



“ The Corporate Parenting of young people in care is the responsibility of all of us. It is unacceptable that any child in care ends up homeless.

It is time to act.

”

Sharon Lovell

National Executive Director NYAS Cymru
(the National Youth Advocacy Service)

Chair of End Youth Homelessness Cymru's
working group examining the links between
the care system and youth homelessness

Introduction

This report is based on the voices and experiences of care experienced young people who have been, or are currently, homeless across Wales. The aim of this research is to amplify these young people's voices to highlight the challenges they have faced when homeless and the need for reform of the systems which have failed to prevent their homelessness.

We appreciate that the experiences of young people presented in this report are by no means representative of the experiences of the majority of care experienced young people in Wales, but a disproportionately high number of looked-after or formerly looked-after young people will recognise elements of their own personal stories in those presented here.

Interviews with young people took place from October 2019 until March 2020. The participants in the study were aged from 17 to 24 and were living in 10 different local authorities across Wales, at the time of interview. We spoke to 11 young women and 16 young men who had been in care and experienced youth homelessness. The research was co-designed with young people, as were our recommendations.

This is a condensed version of the full, referenced version of this report, which is available on the [End Youth Homelessness Cymru](#) website. The full version includes good and promising practice examples, supporting arguments based in academic literature and more from the young people whose voices are integral to this work.

“

I want to see a decrease of homelessness. I don't want to see an increase of it. I want people from your company to come up to me and say: 'guess what, we've just built a new block of flats now for young care leavers.' So if they are homeless (they have) a nice little refuge. I want them to go into training flats. I don't want a person who has been through the care system begging for money off me. I want them to have a better life than what I had.

Dylan, 23

”

About End Youth Homelessness Cymru

End Youth Homelessness Cymru is a coalition, led by [Llamau](#), determined to end youth homelessness; a mission we believe is both vital and achievable. We cannot do this alone, but by building a national movement and working with partners, we aim to create the systemic and cultural change necessary to prevent and end youth homelessness in Wales.

How many care-experienced young people become homeless?

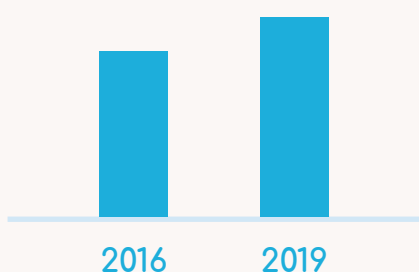
Understanding the precise extent of homelessness amongst care-experienced young people (both care-leavers and those who are still looked-after) is difficult, as is the case with all youth homelessness. The issue of quantification is complicated by the measure employed by Welsh Government, which shows the number of households eligible for assistance, defined broadly, as 'a care leaver or person at particular risk of sexual or financial exploitation, 18 years or over but under the age of 21'. The most recent data show 90 such cases across Wales, but as with all hidden homelessness, this figure should be treated cautiously. This number has risen from 69 in 16-17, the year in which the Welsh Government-funded *Care leavers accommodation and support framework for Wales* was released.



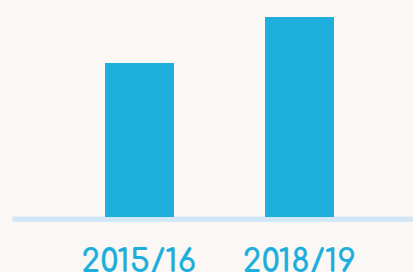
of care leavers become homeless in the first two years immediately after they leave care.¹



of all homeless people have been in care at some point in their lives.¹



Children in the Care System²



Care-leavers experiencing homelessness²

As of the 31st of March 2019, there were 6,846 children in the care of local authorities, in Wales, up from from 5,660 on 31st March 2016 (Stats Wales, 2019). A similar rise can be seen in Welsh Government's statistics for care-leavers experiencing homelessness, from 69 to 90 between 15/16 and 18/19 (Stats Wales, 2019).²

¹ Welsh Government, StatsWales, 2019

² All-Party Parliamentary Group for Ending Homelessness, Report June 2017

Policy Context

The Welsh Government funded framework designed to ensure a move from care into stable accommodation, The Care Leavers Accommodation and Support Framework, offers a useful planning document for both practitioners and those in strategic positions. However, a small scale study, undertaken in 2018, found that its application is inconsistent and the fact that numbers have risen since its introduction indicates a need for a review of its use.

