

## Appendix 2- Staying Close

Following a successful expression of interest to the Department for Education (DfE), Wiltshire Council has been allocated funding to develop a model of 'Staying Close' for Care Leavers.

Staying Close provides an enhanced support package for young people leaving residential children's homes. It is designed to be a comparable offer to the option to 'Stay Put', which supports young people in foster care to remain with their former foster carers until 21 years of age. Staying Close is designed to support with move-on accommodation, alongside a package of practical and emotional support provided by a member of staff from their former children's home, or from someone who they know and trust.

### What is Staying Close?

- Provides extra support for young people leaving care from children's homes
- In addition to social workers and PA's, to improve outcomes
- Reduce feeling of "cliff edge"
- Focus on:
  - Accommodation Stability
  - Wellbeing
  - Education, Employment and Training (EET)
  - Positive relationships and a support network
  - Independent living skills

