

Council meeting, 26 July 2022
Administration Motion: Cllr Pauline Coakley Webb

Show Us You Care Too campaign

Council notes that:

1. Care experienced people face significant barriers that impact them throughout their lives; care experienced people are those who are currently in care or who have been at any point;
2. Despite the resilience of many care experienced people, society too often does not take their needs into account;
3. Care experienced people can face discrimination and stigma across housing, health, education, relationships, employment and in the criminal justice system;
4. As corporate parents, councillors have a collective responsibility for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for the children who are looked after by us as an authority;
5. All corporate parents should commit to acting as mentors, hearing the voices of looked after children and young people and to consider their needs in any aspect of council work;
6. Councillors should be champions of our looked after children and challenge the negative attitudes and prejudice that exists in all aspects of society;
7. The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, such as councils, to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation of people with protected characteristics;

Council believes that:

1. Care experienced people can face discrimination;
2. Councils as corporate parents have a duty to put the needs of care experienced people at the heart of decision-making through co-production and collaboration;
3. Services and policies should be assessed to determine the impact of changes on people with care experience.

Council resolves:

1. To formally support the Show Us You Care Too campaign which calls for care experience to be made a protected characteristic
2. For the council to proactively seek out and listen to the voices of care experienced people when developing new policies based on their views;

3. To continue to build on the existing ringfenced apprenticeship opportunities for care experienced people by committing to an agreed number of apprenticeships places each year delivered through the council's levy funding.
4. To take an intersectional approach, where we take account of the impact that a person's combined social identities have on any disadvantage they may face, and commit to tackling the systemic discrimination and disproportionality faced by specific groups of care experienced people.