

## CARE LEAVER COVENANT

Through signing this document I commit the Ministry of Justice to support the principles of the care leaver covenant, and to provide the support detailed below to help care leavers in their transition from care to independence in order to improve their life chances.

Signed on behalf of: Ministry of Justice

Signature



Name

David Gauke

Position

Secretary of State for Justice

Date

25.10.2018



### Principles of the care leaver covenant

The Ministry of justice supports the key principles of the care leaver covenant, which are:

- That all parts of society have a responsibility to help care leavers to avoid poor outcomes and make a successful transition to adulthood; and
- That action to support care leavers should be in their best interests, promote their health and well-being and secure the best possible outcomes for them.

### Demonstrating our commitment

The Ministry of justice will demonstrate its commitment to the care leaver covenant through the following actions:

- offering employment opportunities to care leavers through participating in the Civil Service care leaver internship scheme.
- using the HMPPS National Care Leavers Forum to drive improvement in the support provided to care leavers through delivery of its action plan. In particular this will involve:

### Identification and Recording

- embedding processes to better identify care leavers in custody and the community, to enable HMPPS to work more effectively with key agencies such as local authorities, the Department for Work and Pensions and Community Rehabilitation Companies;

### Partnership Working

- using the National Care Leavers Forum to facilitate co-operation between partners in particular local authorities and prisons;
- introducing Prison Group Leads to provide additional capacity for prisons to explore new and develop existing partnerships, which will enhance the service care leavers receive; and

### Governance

- providing a framework of provision and policies that together, will work to improve the life-chances of care leavers once in the community.