Directors of Children’s Services
Lead Members for Children

14 December 2018

Dear Directors of Children’s Services,

REPORT BY NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION ADVISER FOR CARE LEAVERS

I attach a report compiled by Mark Riddell, the national implementation adviser for care leavers. Mark was appointed to work with all local authorities to help them implement the new care leaver provisions introduced through the Children & Social Work Act; and to offer consultancy support to any local authority that wanted to benefit from his expert advice.

During his first year in post, Mark has visited around 40 local authorities and identified a number of examples of how local authorities are implementing the new duties effectively, as well as innovative practice more generally – which have been brigaded in his report under the 5 outcomes set out in the cross-Government care leaver strategy, ‘Keep on Caring’.

I know that, like me, you are passionate about improving the outcomes of care leavers and I hope Mark’s report provides some ideas on how you can make sure that your leaving care service is responding fully to the challenges that they face.

If you haven’t already taken up Mark’s offer of support and would like to talk to him about how he might be able to support you to develop your leaving care service further, please contact him at: Mark.Riddell@education.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Nadhim Zahawi MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families