



# SUPPORTING LONDON'S CARE LEAVERS

SEPTEMBER 2024 ISSUE

We use this space to help develop a 'community parenting' approach, bringing together the wide range of partners who support care experienced young people in London. We share news, great practice, and look to spark new initiatives to support our care experienced community.

The Newsletter is produced bimonthly by the London Innovation and Improvement Alliance (LIIA), working closely with the London Children in Care Council and the regional Care Leavers Trust Board. We welcome your comments, feedback and news items.

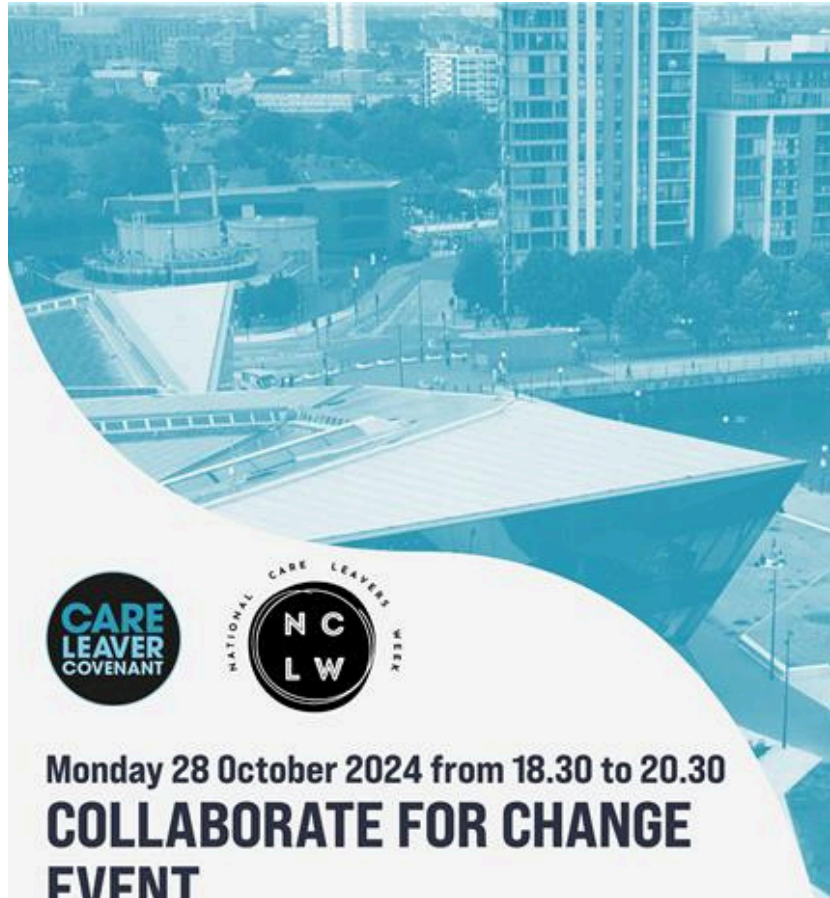


To find out more about regional work to support Care Leavers in London, please visit the LIIA Care Leavers website page [here](#).

## THIS MONTH

- National Care Leavers Week - Collaborate for Change
- National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum - In Your Own Words
- Digital / Data Bank offer for the care experienced community
- Care Leaver Outcome - Policy Brief
- I CAN
- Voter ID and Voter Registration for Care Experienced Young People

# NATIONAL CARE LEAVERS - COLLABORATE FOR CHANGE



Please join us on the **28th of October** as part of **National Care Leavers week** to enhance the support available for care leavers in London and across the country.

‘Collaborate for Change’ will bring together policy makers social care professionals and other key stakeholders with care experienced young people to highlight the work already underway and identify where we need to develop our work.

This is a collaboration across the **Mayor of London, My Covenant, London Councils, The London Innovation and Improvement Alliance, Drive Forward Foundation and Partnership for Young London’s Children in Care Council.**

This will take place from **18.30 - 20.20** at **City Hall Kamal Chunchie Way E16 1ZE**. [Please book your place via this link.](#)



Monday 28 October 2024 from 18.30 to 20.30  
**COLLABORATE FOR CHANGE  
EVENT**

Join us this National Care Leavers Week to enhance care leaver support in London and across the country. ‘Collaborate for Change’ brings together policy makers, social care professionals, leading organisations and care experienced young people.

City Hall, Kamal Chunchie Way, London, E16 1ZE

MAYOR OF LONDON



Partnership  
for Young  
London



Over the course of National Care Week you can keep up to date on the latest events by using #NCLW across social media.

# NATIONAL LEAVING CARE BENCHMARKING FORUM- IN YOUR OWN WORDS

The Young Peoples Benchmarking Forum (YPBMF) held its third annual 'In Their Own Words' event at the National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum (NLCBF) on July 12th. This event presented research that was gathered from over 200 care-experienced young people from across the country, highlighting various topics that require focus on a national and local scale.

