

Leaving Care Covenant

Lisa Middleton – Service Manager for Leaving Care
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Trust

Respect

Ambition

Collaboration

Kindness



What is the Care Covenant ?

The Care Leaver Covenant is a national inclusion programme that supports care leavers aged 16-25 to live independently.

The Care Leaver Covenant creates meaningful opportunities for care leavers in five key areas and supports them to access those opportunities.

The Five Areas

01. Independent Living
02. Education, Employment & Training
03. Safety & Security
04. Mental & Physical Health
05. Finance

Trust

Respect

Ambition

Collaboration

Kindness



What is the Care Leaver Covenant continued ...

“The aim of the Care Leaver Covenant, to which organisations commit, is to provide additional support for those leaving care; making available a different type of support and expertise from that statutorily provided by local authorities. Drawing on the resourcefulness and imagination of their staff and their working environment, organisations have the potential to offer new perspectives and professional expertise. These can offer opportunities and a new way of thinking to aid the care leavers in moving forward successfully to the next phase of their lives”.

Care leaver Covenant

Trust

Respect

Ambition

Collaboration

Kindness



Connects website

Care experienced , personal advisors and social workers can **sign up to Connects**. The website will keep care experienced young people and their SW , PA up to date with relevant work, education and recreational opportunities nationally , as well as information about the support that care experienced young people may be able to access. In addition to this, care experienced young people will be automatically entered into our give-aways!

[Connects Sign-up - Care Leaver Covenant \(mycovenant.org.uk\)](https://mycovenant.org.uk)

Trust

Respect

Ambition

Collaboration

Kindness



Next steps for BwD care experienced young people over the next 3 months ...

- 1.The Promotion of Opportunities via Connects – Action to be taken to raise the awareness of care experienced young people and their supporters (PA’s and other colleagues who advise care experienced young people) and encourage their sign up to the Connects database so they can be alerted to wide ranging national and local opportunities on an ongoing basis.
- 2.Engage with local companies to gain opportunities for care experienced young people – Action to be taken to work with Growth and development and procurement colleagues to identify businesses in the locality that could be contacted to become supporters of the Care Leaver Covenant and asked to make relevant offers to support care experienced young people.
- 3.Consideration to be given to the organisation of an awareness raising event to showcase this issue and give a call for action. The Leaving Care team will be available to support such an event and follow up employers wishing to become involved. Attached is the link to the Employer Toolkit which is a resource available to support employers on this journey.

[Inclusive Employment Toolkit - Care Leaver Covenant \(mycovenant.org.uk\)](https://mycovenant.org.uk)

Trust

Respect

Ambition

Collaboration

Kindness



Next steps for BwD care experienced young people continued over the next 3 months ...

4.Strategic Partnership activity with neighbouring LA Lancashire and Blackpool to share approaches, best practice and opportunities – Action to be taken through follow up the leads in both areas to include approaches to employer engagement and the organisation of events.

5.PR Activity to promote partnership and plan of action – Action to be taken with PR leads within the Care Leaver Covenant Team and Blackburn with Darwen Local Authority working together to determine best approach to communicate and promote partnership working.

Trust

Respect

Ambition

Collaboration

Kindness

