

Proposals for radical reform

From attendees at Voices From Care's 'Proud To Be Me' event

February 2023

On Friday 24 February attendees at Voices From Care's 'Proud To Be Me' event - care experienced young people, foster parents and staff - submitted anonymously ideas for radical reform of the care system to inform our inquiry.

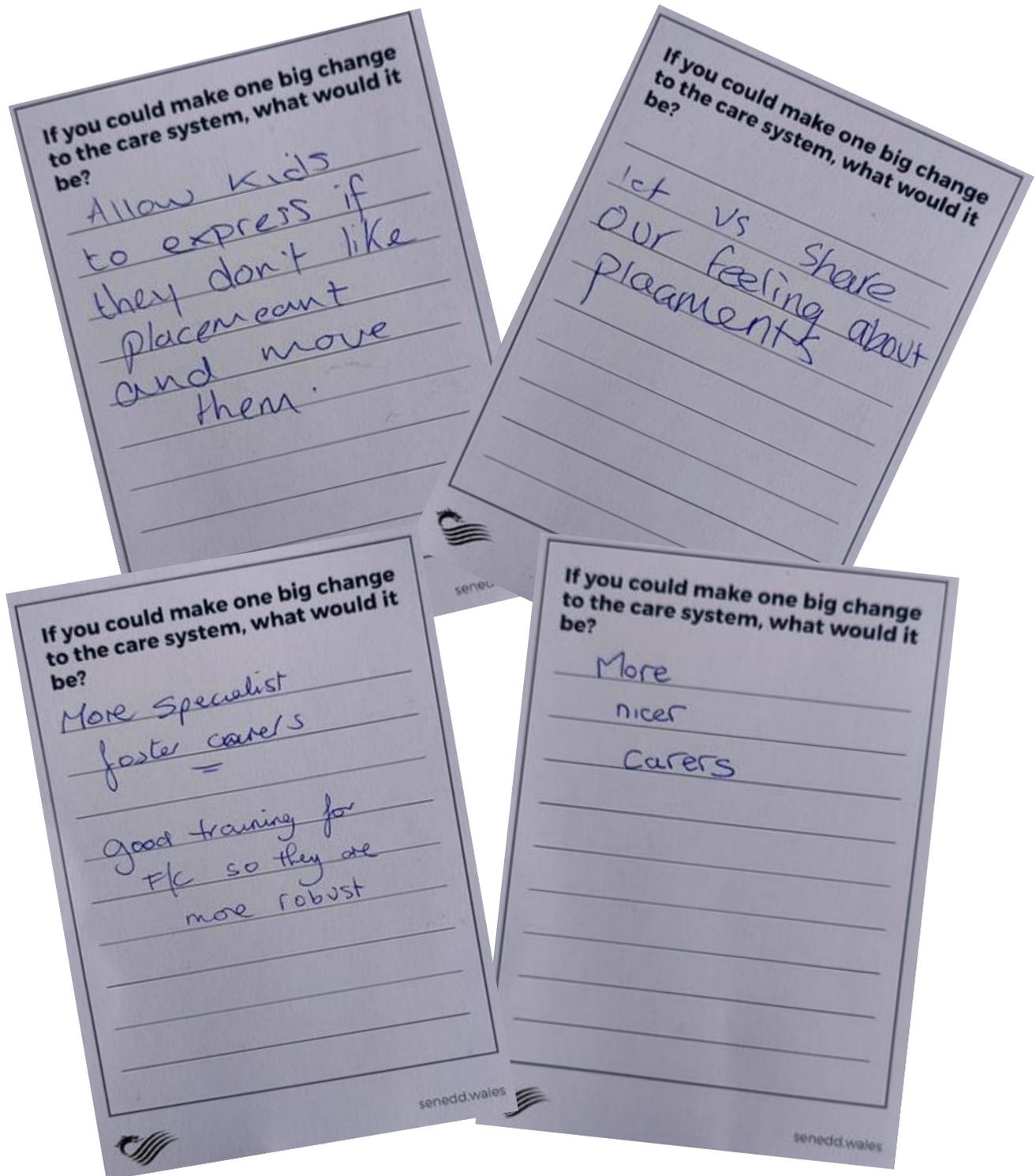
Senedd officials set up a stall at the 'Proud To Be Me' event to talk to attendees about the Children, Young People and Education Committee's inquiry into radical reform of services for care experienced children. We asked attendees to write down ideas for radical reform of the care system on postcards and to post them into a ballot box.

