

## Extract of minutes from Council meeting – 24 February 2022

### [Care Leavers Covenant](#) PDF 346 KB

Report of the Executive Director of People

#### **Additional documents:**

- [Appendix 1 Shropshire looked-after-children-local-offer , item 86.](#) PDF 1 MB
- [Appendix 2 Care Leaver Covenant Council 19.09.19 final , item 86.](#) PDF 251 KB
- [Appendix 3 Pledges CLC , item 86.](#) PDF 356 KB
- [Appendix 4 CLC-A-Toolkit-for-incorporating-social-value-v4 , item 86.](#) PDF 8 MB
- [Appendix 5 Shropshire Council Children in Care and Care Leavers Charter , item 86.](#) PDF 216 KB

#### **Minutes:**

It was proposed by the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education, Councillor Kirstie Hurst-Knight, and seconded by Councillor Nick Bardsley that the report of the Executive Director of People, a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes and the recommendations contained therein, be received and agreed.

Members welcomed the contents of the report.

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. That Council agrees to sign up to a Whole Council 5 Part Strategy and approves the current Covenant Pledge set out in Section 7.3.
2. Members are requested to sign today their commitment to promote the Care Leavers' Covenant with partners and businesses they come into contact with, and to refresh their commitment to the SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL CHILDREN IN CARE AND CARE LEAVERS' CHARTER (Appendix 5).
3. That Council delegates to the Chief Executive and the Executive Directors consideration of which of the additional options to enhance the Whole Council Five-Part Strategy they are prepared to endorse to include:
  - The development of more suitable housing options for care leavers.
  - Support to gain suitable housing for care leavers through use of rent guarantor schemes and/or payment of a supplement to housing providers where finance is a barrier.
  - The expansion of support to care leavers who become homeless by extending the automatic priority need category up to the age of 25 (legally it is currently 21).
  - Further to this, no care leaver would be made intentionally homeless from a care placement (ie, children's home, foster care, SB&L, SHIP, SAIL) and all care leavers would be placed into gold banding (or equivalent due to the review of the policy) for HomePoint.

- Funding for additional work experience and apprenticeship opportunities in the Council ring-fenced for care leavers
- A 'Whole Council' audit to take place.
- An annual 'Social Value' face to face event to bring together Council members and representatives from Council departments with local businesses and partner agencies to promote opportunities for Shropshire care leavers and set ambitious targets to enable them to live and work successfully within Shropshire.