

Children in Care Council Care Leaver Survey Results

Your feedback is important to us because it informs the work that the Children in Care Council (CICC) does next.

This report includes what you told us . . .

In 2020 we asked care leavers what they thought about the services they receive and 54 of you responded - Thank You!

About You

Questions 1

We asked how many of you were . . .

Male		27
Female		27

Questions 2

We asked you how old you are . . .

16-17		7
18 - 21		41
21 and over		6

Questions 3

We asked about where you live . . .

In Foster Care Staying Put		9
Living Independently		23
Supported Accommodation		9
Other		12

Questions 4

We asked if you lived in Cheshire West and Chester or somewhere else out of borough . . .



Relationships & Pathway Plans

Questions 1

We asked about your relationship with your Personal Advisor (PA) and you told us . . .



Questions 2

Here are some of the things you wanted to say about your PA . . .

Helen is always there if I need her and have never had any issues getting in touch with her. Sees me regularly and always has my best interests at heart. She does everything I ask for she has been amazing Elaine. She's very helpful and always makes herself available if I need anything. She's helps me a lot. And always there if I need her. My PA is very helpful and supports me with issues like at college. I don't have one.

My PA is supportive, she's there when I need advice and she never fails to help me with what ever I need. I have met my PA and she is very friendly, I have now the right support and guidance that I really need. She's absolutely brilliant, shout out to Helena! My PA is always there when I need the support. I enjoy talking to her. She's amazing!! Keep up the brilliant work. Helena is a lovely, kind and warm person. She is always happy to help with anything you may need as well as the

rest of the team. The leaving care team as a whole have been such a big part of my life, if someone isn't available there is always someone else on hand to give the best advice they can. Being 24 years old my time with them is nearly over, I've come from being a stropky 16 year old to looking into being a support worker for young people leaving care myself, Because of the work, care and help that the team give. I couldn't be anymore grateful.

Helena is amazing, she helps me with so much.

Helena has always been very supportive towards me and has actively engaged with me and taken a big interest in what I like to do. She's been brilliant at telling my mum about Grants that I would be entitled to as a care leaver. My mum has then been able to apply for these with Helena's help which has meant that I've got new tough furniture and sensory equipment for my new room in my new house. She is very helpful when I have a problem and with paperwork that I don't understand.

Helped me out with everything I have needed help with, makes sure I am okay and well.

Always helpful. She's the only one that has been supportive and helped me out.

Very nice, take care of me very well and friendly. During my time in care I was not happy at all but since being a care leaver and getting given a PA, I am so much happier, I get so much support from her and can't say one bad thing about her, so overall I'm really pleased with how far I've come whilst having her there.

She's great, she'll help me with anything I need help with and supports me as much as she can.

She is very helpful and usually does what she can to help me with what I need. She's really good at sorting stuff out for when I can't do it.

We have a good relationship and get on really well and she is always there to help me.

My PA is amazing, very attentive and sorts any issues when needed. She's amazing and does everything for me, couldn't ask for a better one!

Questions 3

We asked if you understood what a Pathway Plan was . . .

Yes		50
No		0
Not sure		4

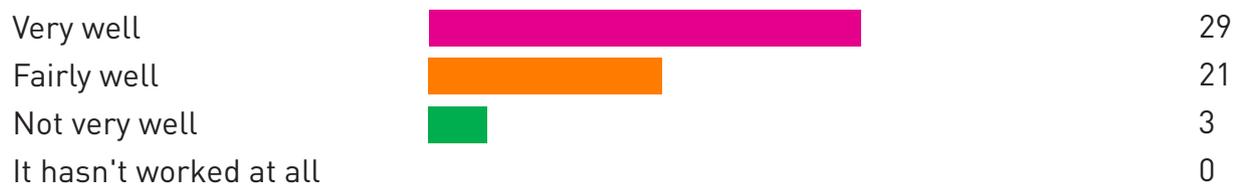
Questions 4

We also asked if you knew how to get a copy of your Pathway Plan . . .



Questions 5

And how well your pathway plan is working for you . . .



Questions 6

Here are some other things you said about your pathway plan . . .

I don't really follow a pathway plan it is more of a team effort with mental health placement and social care.
I enjoy my life at the very moment . . it is very good and I have the correct and right people in my life, I am currently looking for work and having the correct mental health support.

