

For further information contact  
the Leaving Care Team

**Team Manager**

Name .....

Tel no .....

**Social Worker**

Name .....

Tel no .....

**Personal Adviser**

Name .....

Tel no .....

Children's Social Care  
Central House  
Gladstone Street  
Darlington  
DL3 6JX

Leaving Care Team Tel: 01325 346825

If you need help from Darlington Children's Services in  
an emergency after normal office opening hours  
contact the Emergency Duty Team on 0870 2402994

**Translations**

This document will be made available on request  
to Children's Services in Braille, large print, and  
on audio cassette, also available in other  
languages. Telephone 01325 388979



**BRAILLE**  
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**Bengali**

যদি আপনার ইংরেজী ছাড়া অন্য কোন ভাষায় এই প্রকাশনাটির দরকার থাকে, তাহলে 01325 388979  
নম্বরে ফোন করুন এবং সূত্র নম্বর উল্লেখ করুন।

**Cantonese**

如果你需要其它語言的版本，請與以下電話聯絡並報出參考號碼： 01325 388979

**Punjabi**

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਤੋਂ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ  
ਸਾਨੂੰ ਨੰਬਰ 01325 388979 'ਤੇ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਰੈਫਰੈਂਸ (ਹਵਾਲਾ) ਨੰਬਰ ਦੱਸੋ।

**Polish**

Jeśli chciał(a)by Pan(i) otrzymać polską wersję językową tego dokumentu, proszę zadzwonić  
pod numer 01325 388979 i podać numer identyfikacyjny dokumentu.

# Children Leaving Care Act 2000 Services for Care Leavers

ডার্লিংটন বারা কাউন্সিল - সরকারী হেফাজত (কেয়ার) থেকে বেরিয়ে আসা লোকদের জন্য সেবাসমূহ  
達靈頓自治市議會 (Darlington Borough Council) —— 提供照顧請託者的服務  
डा'वलिंटाटन घेठे कैसिल - ऐधब्राल हल्लहए बालिषां लछी सेवहए  
Rada gminy Darlington – usługi dla opuszczających placówkę opiekuńczą

dpeo0151.qxp



## Introduction

Children's Services aim to provide a range of services for young people leaving care in order to help them to make positive moves into independence.

## Who is the service for?

The service is open to all young people over 16 who have been looked after by the local authority for 3 months or more since their 14th birthday.

## Referral procedure

The Leaving Care Team accepts referrals for young people as they approach their 16th birthday to begin planning for them to move from being looked after towards independence.

The young person's social worker must send a completed referral form to the Leaving Care Team Manager. To find out whether a young person meets the criteria for the service, please contact the team on 01325 346825.

## What can the team offer?

The Leaving Care Team can offer:

### 1. For care leavers

- An assessment of need (with the young person and the social worker)
- A Personal Adviser (under the Children Leaving Care Act 2000 provisions)
- The development of a pathway plan
- Individual programmes
- Group work
- Social events

## Other information

Young people leaving care are entitled to support up to and beyond their 21st birthday. Plans that are made before they leave care should ensure that they know where support is available and where to go for it.

The team encourages young people to use the service as a source of support, but we will tailor our support packages to meet the young person's wishes and needs.

Financial help for young people will be negotiated with the social worker and will be based on the young person's needs. This may include help with travel costs to work or college, the purchase of equipment for college courses and furnishing and equipping the young person's home.

The young person's pathway plan will continue to be reviewed until their 21st birthday.

## Standards of service provided to the young person

Children's Social Care has a special responsibility to young people who are in care or who have left care. The council must give young people the responsible and consistent care they deserve whilst they move from being "looked after" to independence and adulthood, ensuring they do not become isolated and enabling them to participate socially and economically as citizens.

Leaving Care Services must always be focused on the needs of the individual child or young person

Darlington Leaving Care Services will recognise and reflect the key principles of the United Nations convention on the rights of the child, the Children Act 1989 and the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 and any regulations and guidance.

Young people are encouraged and enabled to take an active role in all assessments, planning, reviews and decision making arrangements for leaving care.

Leaving Care Services enable all young people to obtain the information they need to make informed choices for their future.

The Leaving Care Team will respect individuals and take account of their different backgrounds, experiences, culture, religion, gender, sexual orientation and circumstances. We also expect that young people who use the service will behave in a similar way towards staff and other young people.

All young people involved with the Leaving Care Team will have a case file. Young people will be able to access information from their file, with the support of their personal adviser, except where an outside agency restricts access.

## Keeping information confidential

Any information that you give to us will be treated as confidential. Sometimes information needs to be shared with other agencies so that help with your individual circumstances can be provided. We will ask your permission when doing this except in certain cases as specified in law.

## Feeding back comments on services

All young people who use the service will be made aware of the Children's Services compliments, comments, suggestions and complaints procedure, see leaflet "Something to Say?"