



House of Commons  
Committee of Public Accounts

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# Care leavers' transition to adulthood

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the report*

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## Summary

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There has been a systemic failing in the provision of support to vulnerable care leavers. The quality and cost of support that local authorities give to care leavers varies unacceptably across the country and outcomes for young people leaving care are poor and worsening. Ofsted's inspections have found that two-thirds of local authorities' care leaver services are inadequate or require improvement and there is no clear relationship between the amount spent and the quality of service. The scale of variability in the quality and cost of support, and a lack of understanding of what causes this, show that this is a systemic issue, rather than a problem in just a few local authorities. We welcome the Government's intent to improve the lives of care leavers, signalled by the launch of the Care Leaver Strategy in 2013, and the fact that more good practice in supporting care leavers is now emerging. But central and local government must both take more responsibility for improving outcomes and the quality of support.

## Introduction

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Over 10,000 young people aged 16 or over leave local authority care each year. They have often had difficult lives and 62% were in care because of abuse or neglect. Children must leave local authority care by their 18th birthday, whereas 50% of all 22-year-olds still live at home. Those leaving care may struggle to cope with the transition to adulthood and may experience social exclusion, unemployment, health problems, or end up in custody. In 2013–14, 41% of 19-year-old care leavers were not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared with 15% of all 19-year-olds. In 2013–14 local authorities reported that they had spent £265 million on care leaver services. Local authorities must support care leavers until they are 21 (or 25 if in education and training) in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education, which sets the overall framework for the delivery of support to care leavers. The Government wants care leavers to receive the same care and support that their peers would expect from a reasonable parent and, in 2013, the government published the Care Leaver Strategy. The strategy set out how eight government departments would work together to improve support for care leavers including in housing, health, employment and education.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

1. **Central accountability and responsibility for improving the care leaver system is not clear.** The care leaver system is more than the local provision of support services. It also encompasses the setting of standards, Ofsted inspections, compliance with statutory guidance and local authorities' own overview and scrutiny arrangements. But Ofsted has reported that 64% of care leaver services inspected are inadequate or require improvement. The current system is therefore clearly not serving care leavers well but the Department is unclear where the fault for the variability in services lies. Given the national standards and inspection framework and local delivery of services, national and local government share responsibility for improving the support offered to care leavers. The Department for Education has the ministerial lead on care leavers but we were surprised it did not take a stronger leadership role in improving the system against the background of such disappointing service provision.

**Recommendation:** *Recognising the ministerial lead for care leavers is in the Department for Education, we recommend the Department takes a formal responsibility for improving the quality of support for care leavers.*

2. **The Care Leavers Strategy was a positive step and has achieved some success but there is still more to do.** Eight central government departments worked together on the Strategy and made commitments to improve their services. The Strategy was the first time government departments had worked together to address some of the unintended consequences of policies that were not joined up. The strategy has made some progress, for example in data collection and monitoring of care leavers by the Department for Work & Pensions, the Ministry of Justice and the Department for Education. But there is no single person or Department in charge of leading improvement and ensuring that government works in an integrated way, and the Department accepts that there is still more to do. In addition since the strategy was launched, witnesses told us local authorities have seen a more diverse group of young people leaving care, including many with complex needs, who require additional joined-up action from central government.

**Recommendation:** *The Department should look again at the Care Leaver Strategy, setting out clearly the Government's objectives for care leavers, and how and when it will make improvements to the support they receive.*

3. **There is scope to provide more support to help get care leavers into work.** In 2013–14, 41% of 19-year-olds care leavers were not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared with 15% for all 19-year-olds. This is the highest proportion since 2001–02. Only 6% of care leavers were in higher education compared with one-third of all 19-year-olds. Barnardo's has called on the Government to reserve 20,000 apprenticeships for 16- to 18-year-olds from the care system. The Department considers many care leavers may not yet be job ready, and so a traineeship to help them prepare for an apprenticeship may be a more suitable first step.

