

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Council – 04 November 2026

Report Title

Care Leavers' Charter

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Executive Director Approving Submission of the Report

Nicola Curley, Executive Director of Children and Young People's Services

Report Author(s)

Stuart Williams, Service Director
stuart.williams@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The Rotherham Care Leavers' Charter has been developed in partnership with Care Leavers and sets out the Council's commitment, alongside partner organisations, to support care experienced young people as they transition into adulthood. The Charter complements the existing Leaving Care Local Offer and Leaving Care Strategy and reflects the Council's responsibilities as a Corporate Parent.

The Charter brings together a range of commitments across housing, education, employment, health and wellbeing, with the aim of improving outcomes, reducing barriers and ensuring that Care Leavers receive the same opportunities and support that any reasonable parent would seek for their own child.

The Charter has been informed by the views and experiences of Care Leavers through the Look Ahead participation group and has been supported by the Corporate Parenting Partnership Board. Cabinet has considered and endorsed the Charter and now seeks Full Council's commitment to adopting the Charter in recognition of the collective corporate parenting responsibilities held by all elected members.

When the Charter was considered at Cabinet, and approved, on 14th September, a further addition of extending the eligibility of Rothercard up to age 25 was included as an additional benefit for Care Leavers.

Recommendations

That Council:

1. Adopt the Rotherham Care Leavers' Charter as a statement of the Council's commitment to Care Leavers and care experienced young adults in Rotherham.
2. Recognise the role of all elected members as Corporate Parents and support the principles contained within the Charter in their decision-making and leadership responsibilities.
3. Support the promotion of the Charter across the Council and partner organisations to strengthen opportunities, services and outcomes for Care Leavers.

List of Appendices Included

Cabinet Report – Care Leavers' Charter

Appendix 1 – Rotherham Care Leavers Charter

Appendix 2 – Part A - Initial Equality screening Assessment form

Appendix 3 – Part B – Equality Analysis Form

Appendix 4 – Climate Impact Assessment

Background Papers

None

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Corporate Parenting Panel – 08 September 2026

Cabinet – 14 September 2026

Council Approval Required

Yes

Exempt from the Press and Public

No