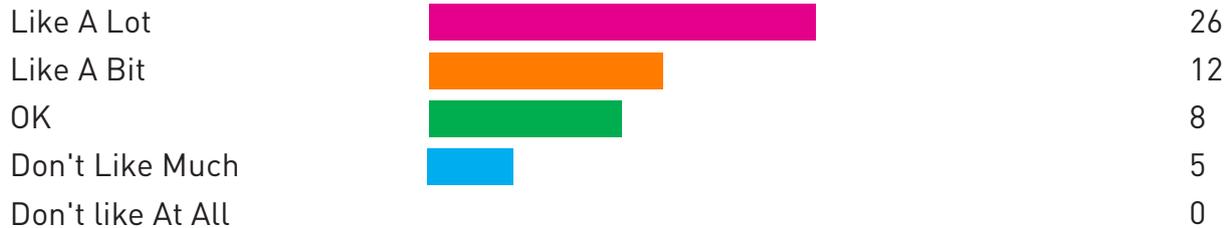
I like it as it helps me keep up to date and see how far I've come since the last. Thank you for filling these out. They're a very useful record of transitioning into supported living and what I can do with support and what I'm unable to do. I don't know that much about my pathway plan.

No everything is looking up for me.
It's left mostly up to me which I like as I'm very independent. I like that I lead what I want and how to achieve it.

Where You Live

Questions 1

We asked if you liked where you live? and you said . . .



Questions 2

Here are some other things you wanted to say about where you live . . .

Not a lot of specialist placements nationally or locally that suits my needs but its kept me stable. I love living independently in Chester city centre. It's only a 1 bedroom. I need a 2 bed because I've got a baby. The bathroom is small I've been waiting for 3 years to get it done up. I'm on the 5th floor hopefully the lifts won't brake because I've got an pram. I am very happy where I live and I get on really well with my foster carer. I feel like I could use more space. I am very lucky to have this place to live. I have the correct support, and I have made friends outside of this house.

My neighbour is a nightmare sometimes:] My home would be perfect if I didn't have such an annoying neighbour :D Margaret and David are so supportive of everything I do and are letting me live in their home till I'm 21. They have helped me so much and I see them more as my parents than foster carers. I like it a lot more now from when I first moved in nearly a year ago. I miss being able to open the front door and just be able to run safely like Forest Gump, like I did at Seashell. Running is very important to me as it helps to bring me down when my anxiety is raging and a melt down is likely.

Good staff team around me and a good manager. Easy for me to travel. I just need to be near my birth family in Bedworth/Nuneaton then I would be happy. Being isolated with a baby is not good. No everything is good so far. I live with my boyfriend's mother at the moment as I have recently had a baby and needed the support from her but I am currently trying to look for my own place to live. I love my house. I've just moved after a really tough time, I now have my own apartment overlooking the water so I'm so happy, my PA helped me through that really tough time and supported me when I wanted to move. Amazing.

Opportunities

Questions 1

We asked you if you had heard of the Local Offer for Care Leavers . . .

Yes		18
Not sure		21
No		15

Questions 2

We asked about the support you get from the Virtual School . . .

Yes, I get all the support I need		24
I get some support but would like more		11
No, I don't get the support I need		17

Questions 3

We asked about the support you get with employment, education and training . . .

Yes, I get all the support I need		37
I get some support but would like more		10
No, I don't get the support I need		5

Questions 4

We asked if there was anything the Virtual School could do to help you more and you said . . .

Offer it to over leaving school age as it is not fair for people who need extra support with education. School leaving age has changed to 18 so educational support from the virtual school should continue where required. I am not sure.
No.

I need a better laptop for my work and doing my graphic work.
No.
Send me links to colleges and things.
Bus pass.
I'm not sure what the Virtual School is or if it's relevant/appropriate for me.
Nothing it's good.
Nothing.

Nothing.
I don't need it.
Nothing.
Education.
There is nothing that Virtual School can do for me as I am currently in full time work.
I don't need any help - Uni is going great I'm sure they would help if I needed it though.
Idk.

Questions 5

We asked about the support you get with moving on into independence and you said . .

Yes, I get all the support I need		44
I get some support but would like more		8
No, I don't get the support I need		2

Questions 6

Here are some other things you told us about this . . .

I will start looking at living independently over the next few months.
I got a lot of support when I moved in to my own flat.
I get support from Autism Together, my care is funded through the local authority.