**Recommendation:** *The Department should set out how it plans to use apprenticeships and traineeships to help care leavers.*

4. **Too many care leavers are in unsuitable accommodation.** We recognise the challenges faced by local authorities in providing a full range of accommodation for care leavers to meet their needs; from emergency placements, through to lodgings and semi-independent and independent housing. The Department told us that there would be new guidance to local authorities about how to develop housing choices for care leavers, and that accommodation would be a key area that government would be looking at in the future.

**Recommendations:**

*The Department should urgently consider what more it can do to help local authorities provide suitable accommodation, and keep the issue under constant review.*

*The Department has recognised the potential role of social impact bonds in providing new approaches to supporting care leavers. In its response to this report we would therefore like the Department to set out its position on how it might use social impact bonds to incentivise and reward innovation, and so improve outcomes for care leavers — with a particular view to employment and accommodation.*

5. **There are gaps in the data on care leavers' outcomes and experiences.** There are no official statistics on some aspects of care leavers' lives, such as the extent to which they are unemployed or homeless. The Department for Education accepts that government data in this area could be improved. It plans to match national pupil data (which flags children in care) with other information from the Department for Work & Pensions and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs; so that it will have better information to monitor the destinations of children after leaving care, and therefore to understand what is working.

**Recommendation:** *The Department should set out a timetable for improving the data it collects on care leavers' circumstances and how it will ensure that central government and local authorities make effective use of the data to improve outcomes.*

6. **The variability in the quality and cost of services is unacceptable.** The new focus on care leaver services as part of Ofsted's inspection of local authorities' children's services is an important and welcome development. The inspections have shone a spotlight on good and poor practice among the local authorities so far inspected. However, overall Ofsted has found that 64% of care leaver services are inadequate or require improvement. Such a high proportion shows that there is systemic rather than occasional, local failure. Yet the Department for Education told us that it only formally intervenes when Ofsted judges a local authority's children's services as a whole to be inadequate. The reported spending on supporting care leavers varies hugely, even between neighbouring local authorities, and there is no correlation between spend and quality of care leaver services. Although there are concerns about the accuracy, completeness and comparability of this cost data, the Department and local authorities have no other or better information to support the benchmarking assessments vital to improve value for money.

**Recommendation: *The Department should:***

- *act promptly to follow up Ofsted inspections and in particular to require explanation and action plans for all services rated 'Inadequate'; and*
- *with the Department for Communities and Local Government and local authorities, secure reliable, comparable data on costs to support benchmarking.*

7. **The quality of support care leavers receive from personal advisers is too patchy.** The role of personal advisers is fundamental to ensuring that care leavers get support that is comparable to what their peers would receive from a 'reasonable parent'. But unless personal advisers have the skills, knowledge and capacity to act effectively they will not be the support that care leavers need. Care leavers told us of some good experiences, but also that the quality and availability of support they got from different personal advisers was patchy; for example, they highlighted having many different personal advisers in a short time, or advisers that struggled with high caseloads. Ofsted has reported that lack of personal support was a problem for care leavers at many of the local authorities it has inspected. In 2013–14, overall, local authorities were not in touch with 17% of 19 to 21-year-old care leavers, and only eight out of 151 local authorities managed to keep in touch with all of their care leavers.

**Recommendation: *The Department should extend the remit of its programme to reform social work education and training to include the role and responsibilities of all personal advisers.***

8. **Good practice on how best to support care leavers is emerging but is not systematically identified and shared nationally.** In the past there has been a lack of good practice examples but the Department believes that, since Ofsted began reporting on care leaver services, it has a clearer idea of what constitutes good and poor practice. We heard examples of some good practice being identified, for example, through Ofsted's 'Getting to Good' courses and the Ministry of Justice's good practice forum. There are also examples of local sharing of good practice, such as the National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum, whose members' Ofsted ratings are on average better than for non-members – yet only half of local authorities are members. For care leavers, the New Belongings programme shows promise and the Department for Education has itself seen the benefits of a national body with the Education Employment Foundation's work on what works best for disadvantaged pupils in schools. There is however, no national centre for researching and disseminating good practice on what works best.