The Ministerial Advisory Group tasked with Improving Outcomes for Children Programme is currently working through a number of areas related to the issues presented in this report. In particular, the findings and recommendations of Don't Let Me Fall Through the Cracks are of relevance to this group's workstream on Supporting Best Possible Journeys through Care and Into Adulthood. This includes a focus on developing 'a range of accommodation options which provide positive experiences for children and young people who are leaving care' (including new minimum standards and reviewing the efficacy of existing care leaver's pathways).

Many of the care-experienced young people we spoke to were candid about the poor quality of accommodation they were placed in when presenting as homeless, including B&B and in some cases emergency accommodation shared with older homeless people using substances. Welsh Government homelessness guidance from March 2016 is relevant here, including the statement that "Welsh Ministers intend to see an end of the use of B&B accommodation for single 16 and 17 year olds", as well as direction on the use of multi-agency meetings to address youth homelessness. Our recommendations address these points, calling for an immediate end to the use of temporary accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds and an enhanced, director-led multi-agency meeting when care-experienced young people present as homeless, to provide long-term fixes to systems that are clearly not working to prevent homelessness.

The Welsh Government's Homelessness Action Group addressed care-experienced young people in its 2nd report, the recommendations of which were accepted in principle by the Minister for Housing and Local Government, at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. Our report echoes theirs in highlighting the vulnerability of care-experienced young people to homelessness, as well as their calls for more help in preparing them for managing a tenancy.

Welsh Government's recent youth homelessness policy-making, including the funding provided by the Youth Homelessness Innovation fund, has been informed by the findings of the WCPP paper [Preventing Youth Homelessness](#). Again, our findings mirror much of what was presented in that paper, with young

people telling us about their experiences of the types of systems failures that had been highlighted in Preventing Youth Homelessness.

The Welsh Government COVID-19 response has seen much progress made to sustainably house those who were rough sleeping at the start of the crisis, some of whom were doubtless care-experienced themselves. This report is written with an eye on what comes next and how Wales improves the preventative systems that it has in place. The recommendations for system change set out below are designed to ensure that those currently being looked after by our local authorities experience a stable transition from the care system and avoid the nightmare of homelessness described by the 27 young people we interviewed.



Findings and Recommendations

System Failures are Leading Care Experienced Young People to Become Homeless

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Obviously you have got the people who are homeless sleeping on sofas, you've got other young ones sleeping in B&B's, or the others who are in the middle of the system – 17 turning 18. You've got social services saying: 'they are not my (responsibility), I don't look after them anymore – they are 18, that's housing.' Then housing go 'well they are 17 they are not ours yet'. So, you've got the battle (within) the council of who looks after (that young person). Then you've got a PA who has disappeared to get a new job and you are skint and you have no other support.

Eryn, 20

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System failures within social services, health, housing and other areas were repeatedly described during the interviews and clearly contributed to many of the care experienced young people we interviewed becoming homeless. Young people described how local connection rules prevented them from accessing housing in areas where they felt at home, with a community around them who might have prevented their homelessness. They also talked about the inequality in their experiences compared to their non-care-experienced peers – how when things go wrong for their peers, as they become independent, they can fall back on family, moving home. There is no such option for care-experienced young people who felt that a move back to their previous placement

“

(I got moved to a hostel) in the most depressing and gloomiest place in the world... there was no support. I couldn't even get hold of family I was 15 miles away from any family in any direction. My mum couldn't help me and I just had to suffer it to the point where I attempted (suicide) three times. It got that bad for me that I couldn't cope with it any more.

Lewys, 20

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or into a similar, caring environment, such as supported lodgings, might have helped them avoid homelessness, in some cases.

