

Role of the Young Person's Advisor (YPA) and Trusted Adult

Basic Income For Care Leavers in Wales 'Your Life Beyond Care' survey

We have been asked by the Welsh Government to roll out a modified version of the 'Your Life Beyond Care' survey with care leavers in Wales who turn 18 between 1st July 2022 and 30th June 2023. We will be asking all eligible care leavers to answer the survey.

The responses we get from young people will be a unique opportunity to find out how they are feeling about their lives and will help the Welsh Government to understand the impact of the Basic Income Pilot.

We want to offer the survey to as many young people enrolled on the pilot as possible, giving them the chance to provide their thoughts and feelings on their lives and what is important to them.

Some information about the survey:

- 'Your Life Beyond Care' is a survey for care leavers. The survey is run by Coram Voice, a charity that supports children in care and care leavers.
- Coram Voice have worked with researchers from The Rees Centre at the University of Oxford, The Welsh Government and the evaluation team at CASCADE, Cardiff University to create a modified version of the 'Your Life Beyond Care' survey. Data collected from the survey will be used to understand the impact of the Basic Income Pilot.
- We will be asking care leavers to answer the survey twice over two years: once at the start of the pilot and once at the end of the pilot.
- 'Your Life Beyond Care' is a short survey with a mix of tick box and free text questions. It takes around 10-15 minutes to complete.

- The survey asks about young people's life, experiences and the things that make their life good.
- The survey is online and can be accessed on any device connected to the Internet (desktop, laptop, tablet, smartphone).
- No login details or password are needed to access the survey. The young person just clicks on the link to open it.
- The survey will ask young people for their name and date of birth so that we can identify who has answered the survey.
- Other than these personal data questions, all questions in the survey are optional. If a young person does not want to answer a question, finds the question upsetting or does not feel that it is relevant to them, they can skip it and move on to the next one.
- The survey is voluntary. If a young person does not want to complete it, then they do not have to.
- The young person's decision to answer the survey or not will not impact their access to the Basic Income Pilot or any other service.

1. Role of the Young Person's Advisor (YPA) – enable and encourage young people to answer the survey

Most young people will be able to complete the surveys without help. We will ask YPAs to contact young people who are able to answer the questions in the survey without help and send them the survey link.

Here is what you need to know if you are a Young Person's Advisor:

- Present the survey to young people in positive terms, making it clear that their thoughts and opinions are important. Although the survey is optional, we want to hear from as many young people as possible. Survey responses will give the Welsh Government an evidence base that shows the impact of the scheme and

informs how it could look in the future. The more surveys completed the stronger the evidence will be.

- There are questions about the young persons' advisors in the survey. So that young people feel comfortable to answer the survey honestly, **we ask that you do not sit next to them when they are answering the questions.** If your young person needs extra support, you will need to identify a trusted adult to help them (see below).
- The survey asks questions about several areas in a young person's life, including their feelings, the people who are important to them, money management and the things they do day to day. Some of the questions may bring up difficult feelings for your young person. We encourage you to schedule in some time to catch up with them when they've finished and ask if there is anything they want to share with you. You may want to read through the survey before giving it to your young person to identify potentially triggering questions.
- If a young person says anything that concerns you, please follow safeguarding procedures. The Research Team will read all survey responses, but this may be months after the young person has responded.

2. Role of the 'trusted adult'

For young people who need support to answer the questions in the survey (e.g., young people who speak English or Welsh as a second language or young people who have additional learning needs) we are using a 'trusted adult' model of survey distribution. That means that a professional known to the young person presents the survey to them, tells them what it is about and gives them the support they need to complete the survey. The trusted adult can be any of a wide range of professionals, including (but not limited to):

- Participation worker/ Children's Rights Officer
- NEET/ EET worker
- Job coach

- Educational staff from college or university
- Support worker in semi-independent or supported accommodation
- 'When I am Ready' foster carer
- Key worker/ support worker in residential care
- Advocate
- Named/ designated nurse, or other health professional
- Interpreter
- Safeguarding officer
- Another care-experienced young person (e.g., apprentice, 'Ambassador', 'Young Director' etc.) employed by the local authority

Here is what you need to know if you are a Trusted Adult:

- We ask that you use your knowledge of the young person to support them to complete the survey in a way that works for them. Some young people may want to do the whole survey on their own while you wait. Some may need you to explain particular words or phrases. Some young people may need you to read and explain each question to them, and to write their answers down for them. All of these are fine. **It is important when writing responses in the free text boxes that young people's comments are recorded exactly as they say them, without interpreting, explaining, removing swear words or paraphrasing what they have said.**
- The survey will ask young people for their name and date of birth so that we can identify who has answered the survey.
- Other than these personal data questions, all questions in the survey are optional. If a young person does not want to answer a question, finds the question upsetting or does not feel it's relevant to them, they can skip it and move on to the next one.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER TO CLICK 'FINISH SURVEY' ON THE FINAL PAGE FOR THE SURVEY TO BE RECORDED.**

Thank you for your support. Your efforts to help young people answer the modified 'Your Life Beyond Care' survey is essential to us understanding the impact of the Basic Income for Care Leavers in Wales Pilot.

Any questions about the survey or survey period can be sent to **basicincomeresearch@gov.wales**

For more information about 'Your Life Beyond Care' or the Bright Spots Programme, go to **<https://coramvoice.org.uk/for-professionals/bright-spots/>**