**Recommendation: *The Department should take the lead in developing and sharing good practice, and be proactive in helping to bring the worst performing local authorities up to the standard of the best. It should also establish a central resource of good practice and embed good practice in statutory guidance.***

9. **We are concerned about the effect on care leavers of reducing funding to foster carers once they reach 18.** The 'Staying Put' policy, introduced in 2014, enables care leavers to stay with their foster carers after the age of 18, if both parties agree. However, some foster carers may want young people to stay on with them after 18, but be unable to afford to because of the 70% reduction in the payments they receive.

In some cases this may be due to a lack of understanding as to what other support care leavers or their foster carers may be entitled to. The Department expects that it will be several years before it can assess whether Staying Put is working.

**Recommendation:** *The Department should conduct an early review of Staying Put, with a particular focus on the financial and social impact of the policy for care leavers, foster parents and local authorities.*

# 1 Government's approach to supporting care leavers

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1. On the basis of a report by the Comptroller and Auditor General, we took evidence from the Department for Education (the Department) and the Association of Directors of Children's Services about care leavers' transition to adulthood.<sup>1</sup> We also took evidence from two young people who had experienced the care system.

2. Every year around 10,000 16- to 18-year-olds leave local authority care. Local authorities must support care leavers until they are 21 years old (or 25 if they are in education or training). The government wants care leavers to get the same care and support that their peers would expect from a reasonable parent, such as help finding a job or setting up home.<sup>2</sup>

3. National and local government share responsibility for supporting care leavers. The Department for Education sets the overall framework for the delivery of support. It gives statutory guidance to local authorities, collects information on care leavers and makes data and research on good practice publicly available. Other departments support housing, training, welfare and other needs. Local authorities are required to support care leavers by, for example, finding them somewhere suitable to live and helping them into employment, education or training. Local authorities reported that they had spent £265 million on care leaver services in 2013–14.<sup>3</sup>

4. In 2013, Ofsted began to inspect and report on local authorities' services for care leavers, against a framework underpinned by the regulations and standards set by the Department for Education.<sup>4</sup> The Department told us that having specific Ofsted judgments on care leavers' services for the first time provided a national picture of the quality of services. Ofsted had found that 64% of local authorities' services were inadequate or required improvement. The Department added that although there were some excellent examples of practice in individual parts of local government, the variability in quality of services was too high.<sup>5</sup>

5. The Department acknowledged that much improvement was still required and that "the state as a whole has not done as well as it should have across this issue". However, when we asked where the fault lay for the variability in quality of services, the Department could not point to a particular set of people. Although it only had information on variable quality for the last two years, it suspected that the problem had been there for decades.<sup>6</sup> The Department also relies on local accountability arrangements, such as local authorities' overview and scrutiny arrangements to assure the quality of care leaver services. But the Association of Directors of Children's Services told us there was scope to also make more use of existing data and mechanisms to oversee the performance of local authorities.<sup>7</sup>

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1 [C&AG's Report, Care leavers' transition to adulthood](#), Session 2015–16, HC 269, 17 July 2015

2 [C&AG's Report](#), para 1

3 [C&AG's Report](#), para 2

4 [C&AG's Report](#), paras 4, 2.5

5 Q 25; [C&AG's Report](#), Figure 10,

6 [Qq 16, 26, 27, 28](#)

7 [Qq 22, 42, 44](#)

6. In 2013 eight government departments joined together to publish the Care Leaver Strategy. This set out how they planned to work together to improve support for care leavers and address some of the unintended consequences of policies that were not joined up, including in housing, health, employment and education.<sup>8</sup> While recognising the challenge of getting joined-up thinking across government on this issue, and commending the Department for trying to take it forward, we questioned the Department on how well the strategy had worked.<sup>9</sup>

