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| REPORT AUTHOR: | Nikki Donaldson, Participation and Engagement Officer |
| SUBJECT: | Together for Children Change Council Report for Corporate Parenting Board 19th April 2021 |
| PURPOSE: | To report on the activity of both Change Council 10-15 group and Change Council 16+ group (Jan-Mar 2021) |

Change Council

Change Council have continued to meet regularly face to face throughout January – March 2021. Change Council are meeting in a Covid secure venue, both Change Council's 10-15 and 16+ group are meeting fortnightly.

Senior Managers including the Manager of the IRO Service, Director of Children's Social Care and Corporate and Commercial have been regular visitors at Change Council to ensure they are listening and responding to what young people are saying.

Independent Review of Children's Social Care

Four young people from Change Council submitted expressions of interest to be part of the Independent Review of Children's Social Care with one young person being successful and is now part of the national EbE board. Rhiannon has attended virtual meetings to get to know other members of the EbE board.



International Women's Day

Members of Change Council took part in International Women's Day by sharing quotes about Women that inspire them.



Social Work Week

To celebrate Social Work Week members of Change Council wanted to recognise and share what Social Care professionals including Social Workers, PA's and Children's Home workers have meant to them and what qualities those professionals have shown which are important to young people.

'This person took the time to know and understand me'

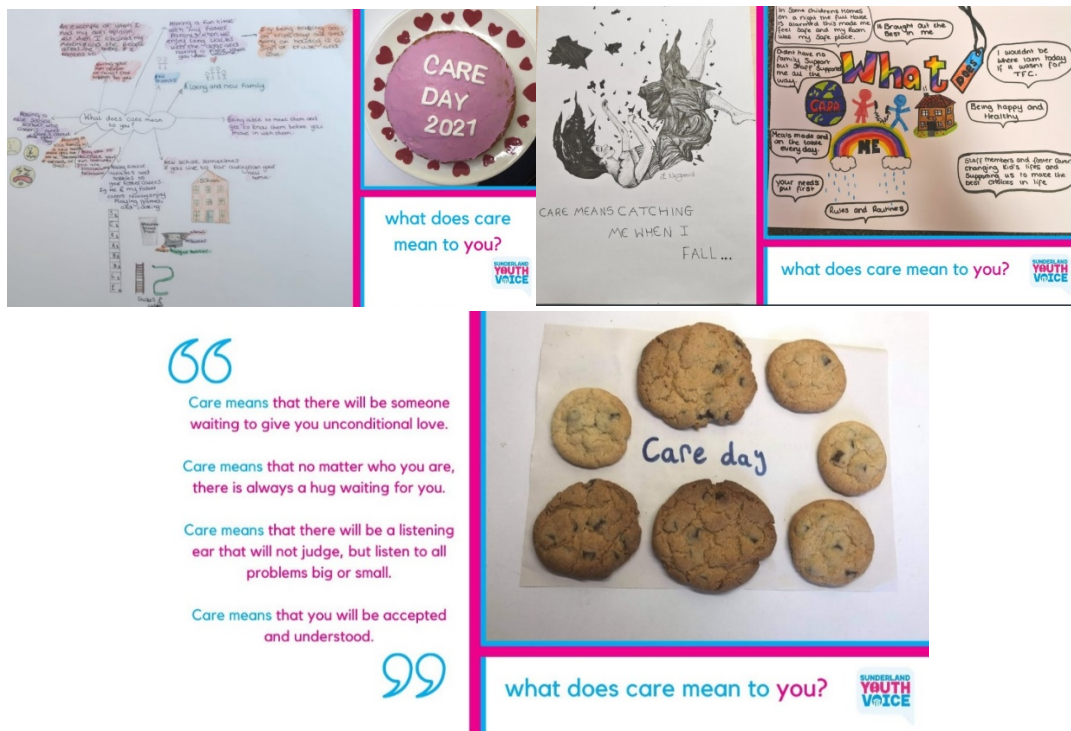
'Donna makes me feel safe'

'Kirsty – she is really easy to talk to, she understands me, is always nice, always reliable and on time'

'Julie Burnett my princess my rock my sidekick. She is my world and more, does anything she can to help puts 100% effort into me and my future. Awesome to rely on and also I would not be where I am if it wasn't for this woman'

Care Day 2021

On 19th February we supported National Care Day 2021 virtually, children and young people shared with us what Care means to them through creative activities including baking, drawing and quotes.



Regional Meetings

Change Council have met virtually with our Regional Children in Care Council, following discussions with young people from across the region six themes were identified which include;

- Reduced or free council tax for all care experienced young people no matter what are you live in.
- More apprenticeships for care experienced young people and work training opportunities.
- Reduced travel costs

- Further consultation will be had to prioritise which theme cared for and care experienced young people feel should be the regional campaign focus this year.

A team of researchers from South Tyneside Council and Blue Cabin funded by the DfE met with members of Change Council and young people from Durham, South Tyneside and Northumberland.

A hand-drawn map of the United Kingdom, with various locations and activities labeled. The map is drawn on a piece of paper with a blue border. The main body of the map is white, with blue lines representing the coastlines. The following labels are present:

- COVID** (in a cloud at the top)
- MOVING ON LINE** (near the top)
- TRAINING** (near the top left)
- VISITORS** (near the top left)
- INTERVIEW** (near the top left)
- MEET UP AGAIN** (in a cloud at the bottom left)
- FREEDOM!** (in a cloud at the bottom left)
- RECOGNITION** (in a cloud at the bottom left)
- TOWARDS SHOWS** (in a cloud at the bottom left)
- SPEEDY** (on a road at the bottom right)
- TOURIST** (on a road at the bottom right)
- COMMON SENSE TO RIDE** (near the bottom right)
- COUNCIL** (near the bottom right)
- SCHOOL** (near the bottom right)
- HOSPITAL** (near the bottom right)
- CITY** (near the bottom right)
- TOWN** (near the bottom right)
- VILLAGE** (near the bottom right)
- COUNTRY** (near the bottom right)
- MOUNTAINS** (near the bottom right)
- HILLS** (near the bottom right)
- RIVERS** (near the bottom right)
- SEA** (near the bottom right)
- SKY** (near the bottom right)
- CLOUDS** (near the bottom right)
- SUN** (near the bottom right)
- MOON** (near the bottom right)
- STARS** (near the bottom right)
- PLANETS** (near the bottom right)
- GALAXIES** (near the bottom right)
- UNIVERSE** (near the bottom right)
- EARTH** (near the bottom right)
- OCEANS** (near the bottom right)
- CONTINENTS** (near the bottom right)
- COUNTRIES** (near the bottom right)
- CITIES** (near the bottom right)
- TOWNS** (near the bottom right)
- VILLAGES** (near the bottom right)

Ofsted Focused Visit

A focused visit took place in March 2021 and Ofsted asked if they could speak with Change Council. Change Council decided that they would like to deliver a presentation to the inspectors with all the things they had been doing over the last few months. Young people from the older group met with inspectors virtually to deliver the presentation.

Moving forward

- Cook-Book Launch
- Change the Language Campaign
- Takeover Challenge
- Key Applications
- Recruitment of a wider representation of young people
- Isolation of Care Experienced Young People
- Edge of Care
- Involvement in NAAS
- SSCP website

Social Media

As a reminder if you would like to see what Change Council is up to regularly and the other participation groups follow Youth Voice on:

: @tfcyouthvoice

: @tfcyouthvoice

: @tfcyouthvoice