“

They gave me housing forms (in prison). They were supposed to set me up for a hostel. It's supposed to be a probation hostel for when people come out. I got promised that place and they didn't give me that place when I came out. I went straight to housing options the second I came out. I didn't go for no food. I didn't see none of my cousins, I went straight to housing. I got promised a hostel and I was looking forward to it. Before I went to jail too I was homeless for about two months. Literally staying on the street and when I came out they said go down to the night shelter and I have been waiting for my hostel ever since.

Nick, 20

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It is clear from the evidence presented by those we interviewed that a more coordinated approach would result in better outcomes and reduction in risk of harm to a very vulnerable group. This is reflected in our recommendations. One, based on young people's experiences of not being granted access to their entitlements, calls for Housing Options teams to be proactive in ascertaining whether someone presenting to them is in, or has recently left, care. Another calls for a multi-agency meeting to be called when a care experienced young person presents as homeless or at risk

of homelessness. This would principally enable an immediate response to that young person's risk of homelessness but, by involving senior figures, would also offer an opportunity to strategically review how a care experienced young person has arrived at the point of presenting to their own corporate parent as homeless. This would enable gaps in the system (such as communication breakdowns between siloed departments, or under-resourcing of key teams) to be addressed, reducing future homelessness presentations.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

Welsh Government should review the practical implementation of the Barnardo's Care Leavers Accommodation and Support Framework for Wales.

That the numbers of care experienced young people becoming homeless has increased since the Framework's development should trigger a review of its use and effectiveness, including whether local authorities have sufficient resources to make best use of it.

Recommendation 2

A multi-agency review should be undertaken any time a care experienced young person presents to a local authority as homeless or at-risk-of-homelessness.

This would ensure that the young person gets the help they are entitled to but also provide an opportunity for all relevant partners to review and address any flaws within systems, caused by miscommunication, lack of resource or disconnection between services, to ensure that future, similar cases are prevented. This should be led by the director of children's services, or a local authority colleague of equivalent seniority, to ensure that the group's findings can swiftly lead to remedial action.



Recommendation 3

Welsh Government should explore the feasibility of a 'Right to Return to Care' policy proposal.

Care experienced young people need to be able to make mistakes and still be supported by the system, including those who have provided them with care and guidance in the past, to avoid the traumatic experience of homelessness. Young people should be given the option to return to their care placement or another support option, such as Supported Lodgings, if they need it. Other young people are able to return to and receive ongoing support from their parents, in the event of a relationship breakdown for instance, there should be parity for care experienced young people.

Recommendation 4

Welsh Government and Local Authorities should review local connection rules and practice with regard to care-experienced young people.

Young people told us that they were declined local connection to areas they had been placed in and felt settled. Care experienced young people placed out-of-county should be able to have the area they have been placed in considered as an additional 'local connection' when moving on – the choice should lie with the young person. This additional flexibility would enable young people to live close to support networks and reduce the loneliness described in this paper.

Recommendation 5

Local authority housing options teams must always proactively seek to establish whether a young person is care experienced, upon presentation as at-risk-of-homelessness.

They must ensure that those who are care experienced are able to access all the support to which they are entitled, in cooperation with social services.

Homeless Young People's Experiences of the Care System

Consistency of care is vital, reducing the likelihood of care-experienced young people going through homelessness and enabling a smoother transition to adult life. Those we spoke to described sometimes astonishing inconsistency and disruption in their lives, along with, in some cases, a sense of powerlessness.

“

I was in foster care from the age of 12. Every foster placement I had broke down. I must have been in around fourteen foster placements. Between, the ages of, 12 and 16 I had about 5-6 social workers in that time also. None of the placements would have me, no foster carers. Supported lodgings placements wouldn't have me. So the hostel literally was my last resort.

Alys, 22

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“

Wherever I was put, it wasn't my decision. Even when I didn't want to go somewhere they put me there anyway... I feel like that's part of being in care. Not knowing where you are going to be next. That's part of it I guess.