7. The Department told us that the first ever cross-government strategy on care leavers had been an important step and that, one year after the strategy had been launched, the Government had implemented the majority of commitments in the strategy. Along with the Department for Work & Pensions and the Ministry of Justice, it had improved the collection of data on and monitoring of care leavers. Both the Department and the Department for Communities and Local Government had also issued guidance to local authorities about care leavers entitlements, and the Ministry for Justice had appointed a Care Leavers' Champion.<sup>10</sup> But the Department recognised there was still more to do. It told us that the Government wanted to continue the approach of cross-government working and, for example, said that accommodation for care leavers would be a key area that government would be looking at in the future.<sup>11</sup>

8. The Department for Education confirmed that it had had the ministerial lead on the care leavers strategy. However the Department acknowledged that there was no individual responsible for fixing the system and the National Audit Office's analysis showed that although the eight departments working on the strategy had had a shared vision there were no clear government objectives or leadership of the strategy.<sup>12</sup> The Association of Directors of Children's Services told us that the strategy had established a baseline against which future improvements in care leaver services could be judged, but, like the Department, agreed that there was still more to do. Even since the strategy was launched in 2013, a different set of young people are now leaving care, and central government will need to help meet these young people's additional and complex needs. For example, any 16 or 17-year-old who is on remand is automatically placed into care, and anyone who presents as homeless is automatically placed into care.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> [C&AG's Report](#), paras 4 and 2.6

<sup>9</sup> [Q 16](#)

<sup>10</sup> [Q 16](#); [C&AG's Report](#), para 2.7

<sup>11</sup> [Qq 16, 72](#)

<sup>12</sup> [Qq 37, 81](#); [C&AG's Report](#), Figure 6

<sup>13</sup> [Qq 18, 36](#)

## 2 The quality and cost of services

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9. In 2013–14, 41% of 19 year-old care leavers were not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared with 15% of all 19-year-olds. The proportion of care leavers who were NEET was at its highest since 2001–02.<sup>14</sup> The Department agreed that this rate was too high and rising at a time when the NEET rate overall was falling.<sup>15</sup> In 2013–14 only 6% of care leavers were in higher education compared with one-third of all 19-year-olds.<sup>16</sup> The Department told us that prior educational attainment is the biggest predictor of whether young people are likely to become NEET and that the NEET rate for care leavers with five good GCSEs, including English and maths, is 15% — the same as the rest of the population.<sup>17</sup>

10. The Department also told us that the increase in the proportion of care leavers who were NEET was in part because more care leavers were not coming into care until their mid-teens, and the care system therefore had less time to have an effect on improving their prospects.<sup>18</sup> To help get care leavers into work, we heard that the government is talking to Barnardo's about the charity's idea for the Government to reserve 20,000 apprenticeships for 16- to 18-year-olds from the care system. The Department considers that as some care leavers may not yet be job ready, it may be better for care leavers to join traineeships first, to prepare them for a subsequent apprenticeship.<sup>19</sup>

11. In March 2014, for those care leavers aged 19 to 21 with whom the local authority was in touch, only 93% were judged by their local authorities to be living in 'suitable' accommodation.<sup>20</sup> Care leavers told us about accommodation they were placed in which did not meet their needs, was not safe, and where they were left lonely and without support.<sup>21</sup> But we heard that local authorities face challenges in providing the full range of housing options required by care leavers, from emergency placements, through to lodgings and semi-independent and independent housing. In response, the Department for Communities and Local Government is about to issue new guidance to local authorities about how to develop housing choices for care leavers. It draws in part on good practice examples such as Brighton, where the children services department, the housing department and providers have come together with clear protocols to develop clear and usually care leaver-specific pathways.<sup>22</sup>