We received 28 ideas for radical reform of the care system. This report groups those the ideas thematically.



1. Placements

Ideas about fostering, support for foster carers, and young people's views on their placements.



If you could make one big change to the care system, what would it be?

for Foster Children to have more time before they are moved to a new home.

If you could make one big change to the care system, what would it be?

- More decision making Authority for Foster Carers
- Make the system completely not for profit.

If you could make one big change to the care system, what would it be?

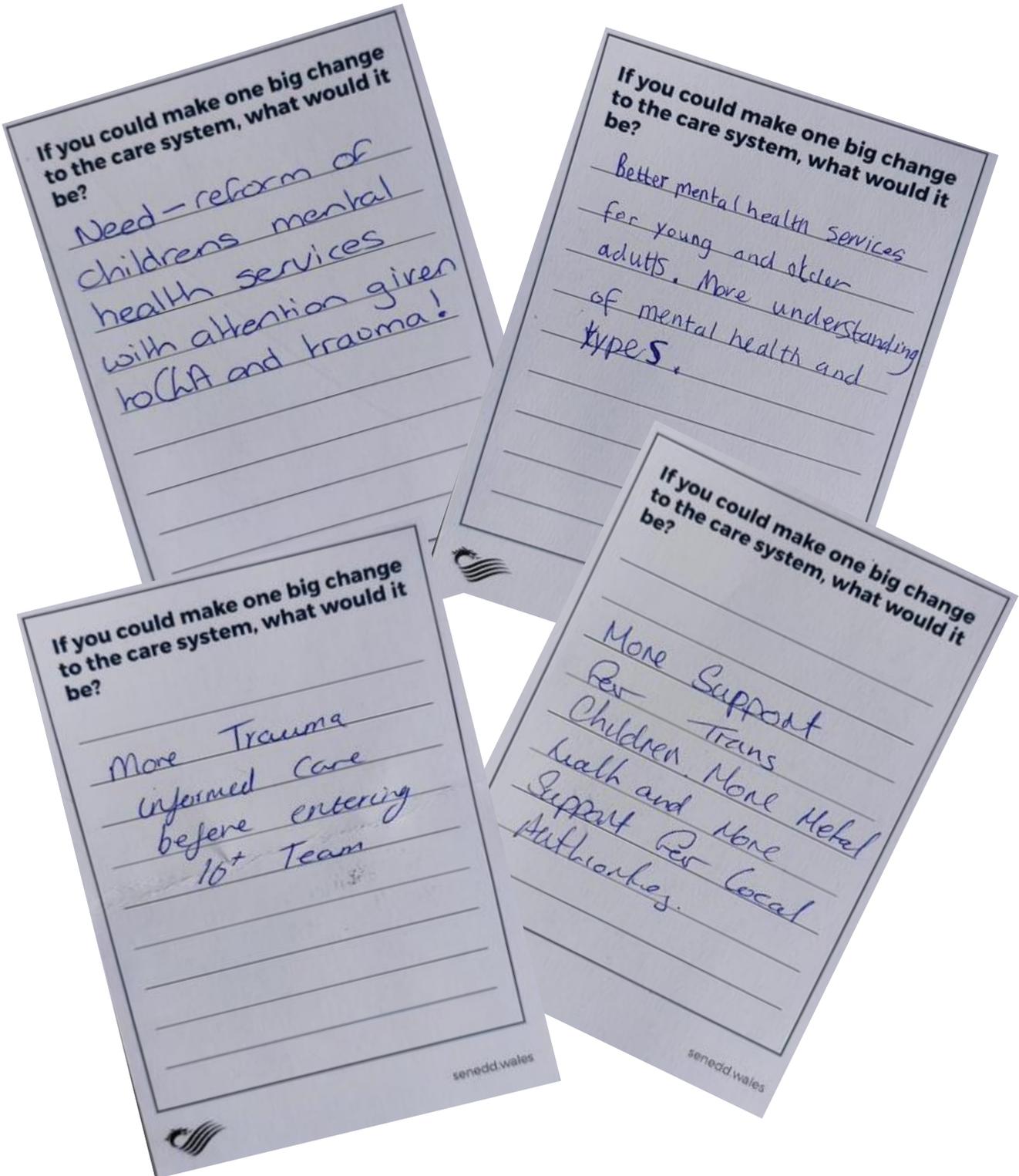
- more bespoke placements to meet individual need
- allow up to make mistakes without giving notice on placements - leading to fewer moves/ people who stick by you no matter what.