Osian, 21

”

One young person found herself sofa surfing while she was in the sixth form and felt that no one had been there to help her before she reached this stage. Her PA had gone on maternity leave and, as far as she knew, no other support had been put in place for her.

“

I tried to get in touch with my PA. She went off on maternity leave and I heard nothing back from them after that. I've struggled in sixth form sleeping on my mate's sofa and it took me a month or two to move into (a supported housing project). I was still doing everything in between and it was a lot.

Carly, 22

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This inconsistency and disruption led to a repeated need to go back through their cases with new staff or agencies, who didn't know what was best for them or were over-reliant on risk-assessments which young people felt did not reflect who they really were.

“ They are taking information the wrong way... I couldn't get housed because of my risk assessment... The risk assessment is done everywhere you go. So looked-after children have got a risk assessment and individual housing associations and hostels will have one. No matter what, risk assessments are piled together. It's paper, it's a paper view. You can't judge somebody off a piece of paper.

Rees, 20 ”

The young people shared a perception that their personal advisors (PAs) and social workers were burdened with high caseloads. One young person commented that they considered their workers to be nice people, but perceived them to be very busy 'as they've got thousands of cases', reinforcing a sense that they were one among many, rather than worthy of attention in their own right.

“ That's the one thing: I've had about twelve agencies with me but the consistency and the sharing of information... you just keep having to repeat your story over again. Like I said, 'there is a file that should be read, (but) literally it doesn't get read, you just keep dragging up all the shit that has happened to you about ten years ago. You've got to drag it up again.

Alys, 22 ”

Independent living skills, such as budgeting and prioritizing spending, understanding bills and basic maintenance, are crucial to maintain a tenancy. Those we spoke to had mixed experiences in care and many felt that more help was needed.

“ Budgeting would have helped, something basic, how to pay your bills, your electric. How to pay community charges. But that should be a standard thing. That's what I mean. I didn't get taught none of this. You should be taught that in school.

Nick, 20 ”

Recommendations

Recommendation 6

Welsh Government should review the capacity and levels of staff turnover in social services, providing additional investment, as necessary.

A review of the size and complexity of social services caseloads is needed, with the input of young people taken into account. Further investment in social services to allow for smaller case-loads could help to minimise the disruptive experiences in care, which young people have suggested were contributory to their later homelessness.

Recommendation 7

Corporate parents need to ensure care leavers' financial capabilities are developed through the pathway planning process and support is given to them from professionals to prepare for financial independence.

The young people we spoke to identified budgeting as the area they needed the most support with. Many felt unprepared for independent living, which contributed to the failure of their tenancies. Every local authority, as a corporate parent, should ensure that their young people have the opportunity to develop these skills while in care.



Exiting the Care System: Early Independence, Isolation & Loneliness

The average age for a young person to leave home in the UK is 25³ but in 2018-19 the average age at which care leavers left home in Wales was just 17 (Welsh Government, 2019a).⁴

While recent policy changes (notably 'When I'm Ready') have attempted to address the cliff edge that turning 18 can be for young people in care, those we spoke to described the impact of the changes as dramatic, in some cases. These young people clearly felt that the arbitrary, age-based approach taken with them had negatively impacted on their lives.

“ As soon as I turned 18 there was no more support at all...I just ended up moving on my 18th birthday with my ex-partner. Because of that they did nothing. ”

Grace, 18

UK Government's welfare system causes care-experienced young people problems too, limiting their ability to access sufficient housing costs to get a place that suits their needs, at present.

Living alone was another major issue: even though we didn't specifically ask about loneliness, ten of our participants raised loneliness and isolation as key contributory factors to homelessness; six of them felt that loneliness was the main reason they had become homeless. Five had challenges managing visitors to their property and had not been able to sustain accommodation because of this. One felt she could not hold a tenancy down because of her feelings of loneliness.