12. The Department recognised the potential role of social impact bonds in providing new approaches to improving outcomes for care leavers and was working with the Centre for Social Impact Bonds to identify opportunities in this area. The Department told us about the Fair Chance Fund, jointly run by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Cabinet Office, which aimed to get young people who were not in education, employment or training into work and into good housing. Another scheme was the Centre for Social Impact Bonds Youth Engagement Fund which aimed to support 8,000 disadvantaged young people into work and education, including care leavers. The

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14 [C&AG's Report](#), para 9

15 [Q 33](#)

16 [C&AG's Report](#), para 1.20

17 [Q 78](#)

18 [Q 32 and Q 36](#)

19 [Q 78](#)

20 [C&AG's Report](#), para 1.15

21 [Q 3](#)

22 [Q 72](#)

Department said that such schemes were difficult to get started, but told us that the new Government had made a commitment to scale up the use of social impact bonds.<sup>23</sup>

13. The Department told us that it has a basket of indicators for measuring the performance of the system as a whole, including on how many care leavers are NEET and living in suitable accommodation; and the age at which young people leave care.<sup>24</sup> But there are no official statistics for care leavers on unemployment; experience of homelessness; or criminal activity.<sup>25</sup> Although many care leavers have high mental and physical health needs, the data on health outcomes are also poor. The Department for Education told us that the Department of Health is committed to improving data around access, waiting times and outcomes. Care leavers in particular struggle to make the transition from child and adolescent mental health services into adult services, although the Department told us that the latest NHS England guidance is much more focused on smoothing this transition.<sup>26</sup>

14. The Department for Education accepted that government data on care leavers' outcomes could be improved. It told us that in the future it plans to match its national pupil data (which flags children in care) with other information, including that of the Department for Work & Pensions and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs so that it will have better information with which to monitor the destinations of children after leaving care. By matching data across government services, the Department will be able to work out, for example, the impact of length of time in care or age entering care on the success of their transition to adulthood. The Department also agreed that better data on outcomes will also be needed to test the success of alternative ways to provide services to care leavers.<sup>27</sup>

15. The Department, through Ofsted's inspections, focuses on the quality rather than the cost of care leaver services.<sup>28</sup> The Department told us that the inspections had shone a spotlight on good and poor practice among the local authorities so far inspected.<sup>29</sup> However, overall Ofsted had found that 64% of care leaver services were inadequate or required improvements and only one local authority — Trafford — had outstanding services for care leavers.<sup>30</sup> We were concerned that, with such a high proportion of local authorities providing services that had not reached Ofsted's 'good' rating, there was systemic rather than occasional, local failure. The Department told us that it only formally intervenes when Ofsted judged children's services as a whole at a local authority were inadequate. The Department was currently intervening in 24 local authorities on the basis of inadequate ratings for children's services as a whole. In the most serious two cases of failure it had removed, or was in the process of removing, children's services from local authority control.<sup>31</sup> The Department has not intervened in any local authority solely because care leaver services were inadequate.<sup>32</sup>

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23 Qq 66, 68; [Written evidence from the Department for Education](#), 24 September 2015

24 Q 62

25 [C&AG's Report](#), para 15

26 [Qq 38,77 and 79](#)

27 Q 38

28 Q 39

29 Q 43

30 Q 29; [C&AG's Report](#), Figure 10

31 [Qq 19–20, 23](#)

32 [C&AG's Report](#), para 2.20

16. The National Audit Office reported there is no correlation between spend and the quality of care leaver services.<sup>33</sup> However, there are also concerns about the accuracy, completeness and comparability of reported spending on care leavers. The data that were available show that the cost of supporting a care leaver appears to vary hugely, even between neighbouring local authorities. The Department told us that this may partly be due to the poor quality of the data, but added that it also raised questions about how the sector can get better at benchmarking cost and quality. From its own experience, however, the Department was clear that where a local authority's services were inadequate, it was rarely the case that this was mainly a financial issue. Good services depended more on the quality of the workforce and the leadership of the workforce.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> [C&AG's Report](#), Figure 12

