

Appendix M: Differences Between Being in Care and a Care Leaver

In Care	Leaving Care – Staying Put
Social Worker – statutory visits	Leaving Care Case Worker – keep in contact by person/phone or Facebook at least every 6 weeks.
Foster Carer	Staying Put Provider.
Review accommodation- see room etc.	No one will need to look at your room. You can meet your worker where ever you want.
LAC review	No more reviews. Pathway plan to be completed with your worker every 6 months.
You do not have any form of accommodation contract	You have a license for your room and use of shared facilities. You have the same rights as a lodger and your Staying Put Provider is your landlady.
Local Authority (LA) is your guardian and is able to make decisions on your behalf/best interests	As an adult we will respect your wishes and feelings. You can make your own decision and choices. We will offer support and guidance If we feel any decision/action places you in danger we will act to safeguard you.
Everything you need is paid for	You will be expected to buy and fund your own clothes, mobile phone, any hobbies, social life and just about everything else!! There are funds available to care leavers to help support you- your LCCW will give you an entitlement leaflet which explains what you can get financial assistance with.
Pocket money	No pocket money.
Transport from foster carer	Not expected from Staying Put Provider.
Support from Foster carer	Support from Staying Put Provider.
LA pay for your accommodation	You are responsible for the rent for your room and shared facilities. The rent £60.00 may come from benefits or earnings.
LA cover the cost of food and utilities.	You are responsible for a contribution of £20.00 towards your food and utilities. This money can come from benefits or earnings.
Unable to claim benefits	You are able to claim Universal Credits to cover your rent and living costs, if, you are not working, a student in further education or on a low income. The amount that the government give for living costs is currently £57.90 a week.
Desirable that you will be learning the skills needed for independence	Expected that you will be learning the skills needed for independence and taking increasing responsibility for yourself.
If the placement breaks down a new placement will be found	If the Staying Put arrangement breaks down your LCCW will help you find new accommodation. You cannot go to a new Staying Put arrangement though.
You can return to the foster home after a period away	You are unable to return under Staying Put if you decide to leave.
	You can still continue to stay with your Staying Put Provider if you live away whilst studying at University or undertaking other training.
Support from looked after team up till 18 years	Can remain in Staying Put arrangement until you are 21 years. Support is available, if required, until you are 25 years from LCCW.