from the young people on the research
- The research design changed as a result of the conversations with the young people – we lowered the participant age from 13 to 11 and will do more recruitment directly with schools



# 'Missing' for Children in Care

Do you agree with the missing definition? How would you define missing? Have you ever been reported as "missing?"

- Unfair if reported missing if just running late
- Agreed with the definition in principle and didn't see the need for a young person definition.

Do you relate to the language used when social workers and carers speak to you about going missing?

- Language in general used was fine.
- Debate over what was meant by pull and push factors and High Risk.

# 'Missing' for Children in Care

Do you relate to the language used when social workers and carers talk to you about engaging in what we call return interviews? What would you want to change? What do you really want to talk about and to who?

- Needed time to process before talking to social workers.
- 3 days is too soon to be spoken to after going missing.
- It would be a better option to ring beforehand to check in and ask if they are ready to talk so they are given a choice or other option.
- They would like to be given the option to have a return interview with someone they are comfortable with such as a teacher.



# 'Missing' for Children in Care

## We Did

- Creating a new keeping myself safe and well tool to use with young people around keeping safe, which highlights key principles, such as taking a mobile phone with you, informing people where you are, which would help reduce in being reported as missing, especially if you are just running late. It provides explanations of push and pull factors.
- Feedback has been given to social workers that young people prefer being called asking “how things are? Or “what’s been happening?” rather than a return interview.
- Informed social workers to always phone in advance of just turning up.
- Advised social workers if you do not wish to talk on day 1, try again, don't just give up trying to talk.
- Working with social workers and other agencies to work with you in identifying the person you would like to speak to around going missing.



# NHS Health Assessments

<p>Would be targeted for younger children and were asked what they thought about it?</p>	<p>Video aimed at teenagers for explaining the health assessment</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CiCC members liked the jungle theme but suggested other animals such as monkey or elephant rather than a pink flamingo. One young person had the idea of the animation being around a minute long.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One CiCC member thought the overuse of emojis in the video was cringy and suggested to remove the hearts and have different emojis dotted around.</li></ul>
<p>Do you have any idea of any other ideas for the video?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One young person suggested including something about being able to provide feedback so young people can tell someone if they felt uncomfortable during their health assessment. Another young person said it should include that what happens in the health assessment is your choice. CiCC members suggested that the video could be used as a refresher before health assessments each year as well as when you first come into care.</li></ul>	



# NHS Health Assessments

**We Did**

See animations



# Allestree Rewilding

## What are your thoughts and suggestions about the rewilding of Allestree Park?

- A combination of rewilding and adding attractions to the park such as sports area, natural play, walk and cycle track, dog agility, seating and a café.
- Maintaining habitats and planting new ones.
- Meeting needs of young people with disabilities such as signage to include BSL, sensory garden, wheelchair access

## We Did

- The results for the consultation have now been published with more than 2,000 people giving their views and ideas.
- It was really important to hear the voices of the youth group and you can see that on controversial issues their contribution to the consultation pushed the balance in favour of cycling opportunities. Other points the group made were about accessibility, nature trails and more wildflowers which all feature strongly in the consultation results.
- The next steps for us are to create a masterplan for the park, taking into account the consultation data, and carry out further consultation workshops to get the rewilding project right.



# Pocket Money & Savings

<b>What do you think is good about this policy?</b>	<b>Is there anything else we need to add or change?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One CiCC member said that it is good in the new policy that young people would be able to manage their money at the age of 16 but not be able to access it until 18.</li><li>• One CiCC member said it is good that it should be easy to find as they have had experience of having money lost when moving</li><li>• Not having access to savings until 18 is good.</li><li>• Think it's good that savings are made for you as you can't spend it on things that you would normally spend on.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Young people who live in supported accommodation should still get same amounts of pocket money.</li><li>• One young person said that 17-year-olds should be able to access their savings rather than waiting until 18.</li><li>• One CiCC member that there should be a minimum amount of pocket money for all children to make it fair.</li></ul>





# Pocket Money & Savings

## **We Did**

Agreement that all Children in Care will receive the same allowances regardless of their accommodation type.

The policy update is ongoing with changes to be added in relation to this.



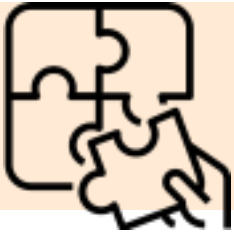
# Life Story Work

What information would you like to see on your life story?

- Family background.
- Your favourite things over the years/stages such as favourite food, tv programme, colour, celebrity etc.
- All information to be included.
- Information on foster family, background and about them.
- A real view of their story/journey but sensitively written – sometimes it is written really harshly and it's hard to read.

How do you want it presenting?

- Would like carers to do a weekly log rather than a daily log of information about their day.
- A scrapbook that I could help with – put pictures in and write about it.
- Would be happy being presented life story work in a letter.
- A scrapbook that is updated throughout, do it at the LAC reviews too.



# Life Story Work

## We Did

- The policy to highlight the need for different methods of recording for individuals and to recognise the need for adapting throughout different periods of their lives and age range
- Concerns raised by individuals regarding their own experiences taken back to Social Workers for review