Nottinghamshire's Local Offer for **Care Leavers**

Young people in custody, leaving custody or linked with Youth Justice Service or the Probation Service

HM Prison & Probation Service

Nottinghamshire County Council

working with

Ashfield District Council

Bassetlaw District Council – North Nottinghamshire –

Broxtowe Borough Council

Gedling Borough Council

Mansfield District Council

Newark & Sherwood District Council

Rushcliffe Borough Council

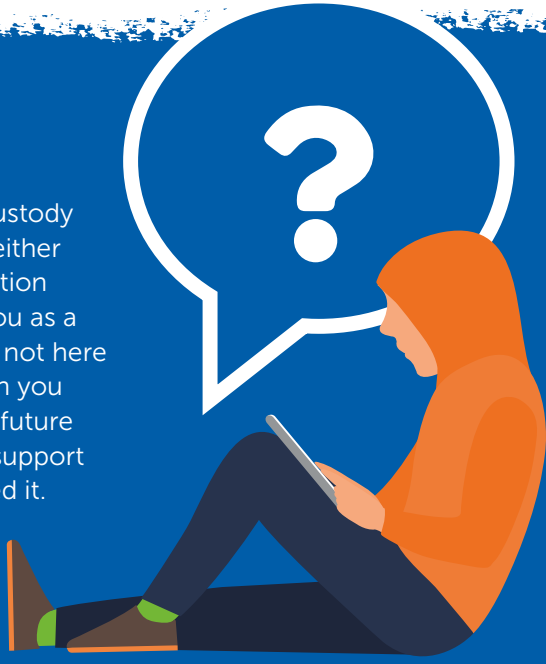
What is Nottinghamshire's Local Offer for Care Leavers?

Nottinghamshire's Local Offer for Care Leavers tells you about all the services and support that we have available for you as a care leaver. We know that it is a big step when you move out of care and start living on your own or with others. We want to make sure that you feel safe and supported and know how to get the advice and help you need.

To find out more about this offer go to **www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk** this will be kept up to date with the latest offers.

Is it for me?

If you are in custody, about to leave custody or under a period of supervision with either the Youth Justice Service or the Probation Service then we are here to support you as a care leaver first and foremost. We are not here to make judgement about the situation you are in, but we are here to look at your future options and choices and to see what support you may need at a time when you need it.



If you are a care leaver in custody

Your care leaver champion in the prison, resettlement worker or probation worker can contact your personal adviser or the 21Plus Service to make sure you get the support you need whilst you are in custody and to help you to successfully move forward on your release. We will be proactive in trying to support you.

You are also able to contact your personal adviser, the 21Plus Service or the Leaving Care Duty Service through the contact details at the end of this leaflet.

- If you are in custody before your 21st birthday, your personal adviser will visit you a minimum of every twelve weeks. If you want more contact, then your personal adviser will be able to discuss and agree with you how this happens
- If you find yourself on remand and turning 18 please keep in touch with your personal adviser so that we can link in with Youth Justice or Probation Services
- Your personal adviser can usually visit you during the 'legal visits' time, but you will have the option of whether you would prefer the visit as a 'domestic visitor' should you want this instead
- With your consent, your personal adviser can work with other professionals and support workers to explore any plans whilst you are in custody, and for when you leave custody. You will then have a Pathway Plan so that you know what is happening, when and by who
- Your personal adviser will be able to support you to try and help rebuild or maintain relationships with those people that you identify as important to you, whilst you are in custody
- You will be provided with a copy of Nottinghamshire's Local Offer for Care Leavers so you know what you can access when you are leaving custody

- Whilst in custody we can explore options for work and education so that you can maximise your skills and readiness for employment, education or training ready for your release
- We will identify what financial support you may need from us, for things like keeping in touch with those people important to you, or items you may need in relation to your identity or physical care
- If you are unable to work whilst in custody, then please speak to your personal adviser about this and any additional support you may require
- If you want them to, then your personal adviser will attend any discharge planning meetings to ensure there is a clear plan in place on release from custody. Your personal adviser will also work with you, prison staff and Probation Services to develop any resettlement plans upon your release. The aim will be to make sure the plans work together and you understand them.

For young people upon their release from custody

Your personal adviser will help to ensure there is a detailed practical plan in place so that on the day of your release from custody, you know where you are going, what accommodation you have in place and how you will get there. Upon release your personal adviser can work with you and any other support workers and professionals to update your Pathway Plan and then see how we can include Youth Justice Service or Probation plans so that you have one clear meaningful plan for you.

- Your personal adviser will identify what financial support you may need from us for things like keeping in touch with those people important to you or items you may need in relation to your identity or physical care
- We will provide you with a basic mobile phone and an initial basic credit so that we can contact you and that you are able to contact those people important to you, and help maintain any appointments with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Youth Justice and/or Probation Services
- You will be entitled to a one-off clothing allowance upon your release, to be able to purchase suitable clothing that you may need. This will be agreed with your personal adviser and the fund will be accessed by them

- If you need to claim for benefits upon your release, then we will also look at providing short-term personal allowance (equivalent to Universal Credit rates) until your benefits claim is processed. There is an expectation that you will work with all agencies involved including the DWP so that your claim can be processed swiftly
- As part of your Pathway Plan, we will explore your future accommodation plans, where you want to live and use the Local Offer for Care Leavers to access housing in Nottinghamshire. If you wish to live outside of Nottinghamshire, then your personal adviser alongside our homelessness prevention personal adviser(s) can help identify your options
- As part of your Pathway Plan, we will discuss your options around employment, education and training and link you with an achievement adviser. Our Achievement Offer identifies many opportunities for you within education and in the world of work. You may experience some barriers around employment opportunities, but we can help identify these with you and navigate them to look for alternative options to best support your future achievements.

