

# **THE DEBATE PROJECT**

**5<sup>th</sup> September 2005**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Everyone who attended the Debate Project event made the following recommendations:

- Young people should have longer to live where you want to live
- Should stop the use of B & B accommodation for young people leaving care
- Need more staff
- Should use young people who've been through the care system to give other young people information and advice
- All decisions made about young people should be explained more to young people, so they know what's happening
- Need more education for young people in care
- More young people should be involved in interviewing social workers and care staff
- Need more suitable social workers and foster carers
- Young people need to be ready to leave care
- Should delay the 16<sup>th</sup> birthday moving on time
- There shouldn't be an age limit on when support should stop
- Young people in care shouldn't get moved about so often
- Residential care should be a last resort for people who should be in foster care
- Should be more carers suited for young people
- Should advertise a lot more for foster carers
- Restraint in residential care is a last resort
- Young people should be able to get in touch with social work services much easier
- Should have counsellors in children's homes

- Need better partnerships between agencies and local authorities
- Need to allow young people when they leave care to be able to go back when things go wrong
- Need more supported accommodation for young people leaving care
- Need more half-way house/in between accommodation
- Want more support from local authorities for young people up to age 25, especially when voluntary organisations are working with young people
- Young people themselves should meet with local authorities and decision makers locally, to make sure issues are kept on the agenda
- Should be thinking how young people and workers can talk with one voice, about issues that affect them over generations
- Young people need to be ready to help themselves, so its not just social workers
- All support workers should communicate and try not to duplicate work.