“ I wasn't ready to move on from my hostel but I had to go because of my age. I wasn't ready. I have a 24-year-old social worker, who is still living at home with her mother for support, telling me I've got to live on my own. No thank you, love. Go back home to your mother and I'll stay here. ”

Alys, 22

3 Sutherland, M. (2019) Somewhere to Call Home: Report on Homelessness and Care Experience. Scotland: The Scottish Government & Who Cares Scotland

4 Welsh Government (2019a) Experimental Statistics: Children looked after by local authorities, 2018-19.

The earlier recommendations of local connection review and consideration of the size of social services' case-loads address some of these issues. A further point for review though is the issue of shared housing. Young people did not consistently state a preference for shared over single-occupancy housing, but there were some who felt sharing would be a big help with the issue of loneliness.

“ I have got to the point where I am laying alone in a freezing cold f*cking house. No one is there and I was drinking. Drinking... it helps me fall asleep. ”

Bill, 17

“ If someone phones you up and says 'do you want a party at yours'? And you are the only one, you say 'yeah, come round, of course, come over'. Then you get all these noise complaints and things like that. I was partying and partying because I didn't want to be here alone and I nearly got kicked out. I nearly lost my tenancy for that one... It's just I was lonely and that was it. I didn't care that there was drugs because someone was there and I didn't see how bad it got. ”

Ally, 23

“ It is having someone to speak to even if you don't talk to them all the time, it's having someone... I would open up three or four projects to see how they go for 21-25 year olds. Get them out of the night shelter. Get them through supported housing projects. I want a project for 21-25 year olds so they know they are stable for another three years with support. ”

Alys, 22

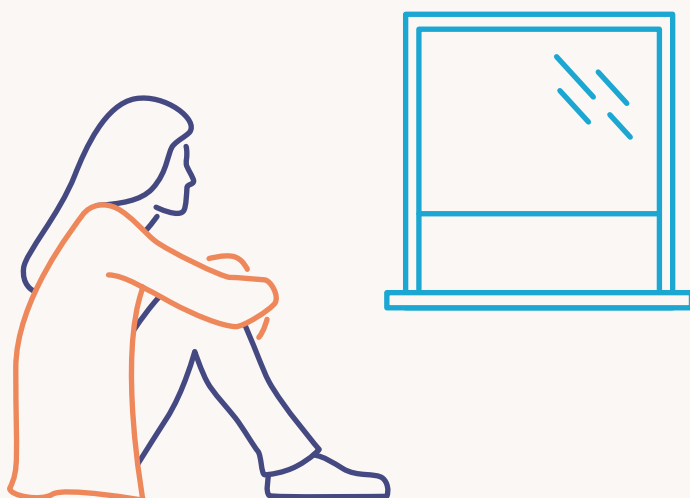
Recommendations

Our recommendation below is aimed at UK government but Welsh local authorities might also consider what can be done to ensure the availability of appropriate shared accommodation for care-experienced young people.

Recommendation 8

UK Government should bring forward care leavers' exemption from the Shared Accommodation Rate of Universal Credit.

Currently care leavers are only exempted from the Shared Accommodation Rate (SAR) until they are 22. Once they turn 22 the housing element of Universal Credit is limited to the lower SAR meaning they can only afford to pay for a room in a shared house, which is inappropriate for many and restricts their ability to access settled accommodation. UK Government have pledged to address this in October 2023, but there remains a gap in the system until then which they should close as soon as possible.



Mental Health and Emotional Well-being

The young people we spoke to talked freely about their mental health issues and how homelessness and a lack of a settled lifestyle had exacerbated their conditions and prevented them from overcoming their problems. Four of the 27 care experienced young people we interviewed revealed they had attempted suicide.

They also talked about being let down by services, often unable to access help when they needed it or lost in the transition between CAMHS and adult services.

“ Everyone has mental health issues, everyone gets depressed and anxious sometimes. But when you have got nowhere to go or nowhere to hide or nothing to distract yourself, all you have got is all these issues. I've not got suitable accommodation. I have not got somewhere safe I can go. Like it makes it worse your depression, your anxiety.

Lucy, 18 ”

“ It is way too complicated! You go to one person and then through to another person. You've got to wait like months to find out where you are. All the time your mental health (is being affected).