If you could make one big change to the care system, what would it be?

- Allowing the child/children to meet their foster carers at least 5 times before placing them in their care.
- Allowing foster children to spend time with siblings without the parent "content" as it makes the child feel something is wrong.

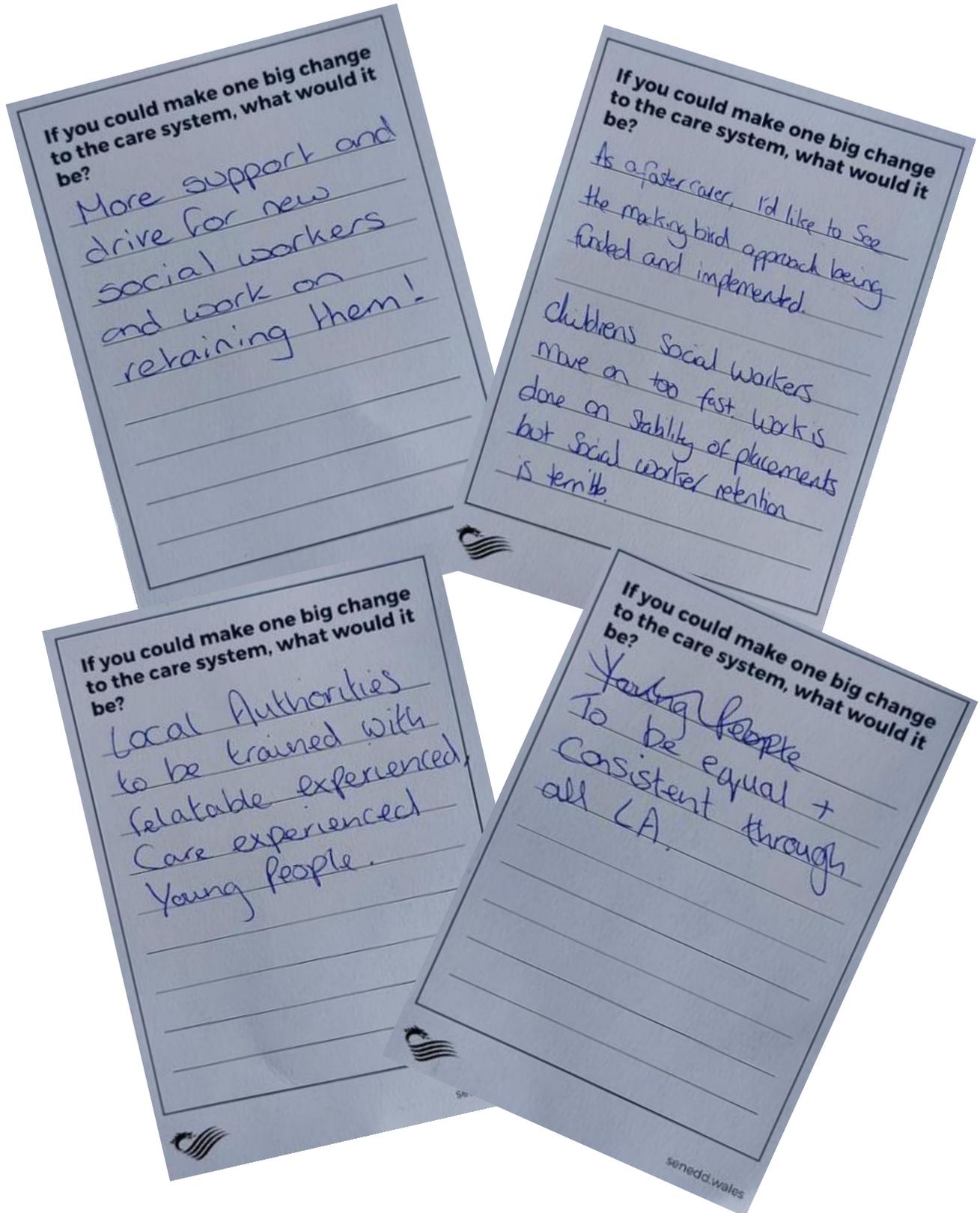
2. Mental health

Ideas about the mental health of care experienced children and young people and about improving the quality of mental health services.



