

Draft Local Authority Pledge Care Experience Conference 2019

We welcome the clear statement from the Care Experience Conference 2019 of the things which are most important to improve the experience of children in care and care experience to people.

In response, we intend to:

- support the principles which underpin the Top Ten Messages and apply these to the way our services are planned and delivered in future;
- use our position as local system leaders for children to change things for the better;
- use the Top Ten Messages to drive improvement in our local arrangements; and
- invite care experienced people to feedback the extent to which the pledge is upheld

Specifically, we pledge, in our written policies, procedures and practices, to take clear steps to ensure that all the services we deliver will demonstrably:

1. promote more **love** in the care system including displays of positive physical affection;
2. ensure care experience people are regarded and treated as individuals worthy of **respect** and to promote that respect wherever we can;



The Care Experienced Conference

www.careexperiencedconference.com

The conference for care experienced people, Liverpool Hope University, Friday, 26th April 2019

3. ensure that **relationships** are seen as central to all our policies and procedures to support children in care and care experienced people;
4. take clear steps to improve **stability** and continuity in the lived experiences of people in care;
5. work with our partners and young people to raise awareness of need and improve support for the **mental health** and well-being of children in care and care experienced people in our local area;
6. recognise in our daily work that the impact of care experience does not end at 18 or 21 or even 25, and review our practice to **remove age restrictions** on support wherever we can;
7. protect, promote and where necessary rebuild **family and community connections** and help those young people for whom we are responsible to understand their personal history;
8. make sure that young people in our care are routinely engaged, consulted and have a real **have a say** in their own lives
9. ensure that young people in our care are properly and fully informed of their **rights** and offer advocacy to ensure they receive them; and
10. listen to the **voice** of children in care and care experience people of all ages and always consult them about changes to services and support.

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