

NATIONAL LEAVING CARE BENCHMARKING FORUM (NLCBF)

A forum of 130 English local authority leaving care teams, working together to share good practice & improve services & support for care experienced young people

What do we do?

Events

3 x Manager events
3 x Practitioner events
3 x YPBMF Events
1 x Personal Adviser Event

All focus on sharing good practice, hearing the voice of care experienced young people & peer support.

Members' Website

We send out the latest news & updates as well as hosting contact information to facilitate peer support & networking.

Online Networks

For people with specific job roles:

- Education Training & Employment Network
- Participation Network
- Care X Apprentice Network.

Research

We share the latest research to promote evidence-based practice.

We also use intelligence gathered through the forum on latest issues to feed back to policy makers & researchers.

Partnership Work

Work closely with government & voluntary organisations working in this area & inviting other organisations to present at events.

National Influence

Work closely with the Department for Education, other government departments & Ofsted to influence policy

The NLCBF Team



5 Core staff:

Manager, Practice Lead, Coproduction & Engagement Lead, Digital Marketing Apprentice, Team Administrator

Care Experienced Sessional Workers: 2 x Senior Sessional Workers, 6 Sessional Workers

Care Experienced Champions (Voluntary): Care experienced young people involved with NLCBF

Steering Group (Voluntary) – Leaving Care Managers x 10 + a YPBMF Representative

Stakeholder Group (Voluntary) – 4 people from leaving care sector who advise us

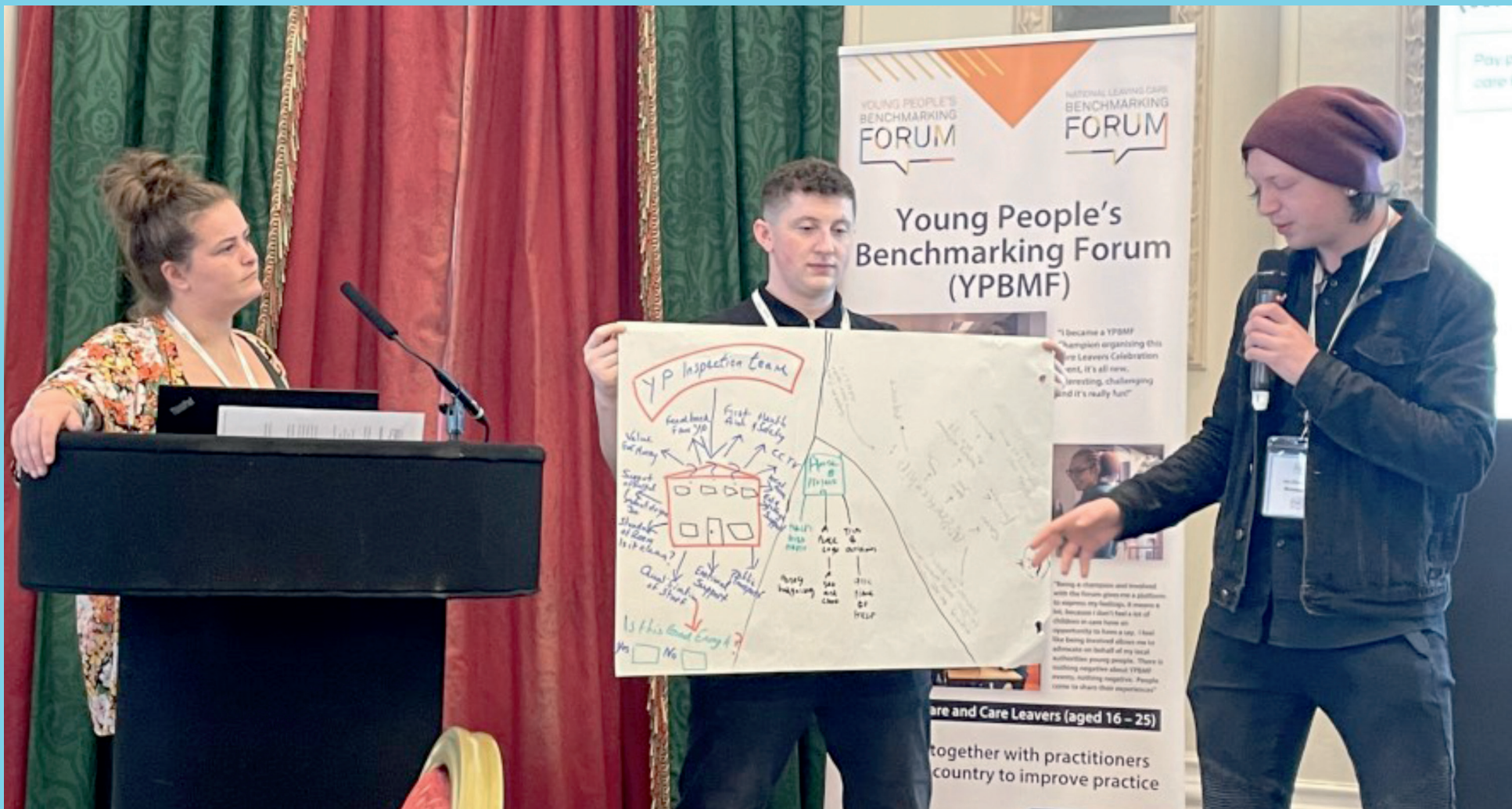
“Being part of NLCBF over a period of time has allowed us to massively improve the services we offer to care leavers.

The opportunity to hear best practice from around the country from managers, practitioners and most importantly young people has inspired us to think creatively and work in different ways.

Big changes include introduction of a House Project, improved support to care leavers in custody and a strong local offer which involves local businesses as well.”

Leaving Care Manager

Young Person’s Benchmarking Forum (YPBMF) – YPBMF is at the heart of the NLCBF & ensures that the voices of care experienced young people shape the direction & priorities of the forum. We encourage all NLCBF member local authorities to get their young people involved in YPBMF activities including:



YPBMF Events which involve sharing good practice & national updates; the opportunity to network & share ideas with young people from other local authorities & asking young people for their views on specific topics.

Sharing YPBMF messages with leaving care professionals

Our Sessional workers & Champions will host a session at each of our Practitioner & Managers events to communicate messages collated from the YPBMF

Opportunities to speak to Policy & Decision Makers

YPBMF members have regular opportunities to take part in consultations & meet with policy & decision makers

Reports on Key Issues:

YPBMF collate reports on key issues, including the views of young people to share with policy & decision makers



How is the NLCBF Funded?

Each Local Authority pays a membership fee of £2995/year. NLCBF also receives occasional grants from charitable grant makers. We have a small amount of income from delivery of training & consultation. NLCBF is run by the Charity Catch22