**Place & Purpose reflection sheet**



The Bright Spots programme is a partnership between Coram Voice & the University of Oxford. Between 2017 and 2022 we have had over **7,000** responses from care leavers in **47 local authorities** to questions in the *Your Life Beyond Care* survey.

This reflection sheet accompanies the film **‘Place and Purpose’** (Summer 2022) - it asks what **you, your team & others** can do in response to how care leavers are feeling – watch the film and write down your reflections & the actions needed.

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| **Key findings*** Steep decline in well-being as children leave care.
* About a third (36%) of care leavers don’t *always* feel safe in their home.
* Just under half of care leavers don’t’ *always* feel settled in their homes.
* Only half (51%) of young people reported they *always* felt safe in their neighbourhoods.
* Government statistics state 85% of care leavers (age 19-21) live in suitable accommodation but only 67% of care leavers of the same age in Bright Spots felt where they lived was right for them.
* Compared to young people in the general population, care leavers experienced greater financial pressures. They were twice as likely to report finding it ‘quite’ or ‘very difficult’ to cope financially.
* Care leavers with low well-being were more likely than other care leavers to be lonely, **struggle with finances**, feel unhappy about their appearance, **feel unsettled where they lived**, experience higher levels of stress and feel very negative emotions and few positive ones. They had few supportive people in their lives.
* Care leavers with very high well-being **felt safe and settled where they were living**, and were less lonely, with more people in their lives providing emotional support, including partners. They felt they were treated the same or better than other young people, were **positive about the future** and experienced positive feelings and emotions.
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| **Notes from the film – your reflections / actions needed** |
|  | **Feel safe where they live** | **Feel settled where they live (inc. neighbourhoods)** | **Feel they are coping financially** |
| **What can I do to help care leavers…** |  |  |  |
| **What can I do with others (in my team) to help care leavers…** |  |  |  |
| **What must the local authority / partners do to help care leavers feel…** |  |  |  |