

**Council**

14 December 2017

**Agenda Item 59(1)**

Brighton &amp; Hove City Council

**NOTICE OF MOTION****BETTER SUPPORT FOR CARE LEAVERS**

This council resolves:

To request the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee to instruct the Chief Executive to undertake a rapid review of statutory and non-statutory support available to care leavers in the City, and bring back a report to the relevant committee(s) as soon as possible, with options of how the Council could provide additional support to care leavers up to the age of 30 who are resident in the City.

**Supporting Information:**

The Council and all 54 councillors have a statutory responsibility, acting as 'corporate parents', to looked after children in Brighton and Hove. Children in care have consistently requested of the Council that they are cared for and loved as if they were the children of Members and staff of the Council. To meet such an ambition requires a step-change in how children and young adults are supported; particularly when they transition from care to living independent lives in the community.

The Council has already made positive progress. At Budget Council in 2017 the decision was taken to exempt care leavers' from paying Council Tax. The local authority ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the country for securing good education, employment and training outcomes for care leavers. The Council however could go further still, by discussing with care leavers, the Children in Care Council and representatives of Care Leavers, what additional measures could be taken to support this highly vulnerable group of young adults.

National research showing that, although care leavers represent just 1% of the youth population, 11% of homeless young people have been in care; 24% of the adult prison population were in care.

For more information on the work being undertaken by the Council refer to:

[Brighton & Hove Virtual School](#)