I'm not sure what other opportunities there are for me through employment and training but I do find the world a very confusing, busy and noisy place so I'm not sure how many of these things are relevant to me.
I don't need support for independence I just need support with getting a

house eg. write to Nuneaton/ Bedworth try get me in band 1.
I am living independently and do not currently need the help that is offered to me.
No I'm really happy.

Children in care Council (CICC)

Questions 1

We asked if you had heard of the CICC and you told us ...



Questions 2

We asked if you might be interested in finding out more about the CICC ...



Questions 3

We also asked you if you had heard of the CICC Trust Fund ...



Questions 4

And if you knew you were entitled to a free leisure/gym pass ...



Advocacy & Independent Visitors

Questions 1

We asked you if you knew who to talk to if you wanted something stopped, started or changed . . .



Questions 2

We asked those of you under 18, if you knew who to talk to about getting an Independent Visitor . . .



Questions 3

Here are some other things you told us about these services . . .

They are very good but they do need to be out to the public more. I'm really happy with the

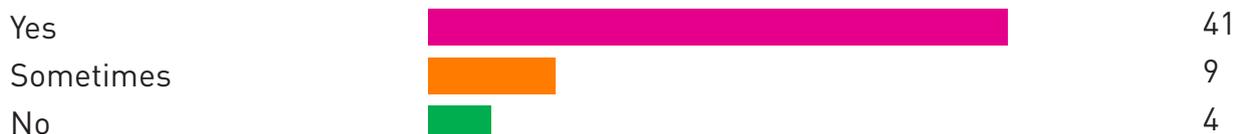
service, you have always helped to support me. Even though my 14 year old self hated everyone.

I've not heard of either of these.

Health

Questions 1

We asked if you felt healthy and this is what you said . . .



Questions 2

Other things you told us about your health . . .

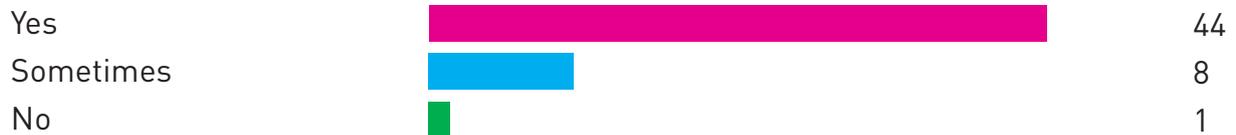
I'm working on this with my team. I am very healthy every day. I am currently working out more.

Yes. I am always thinking about my paper so I'm not feeling always healthy.

My carers look after me and my mum keeps an eye on my wellbeing and demeanour and feeds back to my carers on my behalf.

Questions 3

We asked if you get all the health information you need . . .



Questions 4

We asked if you wanted to say anything else about this and you said . . .

It's harder for mum to get info from the GP as I'm over 18 now. My carers keep charts which is good.

Emotional Health

Questions 1

We asked if you knew how to access the Caring to Care and you told us . . .



Questions 2

We asked you to describe how things have been for you this year and you said ...

Strange yet it's been a learning curve.
 Things have been a bit hard for me with my college work because of Covid but I have managed to carry on and be positive.
 It's been the worst year of my life.
 A shamble.

Difficult but trying to stay positive for myself and people around me.
 Fine.
 Challenging, hard.
 Miss my friends and I lost a lot of friends also Education !!!
 It's been the worst year of my life however, I am coming through the other end now,

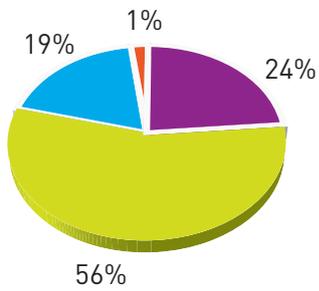
I feel like a new person and so positive. It's hard not seeing my family due to COVID but I'm glad I live with my partner who helps me and work for me continues as I'm a key worker as well as a Uni student. I feel lucky to be where I am I know a lot don't have the privileges I have.

Questions 4

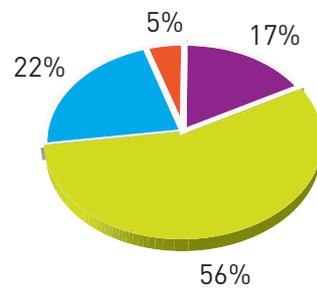
We asked you how often you had been feeling ...

