



CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE – UNIVERSITY SUPPORT PACKAGES FOR CARE LEAVERS

Dewiswch iaith i ddechrau'r arolwg.

Please select a language to begin the survey.

- English
- Cymraeg

Background.

For many years BCBC has provided its care leavers with financial assistance to attend university and higher education courses. BCBC has paid for each university student's term time and vacation accommodation, their yearly tuition fees and provided each student with a weekly maintenance payment during term time. In addition students have also been eligible for non-repayable grants from Welsh Government. To date students have been in receipt of approximately £18,670 per year made up of grants and contributions from BCBC.

In September 2016, the Cabinet Secretary for Education published the Diamond Report which proposed a costed package of recommendations for the future funding of higher education in Wales. Welsh Government has accepted these recommendations and plans to start implementing them in the next academic year. (2018/19)

At the start of the next academic year (2018/19) all care leavers attending University will be entitled to a non-repayable grant of £8,100 per year from Welsh Government and the option of a £900 loan to provide up to £9,000 per year. (Note that these figures are for outside of London.)

Welsh Government will no longer be providing students with Tuition Fee Grants. Instead students will be able to apply for a Tuition Fee Loan to cover the total amount of their £9000 fees each year which they will have to pay back once earning over an agreed amount.

In light of this report BCBC has recognised a need to devise a policy that ensures appropriate levels of financial support, fairness and consistency is provided to its care leavers, so that they are not disadvantaged in anyway but also encouraged to take some financial responsibility for their own education and future.

This consultation proposes three options of how BCBC could financially support its care leavers attending university. Each proposal has been carefully considered and would not compromise individuals but would enable BCBC to support them in their further education and subsequent independence and in the same way as responsible parents would ordinarily do. All three options will be consistent in ensuring that BCBC is compliant with the SSWBA in that it funds vacation time accommodation and provides each student with a £2000 bursary payment as a minimum. The different options proposed vary in what is provided to each student in addition to this minimum requirement.

All students will be eligible for and will be supported to apply for the non-repayable Welsh Government Living Costs Grant of £8100 a year. All students will be supported to apply for the £900 loan should they require it. All students will be supported to apply for a Tuition Fee (repayable) Loan of up to £9,000 which pays for their tuition fees in full.

Introduction

This survey will take around 10 minutes to complete.

All information received is stored using secure servers and in accordance to the Data Protection Act (1998). When gathering data it is our policy to take all necessary steps to ensure personal information is processed lawfully. Your personal information will never be shared externally.

About you

Q1 **Are you responding as:** (please select one option only).

Secondary
School Student

College Student

University
Student

University
Graduate

Other

If 'other' please detail

Q2 **Please select your age category?** Please tick one box only

Under 16

16-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

65-74

75+

Prefer not to say

Options under consideration

Option 1

The student pays for their accommodation and living costs during term time through loans/grants.

BCBC pays the student's tuition fee of £9,000.

Any additional maintenance / discretionary payments made to individuals will be based on an individual assessed need basis.

Option 2

The student pays for their accommodation and living costs during term time through loans/grants

The student pays their tuition fee of £9000 per year through a repayable loan.

Any additional maintenance / discretionary payments made to individuals will be based on an individual assessed need basis.

Option 3 (Preferred option)

The student pays for their accommodation and living costs during term time through loans/grants

The student pays their tuition fee of £9000 per year through a repayable loan.

BCBC provides the student with a weekly incentive payment during term time (e.g. £25 per week)

Any additional maintenance / discretionary payments made to individuals will be based on an individual assessed need basis.

Q3 Which option would you prefer? Please select all that apply.

Option one

Option two

Option three

Other

Q4 Do you think there are any additional factors to be considered?

Q5 How will the proposals affect you?

Q6 Do you have any other alternative proposal?

Q7 Please use this space to provide any further comments on this proposal

Q8 **Would you like to be emailed once the consultation report is available?**

Yes

No

Q9 **If you have answered 'yes' please provide your email address below**

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey

Remember you can always have your say on improving council services by visiting www.bridgend.gov.uk/CitizensPanel to join our Citizens' Panel.

