

**REPORT FOR: CORPORATE
PARENTING PANEL**

Date of Meeting: 21 October 2013

Subject: INFORMATION REPORT – Care Leavers
Employment, Education & Training (EET) &
Care Leavers Suitable Accommodation

Responsible Officer: Melissa Caslake, Divisional Director of
Targeted Services

Exempt: No

Enclosures: None

Section 1 – Summary

FOR INFORMATION

This report sets out Care Leavers Employment, Education & Training (EET) &
Care Leavers Suitable Accommodation

Section 2 – Report

Looked after children service

The service is made up of 3 teams:

Children Looked After team (CLA) responsible for children up to the age of 18

Leaving Care team responsible for young people over 18 years

Unaccompanied Asylum Children team (UASC) responsible for children of all ages

The CLA team structure

One Team Manager

One Senior Practitioner

Five social workers

The responsibilities of the CLA team.

The team is responsible for children and young people who are looked after by Harrow Council who have a plan of permanency by way of long term fostering or adoption. When a young person reaches the age of 18 they are transferred to the leaving care team.

The Leaving Care and UASC team structure

One Team Manager

Two Senior Practitioners

Four social workers

4 social care assistants

1 careers advisor.

The responsibilities of the Leaving Care and UASC team.

The team is responsible for young people who are preparing for their move into independence and further education, employment or training. They support unaccompanied asylum children under section 20 of the Children Act 1989.

Young people who are in employment, education or training (EET)

| Age category | EET | NEET T | EET - Split |
|---------------------------|-----|-----------|---|
| 16 years old care leavers | 21 | 4 | 16- enrolled in college/BTEC/AS 1-enrolled in ESOL course 1-GCSE 2-CWD 1-case closed |
| 17 years old care leavers | 22 | 7 | 7-enroled in ESOL course 1- in Mental Health Hospital supported with in house tuition. 8- enrolled in college 2-CWD 2-part –time work 1- in school 1- X16 programme |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|---|
| | | | |
| 18 years old care leavers | 35 | 8 | <p>7- enrolled in ESOL course</p> <p>21 – enrolled in college</p> <p>1- in Prison</p> <p>1- X16</p> <p>4-Adults with Disabilities Team</p> |
| 19 years old care leavers | 31 | 19 | <p>2-Adults with Disabilities Team</p> <p>5- referred to X-16</p> <p>22- enrolled in college/apprenticeship</p> <p>2-full-time employment</p> |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|----|---|
| 20 years old care leavers | 19 | 14 | <p>3-in Employment</p> <p>4- referred to X-16 programme</p> <p>7- enrolled in college/ESOL</p> <p>4- Adults with Disabilities team</p> <p>1-case closed</p> |
| 21 years old care leavers | 9 | 17 | <p>1-returned home to parents</p> <p>1-ESOL</p> <p>5-Enrolled in college</p> <p>1-case closed</p> <p>1-Fulltime employment</p> |
| Total | 137 | 69 | |

What do we do to support young people to maintain their EET status.

- Social workers actively engage, encourage and support young people in their chosen field of education, employment and training.
- Effective and aspirational pathway plans are implemented and reviewed on a regular basis.
- Recognizing the achievements of young people including financial reward in accordance with the Leaving Care Charter.
- All young people who are EET are entitled to travel and lunch money in addition to their weekly allowance or subsistence payments.

- Regular monitoring of attendance and early identification of any difficulties.

We have 7 young people attending University studying a range of subjects including mechanical engineering, politics, law and business studies. The young person studying law was provided with work experience through legal services in Harrow before taking up his place at Cambridge University.

A number of young people are attending college and their studies include construction, art and design, child care, hospitality, drama, sport and IT.

The young people who are in employment including the banking sector, social work, education (learning and development mentor), working for a car dealership having successfully completed an apprenticeship, and for an accident claim company.

Young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET).

