

# Cabinet



Date of meeting: 11 August 2025

Title of Report: **Ofsted Focused Visit – Review of Arrangements for Care Leavers**

Lead Member: Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader, and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications)

Lead Strategic Director: David Haley (Director for Childrens Services)

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Your Reference:

Key Decision: No

Confidentiality: Part I - Official

## Purpose of Report

This report highlights the key findings of the Ofsted Focused Visit to Plymouth City Council to review arrangements for our Care Leavers which took place on 01 and 02 July 2025 and was published on 31 July 2025. The report also sets out the key actions taken to address the priority areas for improvement.

## Recommendations and Reasons

1. To note the published Ofsted report;
2. To endorse that all areas for improvement and further development are being incorporated into the Care Leavers Service Plan and monitored through Corporate Parenting Operational Managers Group (monthly) and Corporate Parenting Board (Quarterly).

## Alternative options considered and rejected

1. No alternative options have been considered as this is a publicly available document and the recommended actions are in accordance with the findings of the report.

## Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

This recommendation aligns to the Corporate Plan in relation to keeping young people safe.

This recommendation aligns to the Council's mission and values of Democracy, Responsibility, Fairness and Cooperation as set out in the Corporate Plan.

## Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Additional staffing within the Care Leavers Team has already been agreed and budgeted for within the 2025/26 staffing budget.

There may be financial implications of moving care experienced young people out of Bed & Breakfast accommodation to more suitable accommodation. In some cases this will be a positive financial impact given the cost of temporary accommodation.

The provision of more suitable accommodation for all care leavers, especially those with a high level of complex need, could create a financial pressure across Children's Services and Community Connections.

### Financial Risks

There is a financial risk related to the provision of high quality, suitable accommodation for all care leavers, especially those with a high level of complex need, across Children's Services and Community Connections.

### Legal Implications

(Provided by LB)

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

No environmental implications noted.

### Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

*\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

The recommendations are relevant to Plymouth City Council's commitment to treat Care Experience as a Protected Characteristic.

### Appendices

*\*Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Briefing report: Ofsted Focused Visit to Plymouth City Council's Children's Services - Review of Arrangements for Care Leavers							
B	Ofsted Letter							

### Background papers:

*\*Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)
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**Sign off:**

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<p>Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Karen Blake</p> <p>Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes</p> <p>Date agreed: 31/07/2025</p> <p>Cabinet Member approval: Cllr Jemima Laing, approved by email</p> <p>Date approved: 31/07/2025</p>											