



Warwickshire's Offer for Care Leavers in Custody

Introduction

- This guide has been put together to detail the offer and support available to you as a care leaver who is currently in custody. This includes any entitlement to financial and practical support.
- Warwickshire's Leaving Care and Separated Children and Young People Team wants to ensure that you feel supported throughout your time in custody and who you can turn to for help and advice.
- This guide should be read alongside Warwickshire Local Offer for Care Leavers.



Are you eligible for support?

- To qualify for the support in this booklet you must have been in care for at least 13 weeks between the ages of 14 and 16 (including your 16th birthday) or for 13 weeks after your 16th birthday.
- If you are a Warwickshire Care Leaver and are over 25 years old, please do still contact us for advice and guidance through our 'Always Here' offer.

Leaving Care and Separated Children and Young People Team
leavingcareduty@warwickshire.gov.uk
01926 414888

The role of your PA whilst in Custody

- If eligible, you will have the support of your PA from the age of 18 to 21. They can also continue to support you from age 21 to 25 if you would like this support.
- Your PA will visit you as soon as possible upon you entering custody in communication with the secure estate. They will then continue to visit you every eight weeks whilst you are in custody and, upon your release, when you live back in the community.
- Your PA will support you in your planning for the future. They will complete a pathway plan with you which will set out your targets and goals.
- Your PA will review your pathway plan as soon as they can after you enter into custody. They will then review this every six months with you, or before, if your circumstances change.

Housing

- As a care leaver you are entitled to a Setting Up Home Grant up until the age of 21. If agreed with your PA and in your pathway plan, this can be accessed up to the age of 25.
- You, your PA and anyone else involved in your support, will work together to establish the most appropriate housing options for you on your release from custody. This may involve conversations with our housing officers.
- Your PA will attend your pre-release meeting from custody.
- On your release from custody, if you are tenancy ready in Warwickshire, you will have priority banding as a care leaver up to the age of 21. If you are over 21, your PA and housing officer will talk to you about your options.

Family and Relationships

- Whilst in custody, a Lifelong Links referral can be made for you by your PA if you consent. The Lifelong Links programme aims to reconnect you with previous relationships that are important to you. This could include teachers, foster carers and family members.
- In discussion with your PA, and as part of your Pathway Plan, we will support with family members visiting you in custody up to three times year up until the age of 21.

Education, Employment and Training

- When you have a release date, you will be able to have the support of our dedicated careers team. They will help you explore your options for education, training or employment upon your release from custody.
- Your PA will assess if you need to access free internet for up to three months upon your release to support with job applications or access to learning opportunities. Your PA will speak to you more about this.

Checklist for your release from custody

Checklist	Yes/No	Comments
Do I have ID?		
Do I have an address		
Do I know how I will get home when I'm released?		
Have I been referred to the careers team?		
Has my pathway planning meeting happened before release?		
Has a UC claim been submitted?		
Have I been referred to Life Long Links and am I working with them?		
Do I have my NI number?		
Do I have a copy of my licence conditions?		

Your PA:

Name:	
Number:	
Email:	

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