

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE – 20 JANUARY 2026

QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 34

Question asked by Mrs Sue Whiting:

“Could the chair please state:

- a) How many care leavers 16-18 are not in education employment or training?
- b) How many care leavers 18-25 are not in education employment or training?
- c) What provisions are available for any care leavers who are not in education, employment or training?”

Response by the Chairman:

- a) There are currently 273 care experienced young people in Education, Employment and Training (EET) and 210 not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET).
- b) There are currently 18 care experienced young people in this age group, who choose to be in contact and have active involvement with the Service, who are EET and 24 who are NEET.
- c) The Department provides a post-16 Personal Education Plan (PEP) for all care leavers who are NEET and maintain a contact list for NEET care leaving young people, to offer options and encourage their return to education or employment. The virtual school works closely with personal advisers and social workers to stay connected with care leavers.

For 18+ care leavers not in employment, education or training, the Service links in with Leicestershire Cares who provide mentoring support to build confidence in returning to work, and for those young people coming out of custody along with the Probation service, this includes volunteering opportunities as well. Connect to Work is the DWP programme which as part of its priorities is to support care leavers into employment. The Service also works with Reed who support interview skills and CV work for care leavers to support them into work.

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