Sam, 20 ”

“ I had quite a few diagnoses from CAMHS. When I transitioned to adult services they said I couldn't engage because of my drug and alcohol use.

Rob, 20 ”

“ They just say if it gets worse come back. It is worse now. It is so stupid.

Lauren, 17 ”

Five of the 27 participants spoke of how experiencing a bereavement of a relative or partner had contributed to them becoming homeless. Understandably, they had all experienced mental health difficulties after experiencing a significant bereavement and none of them felt they had received support with their bereavement.

“

Basically my mum passed. So I went to my Dad's and my Dad kicked me out when I was 16 and it went from there really. I went into the first hostel they moved me to and I moved from (care placement) to (support provider) I think. From (support provider) to (care placement), all the care homes in (town) back to (support provider) and then it was (different town). Then it was here.

Rob, 20

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x3 Evidence from a UK study suggests that care experienced young people are more than three times more likely to attempt suicide than their non-care experienced peers.⁵



⁵ Evans, R. White, J. Turley, R. Slater, T. Morgan, H., Strange, H. and Scourfield, J. (2017) Comparison of suicidal ideation, suicide attempt and suicide in children and young people in care and non-care populations: Systematic review and meta-analysis of prevalence. Children and Youth Services Review. 82, 122-129.

Recommendations

Recommendation 9

Local Authorities should review the level of support available to young people in their care making the transition between CAMHS and adult mental health services.

Young people told us that consistency of support through this key transitional period is very important to them. Given the trauma that has been experienced by many young people in care, they should be a high priority for mental health support, whether via CAMHS or adult mental health services.

Recommendation 10

Local Authorities should review the availability of bereavement support to care-experienced and homeless young people.

Evidence from young people spoken to for this report indicates a link between bereavement, mental ill health and homelessness. The ability of care experienced young people to access bereavement support consistently and quickly, when needed, should be reviewed by all local authorities and appropriate action, such as additional staff training on the effects of bereavement and how to offer support, taken.

Emergency and Temporary Homelessness Accommodation

Most of the young people we spoke to described negative experiences in temporary accommodation, which clearly had a marked impact on each of them. Undoubtedly a move to steady, settled accommodation, with support as required, immediately following presentation would have been in their best interests.

The young people spoke, with only a few exceptions, of being placed in environments where they felt uncomfortable, and in many cases at risk of harm. Their experiences included staying in B&Bs as well as in hostels (including on shared floor space)⁶. Many highlighted, in particular, sharing accommodation with older residents with substance use issues. Some young people felt this had led to them having harmful substance use issues themselves:

“

I've been at the night shelter about six times now and I have been there twice between the time I was 16 and 18 and that's the worst place I have been, to be honest. I have been to jail and the night shelter is worse than that. I would like to put in a complaint that people can't stay in the night shelter when they are 16 years old.

Nick, 20

”

⁶ N.B. Where the term hostel is used, it is intended to mean emergency or temporary accommodation and not supported housing.

“

What's annoying, you've gone through trauma, you've seen parents take drugs, you've been affected by drugs yourself. It's counterproductive to put you back in the environment that they took you out of. You are supposed to be doing a job, taking us out of environments that are a risk to us. You know that there has been trauma and flashbacks, anxiety, panic attacks; to put them back into that environment well social services might just as well not exist. It seems pointless that they've been with you for ten, twelve years of your life then you become homeless and your back in the same spot you were in, in the first place.

VFCC workshop attendee

”

“

There were smack heads going in there, you could smell drugs as well. It was making me sick... I didn't have a TV in my room you had to share a living room which was shut off at 10 o' clock and then you are staring at blank walls.

Dylan, 23

”

“

Disgusting, it is full of drug users, it's disgusting; you know what I mean? It's dirty... full of men... I am literally the only female there.

Grace, 18

”

Young People's Golden Rules of Temporary Accommodation

Care experienced young people who had been homeless told us that all temporary accommodation needed to offer the following:



1. No damp



7. Kitchen tools

e.g. a kettle and a microwave.