21Plus Service

If you are in custody prior to your 21st birthday, then the 21Plus Service will arrange a joint visit with your personal adviser to come to see you and introduce you to our service so that you know how to access our continuing support until your 25th birthday.

- The 21Plus Service will keep in touch with you by visiting you face to face in custody, or by a video link at least every three months if you want them to
- The 21Plus Service will keep in touch every month through email or letter communication if you want them to
- Six months before you leave custody, a 21Plus personal adviser will work with you, the Probation Service and prison resettlement staff to formulate your Resettlement Plan ready for your release. If you would like us to review your Pathway Plan, then we can also do this with you. We refer to this as a 21Plus Pathway
- Your 21Plus personal adviser will help to ensure there is a detailed practical plan in place so that on the day of your release from custody, you know where you are going, what accommodation you have in place and how you will get there

- Upon your release from custody, the 21Plus Service can work with you and other professionals including Probation, to support your successful transition back into your community
- You will be allocated a named 21Plus personal adviser who will remain your main contact to support you for the first six months after your release. After that time, if you are settled and everything is going well, then you can continue to access support, advice and guidance generally from the 21Plus Service until your 25th birthday. After this, we can continue to offer you some advice and signposting if you need it
- Upon your release, your personal adviser will identify what financial support you may need from us for things like keeping in touch with those people important to you, or items you may need in relation to your identity or physical care
- On your release from prison, we will provide you with a basic mobile phone and an initial £20 worth of credit so that we can contact you, and that you are able to contact those people important to you and help maintain any appointments with the DWP and/or Probation Service
- If you need to claim for benefits upon your release, then we will also look at providing short-term personal allowance (equivalent to Universal Credit rates) until your benefits claim is processed. There is an expectation that you will work with all agencies involved including the DWP so that your claim can be processed swiftly.

- As part the support from 21Plus Service we will explore your future accommodation plans, where you want to live and use the Local Offer for Care Leavers to access housing in Nottinghamshire. If you wish to live outside of Nottinghamshire, then your personal adviser alongside our homelessness prevention personal adviser(s) can help identify your options

- As part of the support from 21Plus we will discuss your options around employment, education and training and link you with an achievement adviser. Our Achievement Offer identifies many opportunities for you within education and in the world of work. You may experience some barriers around employment opportunities, but we can help identify these with you and navigate them to look for alternative options to best support your future achievements.

Should your release from custody be after your 25th birthday then we will still offer you some advice and guidance if you contact us upon your release as part of being 'always here' for you. This may be signposting you to support agencies or helping you to make any appointments with agencies such as the DWP or housing. We will also consider any financial support we are able to offer you for purchasing things for your accommodation if you have any Home Establishment Grant remaining.

Further information

You can contact Nottinghamshire's Leaving Care Team by phone or email:

For Bassetlaw (Worksop and Retford), **Newark and Sherwood** (Newark-on-Trent, Edwinstowe, Southwell and Ollerton)

Contact: 0115 804 4401 or **LeavingCare.North@nottscc.gov.uk**

For Mansfield (Mansfield Woodhouse, Market Warsop) and **Ashfield** (Selston, Hucknall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Sutton-in-Ashfield)

Contact: 0115 804 1236 or **LeavingCare.Central@nottscc.gov.uk**

For Broxtowe (Beeston, Stapleford, Kimberley and Eastwood), **Gedling** (Arnold, Carlton, Calverton, Ravenshead, Newstead), and **Rushcliffe** (West Bridgford, Bingham, Cotgrave, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Ruddington, Keyworth and East Leake)

Contact: 0115 854 6318 or **LeavingCare.South@nottscc.gov.uk**

If you are over 21 years old, then you can contact the 21Plus Service at: **0115 804 4154** or **21Plus@nottscc.gov.uk**

If you would like to speak with our Achievement Service, then you can either speak with your personal adviser or you can email them at **achievement@nottscc.gov.uk**

Our Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) Team support looked after children seeking asylum and care leavers until their 21st birthday. You can contact them at **uasc@nottscc.gov.uk.**

This information can be provided in alternative formats and languages. If you would like this, then please contact us at the above details.

This is part of Nottinghamshire's full Local Offer for Care Leavers, but we also have specialist Local Offers for:

- **Achievement** - Employment, Education and Training
- **21Plus Service** - for those care leavers aged 21-24 years and beyond
- **Parents or soon-to-be parents**
- **Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) or former UASC care leavers.**

For more information about Nottinghamshire's Local Offer for Care Leavers then please speak with your personal adviser or visit: **www.nottshelpyourself.org.uk.**

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