national care
ADVISORY SERVICE
making the difference for young people in and from care aged 13-25

From Care 2 Work

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catch 22
helping young people out

www.leavingcare.org

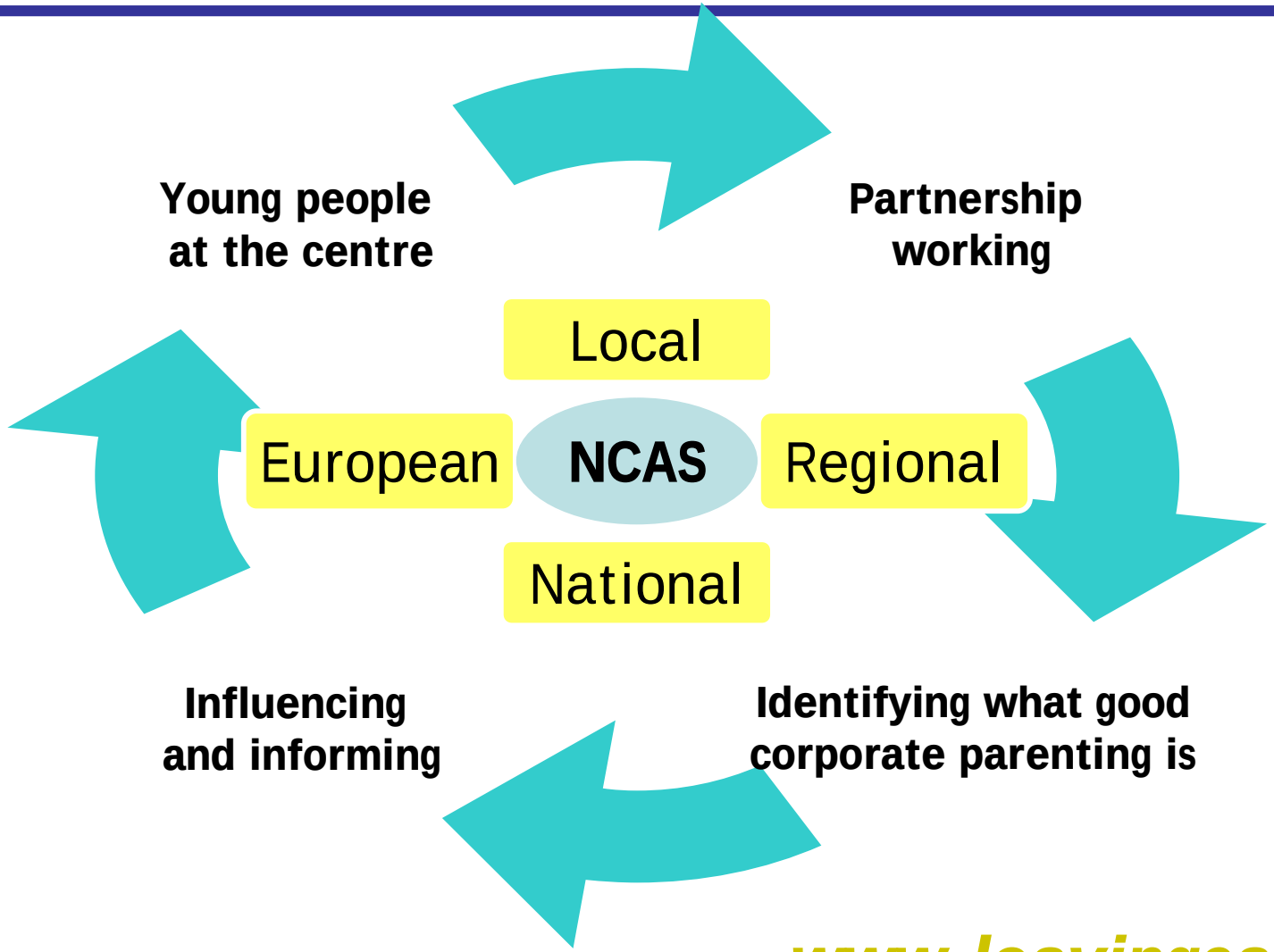
National Care Advisory Service

A national service providing advice, support and development focussing on young people's transitions from care