<sup>34</sup> [Q 39 and 53](#)

### 3 Improving support for care leavers

17. The quality of support that care leavers receive often comes down to the quality of the individuals that work with them. Statutory guidance sets out clearly that personal advisers must have regular face-to-face contact with every care leaver and provide them with the same support that their peers would receive from a 'reasonable parent'. We would expect reasonable parents to keep in touch with their children but in 2013–14, on average, local authorities were not in touch with 17% of 19- to 21-year-old care leavers and only eight out of 151 local authorities were in touch with all of their care leavers.<sup>35</sup>

18. Care leavers told us that despite some good experiences of personal adviser support, the quality of support they and other care leavers had experienced was inconsistent and varied between personal advisers. Some had had many personal advisers, including agency staff, in a short time and some personal advisers had struggled to give care leavers the service they needed because they had such high caseloads.<sup>36</sup> The Department also noted from its own discussions with care leavers that support varied within as well as between local authorities.<sup>37</sup>

19. The care leavers thought that it was important to have a personal adviser at the age of 18 as other young people still received practical advice from their parents at that age. We asked the care leavers what they thought would make things work better. They told us that they would like to have had more contact time with their advisers. They also thought that personal advisers needed smaller caseloads and more training especially about the rights and entitlements of care leavers and were surprised to learn that personal advisers do not have to have any formal qualifications.<sup>38</sup> Ofsted's inspections of care leaver services had also identified issues of a lack of personal support for care leavers; care leavers not aware of what they are entitled to; and local authorities losing touch with a large number of their care leavers.<sup>39</sup>

20. The Department told us that it is learning more from the Ofsted inspections about what good practice in care leaving services looks like, and also told us about Ofsted's role in improving services. Ofsted run seminars called "Getting to good" aimed at local authorities, who though not judged to have inadequate services, do still need to make improvements. With local authorities, Ofsted had also run two seminars in each region of the country on best practice in care leaver services, and has a best practice website focused on children's social care.<sup>40</sup>

21. The Department also referred to the Ministry of Justice having set up a national forum to discuss quality and best practice and issued guidance across the prison and probation services on best practice, specifically on care leavers.<sup>41</sup> In the higher education sector there was also a good practice network. The Department told us that 60% of universities provide additional support to care leavers, including housing and financial support in some cases.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> [C&AG's Report](#), para 2.16

<sup>36</sup> [Qq 6, 8](#)

<sup>37</sup> [Q 30](#)

<sup>38</sup> [Q 13](#)

<sup>39</sup> [C&AG's Report](#), para 2.21

<sup>40</sup> [Q 29](#)

<sup>41</sup> [Q 30](#)

<sup>42</sup> [Q 78](#)

22. There are also examples of local sharing of good practice. The Department told us that one of the most innovative and positive initiatives was the National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum, to which about 80 local authorities belonged. The Forum has demonstrated the benefits of working together to share good practice — 50% of member authorities achieved 'good' in their Ofsted inspections compared with 19% of non-member authorities.<sup>43</sup> Also, Trafford Council, since it received its 'outstanding' judgement from Ofsted has been helping to share its good practice with other local authorities.<sup>44</sup>

23. New Belongings is another example of developing and sharing good practice which encourages care leavers to become more involved in their communities. An evaluation of the project found that in local authorities taking part it had led to better accommodation choices for care leavers; more opportunities for care leavers through employment and apprenticeship schemes; and more care leavers getting what they were entitled to.<sup>45</sup>

24. The Scottish Government has set up the Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland and we asked the Department whether it would consider setting up something similar in England. The Department acknowledged that there is no national single centre of expertise for sharing good practice on children's social care, like there is, for example, with the Education Endowment Fund in the area of disadvantaged pupils in schools.<sup>46</sup> It also told us that, since Ofsted began reporting on care leaver services it has now a clearer idea of what constitutes good and poor practice, and that when good practice was identified, there was a case for adding this to statutory guidance.<sup>47</sup>

