

## First, what is NCLW?

National Care Leavers Week (NCLW) is a time during the year when Local Authorities, charities, and businesses celebrate and raise awareness of Care Leavers. Each year, we consult with young people about what the theme of NCLW should be and what it involves. This year, we are also asking if Care Leavers are happy with it being a week or if they would want it to be longer.

## Why have a theme for NCLW?

A theme gives a focus for NCLW. It helps raise awareness of specific issues and celebrate aspects of care. It also gives purpose to events, activities, and social media posts.

## Why we want to hear from you

As the name suggests NCLW is all about those who are care leavers or care experienced people. It would only make sense that we want to hear from as many of them as possible about what it should be about or how long it is.

## What do we want to know?

Do you think NCLW should be a week or a month?

Should NCLW be more about celebrating Care Leavers, raising awareness of Care Experience or a bit of both?

What would you want the theme of NCLW to be?

What events or activities would you like to go to during NCLW?

What would make NCLW a success?

## How to get involved?



Share what you want to say by scanning the QR code above!

Please share your views by 5pm on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April to be included in our prize draw

## NCLW 2024

28 National Activities  
30+ Landmarks Lit Up  
350+ People attended



## 1:1 Consultation Idea

Often care leavers meet PAs or Social Workers on a 1:1 basis. We want to offer the opportunity to gather feedback from these meetings. Here is a reminder of the questions we are asking, some context where it is helpful and three ideas for how to help the conversation flow.

We want to hear from as many Care Leavers as possible about what they think about five questions.

### **Question One: Do you think NCLW should be a week (the first week in November) or a month (the month of November)?**

Here are some Pro's for each to help your conversation:

#### Month Pro's:

- More time to highlight care leavers and their achievements.
- Events and activities can be spread out to avoid overwhelming people.
- Organisations can be more flexible about when they participate.
- Young people (YP) can attend more events across different organisations.

#### Week Pro's:

- Creates a bigger, more intense impact on social media and the news as it's limited and focused.
- Easier for organisations to commit to.
- It's already an established week

### **Question Two: Should NCLW be more about celebrating Care Leavers, raising awareness of Care Experience or a bit of both?**

Celebrating Care Leavers is about celebrating achievements and successes that Care Leavers have. Raising awareness of care experience is helping people who haven't experienced care to understand more about it.

### **Question Three: What would you want the theme of NCLW to be?**

A theme gives a focus for National Care Leavers Week (NCLW). It helps raise awareness of specific issues and celebrate aspects of care. It also gives purpose to events, activities, and social media posts. Last year, our initial consultation led to three initial theme ideas, which care leavers then voted on. They were:

"Rise to Thrive and Shine"

Celebration and Empowered futures

#RiseThriveShine #NCLW

"All of Us, We are One"

Connecting Communities

#AllofUs #WeAreOne

#NCLW

"This Community Cares"

Creating Communities with Love

#ThisCommunityCares

#NCLW

## 1:1 Consultation Idea

All of Us, We are One was voted the favourite, and was last year's theme.

Discuss the theme to focus on this year. You don't need to come up with a complete theme (but you might) – just ideas for what it should be about. For example, last year's theme ideas happened because people talked about community and togetherness. You might like to think about these questions:

- What are the good things about meeting other care leavers?
- If you could give one piece of advice to someone else leaving care, what would it be?
- What makes you feel connected to other people?
- Do you have any ideas for the NCLW theme this year?

### **Question Four: What events or activities would you like to go to during NCLW?**

Celebrating Care Leavers is about celebrating achievements and successes that Care Leavers have. Raising awareness of care experience is helping people who haven't experienced care to understand more about it.

Your ideas & suggestions will be shared with the organisations that plan NCLW so that they are aware of the types of activities care experienced individuals would like to see happening.

### **Question Five: What would make NCLW a success?**

We want to evaluate NCLW when it is over. How will we know it went well?

### **Ideas to Help Discussion**

Bring A3 paper and felt tip pens with you. You could create a mind map or spider diagram in response to each question.

You could each draw a care leaver. Imagine they just finished NCLW. How do they feel? What went well? What did they enjoy?

You could simply go through the mentimeter together and answer the questions as you go through it.