2. Security

a lockable door.



8. Easy access

young people spoke about the need for accommodation to be on a bus route, for them to have a key to the front door and for there to be no curfew.



3. Privacy



9. A window



4. Access to a private shower and toilet



10. First aid

access and first aid trained staff.



5. Hygiene products

e.g. a toothbrush, sanitary products, and a hairbrush.



11. Caring staff who they could talk to



6. Connectivity

This is about being able to access services as well as having access to Wi-Fi.



12. If shared, then not to be shared with older people

Especially if they have harmful substance use issues.

Recommendations

Recommendation 11

Welsh Government should commit to ensuring that no 16 or 17 year old should be accommodated in unsupported temporary accommodation.

16 and 17 year olds who present to a local authority as homeless, whether care experienced or not, should be found appropriate, supported accommodation, whether via a supported housing project, foster placement, supported lodgings or similar, supported placement. If short term accommodation is required, to allow for assessments to be made and appropriate accommodation found, it must meet the minimum standards set out by young people in this report, with support provided and a timescale provided to the young person for their move to settled accommodation.

Recommendation 12

Welsh Government should deliver a commitment to strictly limit the length of time that any young person over the age of 17 should be expected to remain in temporary accommodation before being found settled housing, as has been done in Scotland.

The term accepted in Scotland is 7 days. This fits with Welsh Government's current stated approach of rapid-rehousing in settled accommodation. This settled accommodation might include youth-focussed, shared supported accommodation, or single-person accommodation (with floating support, as necessary), depending on the needs of the young person.

Recommendation 13

Welsh Government should enforce new, minimum standards of temporary accommodation.

These should be agreed in consultation with young people and informed by the 'golden rules' set out in this paper.

Conclusion

The young people placed in care deserve the best possible outcomes. Often they have experienced traumatic situations and need all the love, care and help that the state can provide.

Those young people we spoke with, and many others, have not been provided with this: they have been let down by underfunded services, forgotten about when they needed help with their mental health, accommodated with people who have put them at risk of harm and been denied opportunities open to their non-care experienced peers. While many individuals were highlighted by our participants as having done superb jobs to help them, the systems those individuals work within are currently failing to prevent these young people, who ought to be the most protected in our society, from falling into homelessness. Young people have helped us to formulate a set of recommendations for change, that, if achieved, will address some of those flaws in our systems and, ultimately, contribute to ending youth homelessness in Wales.



Summary of Recommendations:

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- 1 Welsh Government should review the practical implementation of the Barnardo's Care Leavers Accommodation and Support Framework for Wales.
 - 2 A multi-agency review should be undertaken any time a care experienced young person presents to a local authority as homeless or at-risk-of-homelessness.
 - 3 Welsh Government should explore the feasibility of a 'Right to Return to Care' policy proposal.
 - 4 Welsh Government and Local Authorities should review local connection rules and practice with regard to care-experienced young people.
 - 5 Local authority housing options teams must always proactively seek to establish whether a young person is care experienced, upon presentation as at-risk-of-homelessness.
 - 6 Welsh Government should review the capacity and levels of staff turnover in social services, providing additional investment, as necessary.
 - 7 Corporate parents need to ensure care leavers' financial capabilities are developed through the pathway planning process and support is given to them from professionals to prepare for financial independence.
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- 8 UK Government should bring forward care leavers' exemption from the Shared Accommodation Rate of Universal Credit.
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- 9 Local Authorities should review the level of support available to young people in their care making the transition between CAMHS and adult mental health services.
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- 10 Local Authorities should review the availability of bereavement support to care-experienced and homeless young people.
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- 11 Welsh Government should commit to ensuring that no 16 or 17 year old should be accommodated in unsupported temporary accommodation.
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- 12 Welsh Government should deliver a commitment to strictly limit the length of time that any young person over the age of 17 should be expected to remain in temporary accommodation before being found settled housing, as has been done in Scotland.
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- 13 Welsh Government should enforce new, minimum standards of temporary accommodation.
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