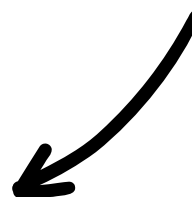


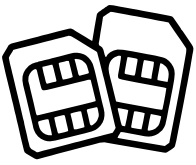
## Here are some key insights to consider:

- Care Leaver Hubs, a dedicated, supported, physical space for care leavers, are highly valued.
- Mental and emotional health are a very major concern for young people, and a barrier to so much else.
- Closely linked with the above is loneliness and isolation. Having activities and communities that care leavers can be part of is very highly valued.
- The cost of living, including the financial costs of food, dentistry, eye-care, travel and connectivity (IT), continue to be a major struggle for care leavers, which has a knock-on effect to other areas.
- Sufficiency of quality housing for care leavers, together with good support to set up a home and sustain it are a key priority



**To read the presentation please click here.**





# DIGITAL / DATA BANK OFFER FOR THE CARE EXPERIENCED COMMUNITY



Huge thanks to the Care Leavers Association, who have developed a partner offer to support care experienced people with their data needs! This can help reduce the digital exclusion faced by the care experienced community, especially in the backdrop of the cost of living crisis. **Offers of data/sim cards up to six months are available, including support for over 25 year olds.**

The Care Association stress their support in multiple areas for over 25's, which is potentially a cliff-edge for the withdrawal of support services and offers.

To apply, care experienced people struggling with the cost of living need to email [info@careleavers.com](mailto:info@careleavers.com) and put in a request for data bank support. They will be given a short application form to complete to access the offer.

**To find out more about the Care Leavers Association and its activity please visit their [webpage](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#).**

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## CARE LEAVER OUTCOMES POLICY

Dr Nikki Luke published a policy brief on Measuring Outcomes for Care Leavers following on from a workshop led by care-experienced facilitators held at the University of Oxford in July.

This workshop brought together researchers, representatives from Government departments (DfE, DLUHC, DWP, MOJ), Ofsted, the Children's Commissioner's Office, local authority leaving care teams, and charities supporting care leavers. The resulting policy brief outlines recommendations on how care leavers outcomes can be best measured.



**[Read the policy brief here.](#)**





The ICAN (Initiating and Supporting Care Leavers into Apprenticeships in Nursing) is a new initiative led by Roehampton University which trains and support care experienced young adults for careers in Healthcare, please visit their webpage [here](#).

## Here are the updates:

- 11 out of 12 learners completed the course.
- Learners participated in a workplace tour, career talks, clinical skills and employability training and wellbeing support sessions, and learners met with student nurses, nursing lecturers and graduates with lived experience
- Upon completion, almost half went to apply for HE courses at RU and were given offers. 4 applied for Foundation studies and 1 for the Nursing degree.
- 3 were successfully interviewed for 18-month Health Care Assistant Apprenticeships at Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, before going onto the Nursing Associate Scheme.
- 1 learner enrolled onto a Paramedic Science Degree at Greenwich Uni.
- All received £2k financial award upon completed

## Key Dates

Taster day: **13th November 2024**. Time: 11am - 2pm.

Virtual Information Session. **Wednesday 6th November 2024**. Time: 1:30pm - 2:30pm.

The next I-CAN course runs from **Wednesday 8th January 2025** to **Wednesday 26th February 2025**. It will take place across eight weekly sessions, every Wednesday from 10am - 1pm.

## Testimonials

*"Starting the ICAN programme has been one of the best decisions of my lifetime". I-CAN Learner 2024*

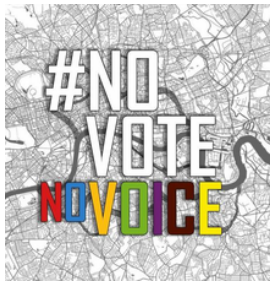
*"A truly inspiring experience which has sparked a desire within me to explore and develop with the University of Roehampton". I-CAN Learner 2024*

More information:

<https://bit.ly/472YzYL>

Expression of Interest Form

<https://bit.ly/4fUDFPr>



## VOTER ID AND VOTER REGISTRATION FOR CARE EXPERIENCED YOUNG PEOPLE



The Pan London Children in Care Council hosted by Partnership for Young London has been awarded funding from the Greater London Authority through its Democratic Participation Grant to support care leavers and care experienced young people to:

- Support Londoners and civil society to increase their political literacy, by equipping them with the knowledge and the tools they need to uphold their democratic rights.
- Support Londoners to access their democratic rights by addressing barriers to participation (voter registration, Voter ID, proxy and postal voting, etc.)
- Support Londoners to get heard on decisions impacting them and their communities, beyond elections, including through deliberative and participatory democracy at local level, and other mechanisms to participate in civic life.

As such we will be hosting events, recruiting local care leaders' champions and running workshops. For more information please get in touch with [louisa.foyle@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:louisa.foyle@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

## GET IN TOUCH

Please visit our website: [liia.london](http://liia.london) for more detailed information on each of the ALDCS priorities, or contact the team directly to discuss anything in greater detail.

Please let us know your feedback on this newsletter [via email](#) so we can keep improving future editions.

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## THANKS FOR READING!

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