25. When young people are given longer to become independent, it is likely to improve outcomes. In 2014 the Department therefore introduced the 'Staying Put' policy, which offers care leavers approaching 18 the security of knowing they can stay with their former foster carers until they are 21, if they and their foster carers agree. The Department committed a total of £44.6 million to Staying Put for the three years from 2014–15 to 2016–17. Local authorities welcome Staying Put as a means of smoothing the transition to post-care living, but have also described barriers to implementing it, including: the costs to local authorities, strains on the market for foster carers, and adverse financial consequences for foster carers. Foster carers can receive around £500 a week to care for a child under the age of 18, but at age 18 or above, under Staying Put arrangements, this payment can be £150 a week — a 70% reduction. It is too early to assess whether Staying Put is improving care leavers' lives in the long term. The Department told us that it would have some figures available soon, but that it would be several years before it knew whether the policy was working well.<sup>48</sup>

26. One of our care leaver witnesses told us that both he and his foster carer had wanted him to be part of the Staying Put policy. However, his carer had not been aware that her payments would fall after he turned 18, and his carer then found she could no longer afford to look after him. He had therefore had to move out earlier than planned and at short notice. He had only found out later that he might have been eligible for housing benefit while living with his foster carer, and that this could have helped to support her financially.<sup>49</sup>

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43 Q30, [C&AG's Report](#), para 3.11

44 Q 29

45 Q45, [C&AG's Report](#), para 3.11

46 Q 45

47 Qq 31, 45

48 Q 52; [C&AG's Report](#), paras 2.12–2.13

49 Qq 1, 2, 7, 13

# Formal Minutes

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**Wednesday 21 October 2015**

Members present:

Meg Hillier, in the Chair

Mr Richard Bacon

Deidre Brock

Kevin Foster

Mr Stewart Jackson

Nigel Mills

David Mowat

Stephen Phillips

John Pugh

Mrs Anne-Marie Trevelyan

Draft Report (*Care leavers' transition to adulthood*), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

*Ordered*, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 26 read and agreed to.

Conclusions and recommendations agreed to.

Summary agreed to.

*Resolved*, That the Report be the Fifth Report of the Committee to the House.

*Ordered*, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

*Ordered*, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 134.

[Adjourned till Monday 26 October at 3.30 p.m.]

## Witnesses

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The following witnesses gave evidence. Transcripts can be viewed on the Committee's [inquiry web page](#).

### Monday 7 September 2015

*Question number*

**Emma Corbett**, Participation Manager, Who Cares? Trust, and **Dembo** and **Emanuel**, care leavers

[Q1-15](#)

**Paul Kissack**, Director General, Children's Services, Department for Education, **Alison O'Sullivan**, President, Association of Directors of Children's Services, and **Chris Wormald**, Permanent Secretary, Department for Education

[Q16-82](#)

## Published written evidence

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The following written evidence was received and can be viewed on the Committee's [inquiry web page](#). CLE numbers are generated by the evidence processing system and so may not be complete.

- 1 Department for Education ([CLE0001](#))
- 2 The Prince's Trust ([CLE0002](#))

## List of Reports from the Committee during the current Parliament

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All publications from the Committee are available on the Committee's website at [www.parliament.uk/pac](http://www.parliament.uk/pac).

The reference number of the Government's response to each Report is printed in brackets after the HC printing number.

### Session 2015-2016

First Report	Financial sustainability of police forces in England and Wales	HC 288
Second Report	Disposal of public land for new homes	HC 289
Third Report	Funding for disadvantaged pupils	HC 327
Fourth Report	Fraud and Error Stocktake	HC 394
First Special Report	Unauthorised disclosure of draft Report in the previous Parliament	HC 539