

**STOCKPORT COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO CABINET- SUMMARY SHEET**

**Subject:** Protected Characteristics for Care Leavers

**Report to Cabinet**

**Date:** 31 October 2023

**Report of: (a)** Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education

**Key Decision: (b)** Y

Forward Plan  General Exception  Special Urgency  (Mark with a Y if applicable)

**Summary:**

There is growing momentum nationally across Local Authorities and other organisations to make care leavers a protected characteristic within their policies to seek to redress inequalities faced by care experienced young people.

**Comments/Views of the Cabinet Member: (c)**

I am pleased to recommend that care experience be treated as a protected characteristic by Stockport Council, as set out in the report.

**Recommendation(s) of Cabinet Member: (d)**

The Cabinet is asked to accept the proposal that individuals with care experience are treated as if it were a Protected Characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. The Government have not yet made this a legal requirement but that does not prevent the council adopting this approach.

**Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): (e)**

Children & Families

**Background Papers (if report for publication): (f)**

Contact person for accessing background papers and discussing the report

**Officer:** Jeanette Warburton  
**Tel:** 0161 475 6843

**'Urgent Business': (g)**

**Yes/ No (Please circle)**

**Certification (if applicable)**

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/ Borough Treasurer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.