

**COUNCIL MEETING – 18 JULY 2018  
NOTICE OF MOTION**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NOS. 53-60**

MOTION NO.	PROPOSER	SECONDER	MOTION
132	Councillor Carr	Councillor N Walker	<p>The local authority has a duty of care to care leavers.</p> <p>Middlesbrough council recognises the difficult transition care leavers face as they move out of care and into adulthood.</p> <p>A recent report by The Children’s Society found that when care leavers move into independent accommodation and manage budgets for the first time, many fall into debt and financial difficulty.</p> <p>A national study by The Centre for Social Justice found that over half of young people leaving care have difficulty managing their money and avoiding debt when leaving care.</p> <p>To ease the transition, this council provides a range of services to support care leavers, including exemption from council tax for those between the ages of 18 and 21.</p> <p>Noting that, under the terms of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, the council has a legal obligation to offer advice, support and guidance to care leavers up to the age of 25, the council resolves to extend the council tax exemption to cover all eligible care leavers (as defined by the Children Leaving Care Act 2000) up to the age of 25 who are resident within the borough.</p> <p>This exemption will operate retrospectively from the beginning of this financial year.</p>