There are 4 different groups within the NEET cohort

1. Those not available for learning—who will be deemed as having “reasonable excuse” for not participating eg due to pregnancy, maternity leave, illness

2. Core/sustained NEET, those with long term and complex barriers to learning

3. At risk NEET, those who are undecided, dissatisfied with current opportunities or with some barriers to learning eg low qualifications

4. Open to learning –young people with no discernible barriers to education or training.

The majority of young people who are looked after and NEET fall within categories 1-3.

| Age category | EET | NEET | Reason for NEET |
|---------------------------|-----|------|---|
| 16 years old care leavers | 21 | 4 | 1- awaiting placement change from Wales |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|---|---|
| | | | <p>1- secure unit</p> <p>1- awaiting apprenticeship placement</p> <p>1 – willing to enroll in ESOL course</p> |
| 17 years old care leavers | 22 | 7 | <p>4- engaging positively and looking to start training shortly</p> <p>1-Young mum looking to re -engage with education</p> <p>1- hard to engage</p> <p>1- Involved with YOT unable to attend college due to the nature of the crime.</p> |
| 18 years old care leavers | 35 | 8 | <p>4- Engaging positively and is looking for training or employment.</p> <p>1- in prison</p> <p>1- in secured unit</p> <p>1- baby subject to ICO</p> <p>1- recently dismissed from employment</p> |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|---|
| 19 years old care leavers | 31 | 19 | <p>6- Engaging positively looking for employment or training.</p> <p>5- case closed</p> <p>2- Young mums wanting to re-engage with education.</p> <p>1- Missing</p> <p>1- Deported</p> <p>1- recalled to prison</p> <p>1- detained in hospital</p> <p>1-has medical issues</p> <p>1- Living in semi-independent unit in Portsmouth after placement breakdown. Hard to engage.</p> |
|---------------------------|----|----|---|

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|----|--|
| 20 years old care leavers | 19 | 14 | <p>4- deported</p> <p>3- case closed</p> <p>3- Positively engaging to get into training or employment.</p> <p>1- hard to engage</p> <p>1- at high risk of deportation</p> <p>2- in custody</p> |
| 21 years old care leavers | 9 | 17 | <p>4- missing</p> <p>3-deported</p> <p>1-case closed</p> <p>3- case likely to be closed</p> <p>1-young parent</p> <p>5- Hard to engage or unable to contact.</p> |
| Total | 137 | 69 | |

The activity to reduce the number of young people who are NEET.

- A multi agency panel has been established to individually review all young people who are NEET. The panel is chaired by the Service Manager for looked after children and membership comprises Team manager and Senior Practitioner from Leaving Care/UASC, Psychiatrist from Morning Lane, Senior Practitioner from Access to Resources, Career Adviser seconded from CFBT and

linked to the Virtual School, Ignite, Independent Reviewing Officer and the Youth Development Team.

- The purpose of the panel is to identify and minimize the blocks to engagement and participation thereby helping young people to access a range of opportunities. Following presentation at the panel each young person will have a detailed action plan with actions, timescales and responsibilities clearly identified and agreed.
- Ensuring that all young people have an up to date aspirational pathway plan. Work is currently underway with the Virtual School to strengthen pathway planning.
- Secondment from CFBT an experienced worker with a proven track record of moving young people from NEET to EET. Challenging but achievable targets have been set for the year.
- Increasing the skills of the staff to engage with young people who are NEET eg; Motivational Interviews.
- Increased frequency of visiting to young people who are NEET.
- Weekly performance management reports to track improved performance.
- Engagement of young people with the X16 programme: see attached report.
- Ensuring staff are aware of the wide range of services available and to support young people and facilitate access to such services.

Section 3 – Further Information

None

Section 4 – Financial Implications

None

Section 5 - Equalities implications

None

Name: Jo Frost



on behalf of the
Chief Financial Officer

Date: 7 October 2013

Section 7 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Melissa Caslake, Divisional Director of Targeted Services

Background Papers:

None