Do you no longer wish to be part of our Citizens' Panel?

As part of Data Protection Guidance we regularly review the information we hold. If you no longer wish to be part of the Citizens' Panel please get in touch with the Communications, Marketing and Engagement team on 01656 643664 or email us on 'consultation@bridgend.gov.uk' and we will remove your details from our system upon receipt of your request.

Do you no longer wish to receive additional surveys?

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Equalities

In order to help us ensure that we are providing services fairly to everyone who needs them, we would be grateful if you could answer a few more questions about yourself.

The information you supply will be kept confidentially and will only be used for the purposes of equalities monitoring.

Completion of these questions is not required as part of the questionnaire. You do not have to answer any of the questions if you do not wish to do so. Alternatively, you can choose to answer some and not others by selecting the 'prefer not to say' options.

Q10 Are you happy to answer a few more questions about yourself? Please select one option only.

Yes

No

Equalities monitoring

Q11 What is your date of birth?

(DD/MM/YYYY)

Prefer not to say



Equalities monitoring

A disability is a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out day-to-day activities.

Q12 **Do you consider yourself to be disabled?** Please select one option only.

Yes

No (go to Q14)

Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to be disabled? Please select on...

Q13 **Please indicate below the type of impairment which applies to you.** Please select all options that apply.

- Physical impairment, such as difficulty using your arms or mobility issues which means using a wheelchair or crutches
- Sensory impairment, such as being blind or having a serious visual impairment or being D/deaf or hard of hearing
- Mental health condition, such as depression or schizophrenia
- Learning difficulty, such as Down's syndrome or dyslexia, or cognitive impairment, such as autism or head-injury
- Long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- Other (please use space below)
- Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q14 **How would you describe your nationality?** Please select one option only.

- Welsh
- English
- Scottish
- Northern Irish
- British
- Other (please type in the box below)
- Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q15 **What is your ethnic group?** Please select one option only.

- White
- Mixed / multiple ethnic groups
- Asian or Asian British
- Black / African / Caribbean / black British
- Other ethnic group (please type in the box below)
- Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q16 White

Welsh / English / Scottish / Northern Irish / British

Irish

Gypsy

Irish Traveller

Any other white background (please type in the box below)

Q17 Mixed / multiple ethnic groups

White and black Caribbean

White and black African

White and Asian

Any other mixed / multiple ethnic background (please type in the box below)

Q18 Asian or Asian British

Indian

Pakistani

Bangladeshi

Chinese

Any other Asian background (please type in the box below)

Q19 Black / African / Caribbean / black British

African

Caribbean

Any other black / African / Caribbean background (please type in the box below)

Q20 Other ethnic groups

Arab

Any other ethnic group (please type in the box below)

Equalities monitoring

Q21 **What is your religion or belief?** Please select one option only.

No religion

Hindu

Sikh

Christian

Jewish

Other (please type in the box below)

Buddhist

Muslim

Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q22 **What is your gender?** Please select one option only.

Male

Female

Other

Prefer not to say

Q23 **Is your gender the same now as that which you were assigned at birth?** Please select one option only.

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q24 **Are you pregnant?** Please select one option only.

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Q25 **Have you given birth within the past 26 weeks?** Please select one option only.

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q26 **What is your sexual orientation?** Please select one option only.

Heterosexual / straight

Gay woman / lesbian

Other

Gay man

Bisexual

Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q27 **What is your marital status?** Please select one option only.

- Single
- Partnered
- Married
- Civil partnered
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

A carer is someone who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or substance misuse problems.

Q28 **Are you a carer?** Please select one option only.

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

Equalities monitoring

Q29 Are you able to...

Please select one option per row.

	Not at all	A little	Fairly well	Fluently	Prefer not to say
speak Welsh?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
read Welsh?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
write Welsh?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Next steps

If you would like to be kept up to date on our key consultations please opt in and include your details below.

Opt in

Name

House no.

Email

Street

Postcode

Thank you

Please select the tick below to submit your response.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Remember you can always have your say on improving council services by clicking here to join our Citizens' Panel.