Very often ■ Often ■ Not very often ■ Not at all ■

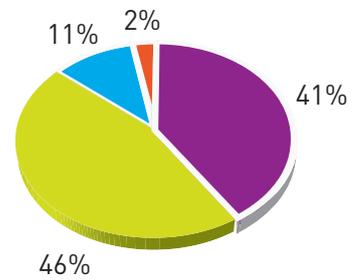
Happy



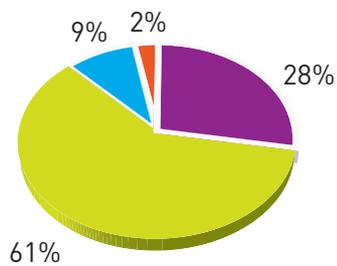
Positive



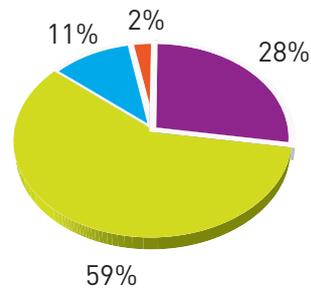
Safe



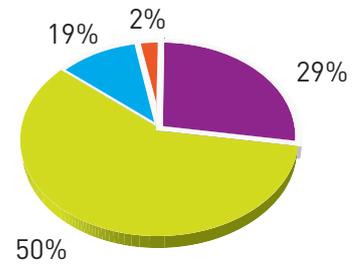
OK



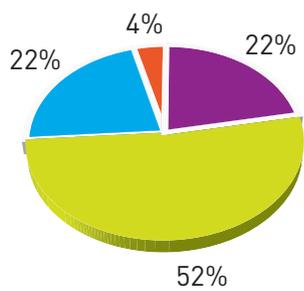
Listened to



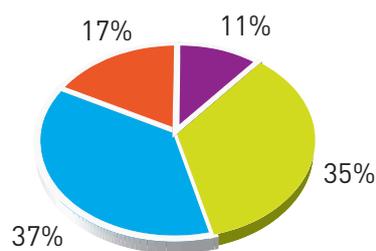
Heard



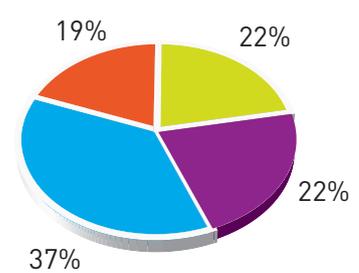
Valued



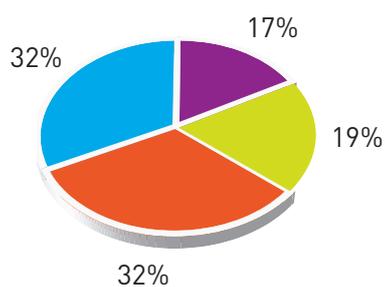
Confused



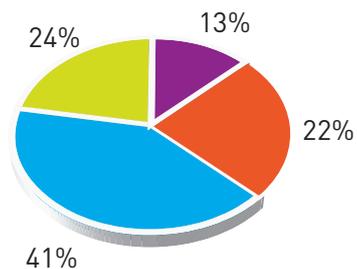
Worried



Lonely



Sad



Questions 4

We also asked you what services you accessed this year to help you with your emotional health and you told us. . .

Care in Mind - Placement.
GP practice.
My local doctors.
None.
Online mental health.
I've had to speak with the Dr and be sent for therapy and have new meds.
Contacted GP.
GP.
None.
I don't know.

Autism together staff who are supporting me in my supported living house.
Nothing.
None.
Job centre.
No don't need it.
None.
CAMHS.
I got help from my GP with antidepressants tablets, I developed postnatal depression after having my baby.

I was sectioned- so I got a lot of help during hospital. Most of my support when coming out was from my PA- she gave me everything I needed support wise. Without her I really don't think I would of made it this far. She's amazing.
Idk.
None.

Questions 5

And finally, we asked if there was anything else that you wanted to say . . .

I've been feeling happy as I recently found out I was pregnant and my sister is due to give birth any time soon!

This is a question to do with this section ... Do I have an annual health check with the GP?

Also, a massive vote of confidence and thank you to Helena for all of her support, advice and sharing of knowledge for my son, George, on whose behalf I'm filling out this form.
Nope :)

We hope that you have found this report helpful.
Thanks again for participating!

Please look out for this year's survey and make sure you take part

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Kim or Heather at

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