Part of

www.leavingcare.org

How do we work



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What we do

- Advice and information
  - Enquiries service, website, Keynotes magazine
- Policy
  - Lobbying, advice & support to government and dissemination
- Projects
  - Employability project, Support to regional forums, Benchmarking Forum, Accommodation guide
- Participation
  - Regional participation model, peer research

What we know helps the employability journey

- Smooth exit from care and supported transitions
- The age at which a young person leaves care
- The speed and timing of transition
- Preparation before and support after leaving care
- Stability and maintenance of attachments with adults

(Demos:In Loco Parentis, www.demos.co.uk)

From Care 2 Work

- NCAS project started July 2009
- Working with all Local Authorities
- Gaining opportunities from national employers/government departments for young people leaving care
- Developing a Quality Mark showing commitment to supporting young people
- Creating opportunities and raising aspirations

The Story So Far

- Working with national companies to develop packages of employability support
- Government Departments committed to offering range of opportunities
- 149 Local Authorities have signed up to From Care2Work and are developing employability workplans
- Development of From Care2Work:Quality Mark
- The Employability Journey in process – career planning from 13-25

Following the launch

www.leavingcare.org

Challenges

- Turning Corporate Social Responsibility Commitment from national employers into tangible opportunities

- Preparation of y/p for opportunities as they become available

- Safeguarding y/p benefits to access work placements

Successes

Key successes

- From an initial target to pilot 9 local authorities, 149 have mapped provision in their area,140 have already developed work plans
- At end May 2010 overall 967 employability opportunities created within local authorities or by linking to local employers; further 929 opportunities are planned.
- Engaging and negotiating with over 30 national companies – with 126 opportunities either already available or planned with the private sector
- FC2W platform to share local experiences across the country and collectively influence upwards.
- Developed our own traineeship model to recruit trainees and committed to developing this wherever possible.

Launch of the FC2W Quality Mark

Rolling out the From Care2Work Quality Mark. Developed by young people, employers can assure the quality of the opportunities they offer.

From Care2Work
QUALITY
MARK

Designing a ‘national register’ of employers

FC2W Resources

Planned Resources

- Quality Mark guides for employers and local authorities
- Quality Mark application packs for Local Authorities and employers
- Quality Mark Certificates
- Quality Mark Assessors Training - - and resource packs
- Training for Quality Mark Assessor Trainer
- Employers Engagement Toolkit / top tips / how to do an employer breakfast
- Employers guide
- Employers Awareness Session and trainer pack
- Young People's Benchmarking Forum Drama Group project
- Employment Handbook
- Work experience toolkit
- Entrepreneur Handbook
- Employability Journey Poster
- Career planning tools
- Apprenticeships

Next Steps

- Impact will be measured by the increasing number of young people benefitting from activities and support
- Monitoring progress with national employers and within local authorities
- Offer support and advice to develop their work plans in line with their corporate parenting agenda for employability.
- Support to local authorities will include the roll out of a number of resources
- We will continue to build on the library of examples on our website, highlighting innovative practice across the country inc Quality Mark award.
- Working with partners such as the National Apprenticeship Service to support leaving care services with the advice and guidance
- In March 2011 we will produce a project evaluation report to highlight areas of practice

"Getting a job has been life changing to me, I have a new life now which is full of possibilities."

Care Leavers Week

- Launch of FromCare2Work Quality Mark
- 26 Oct 2010
- London Venue – TBC

- Flyer will be going out shortly

Keep in touch

Sign up to our Keynotes magazine to receive regular policy and practice updates by e-mailing:

ncas@catch-22.org.uk

Visit our website for free resources

www.leavingcare.org