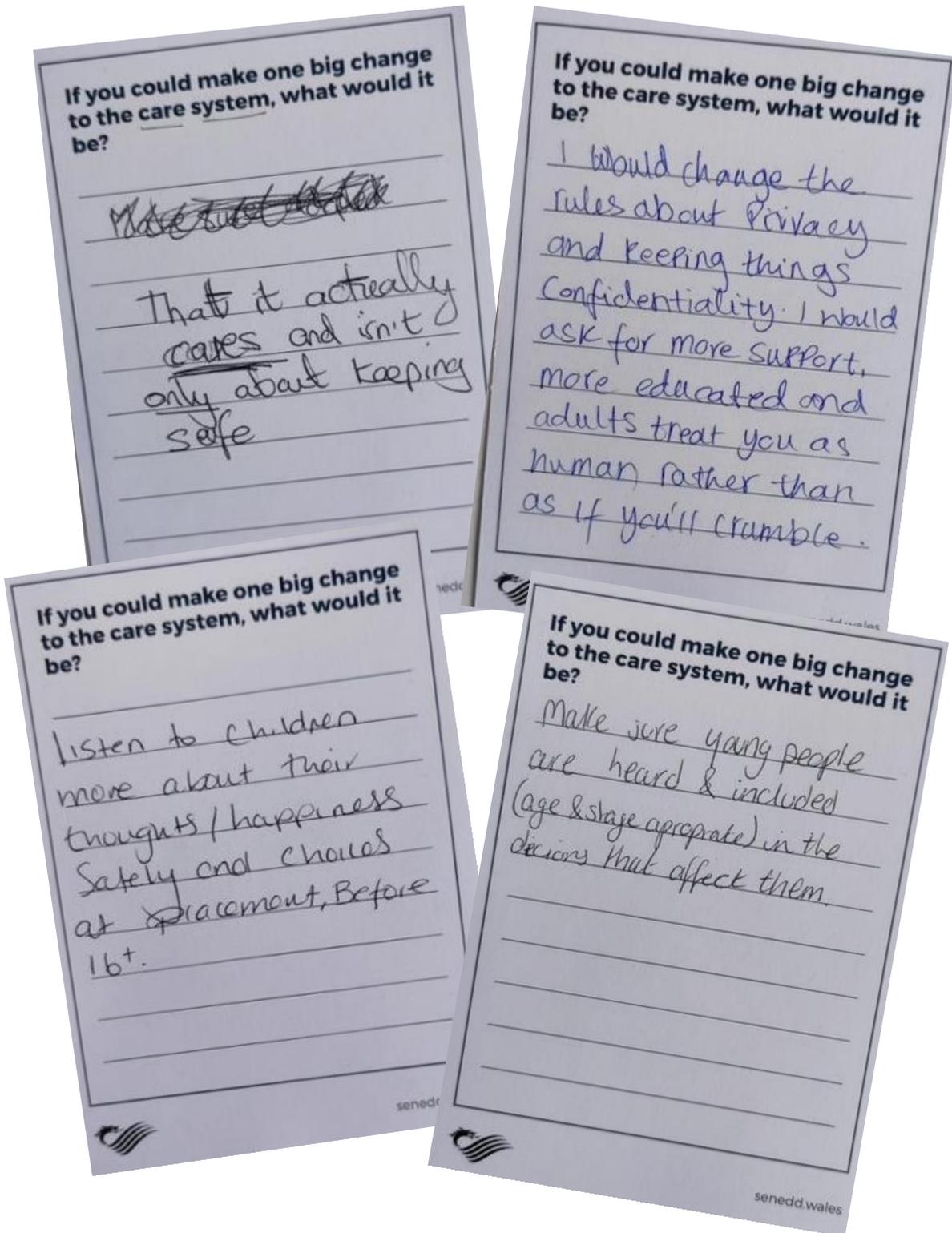
3. Statutory services

Ideas about local authority services.



4. Voices of children and young people

Ideas about making sure children and young people are listened to and cared about.



5. Activities

Ideas about activities for young people.



6. Protected characteristics

Suggestions about making experience of care a protected characteristic in the Equality Act 2010.

The image shows two overlapping survey cards. The top card is partially obscured by the bottom card. Both cards have the same question: "If you could make one big change to the care system, what would it be?". The top card has handwritten responses: "Care experienced." and "Protective Characteristics". The bottom card has handwritten responses: "make care experienced a protected characteristic". Both cards feature the Senedd Wales logo and the text "senedd.wales" at the bottom.

If you could make one big change to the care system, what would it be?
Care experienced.
Protective Characteristics.

If you could make one big change to the care system, what would it be?
make care experienced
a protected
characteristic.

senedd.wales

7. Other

Other ideas to make the care system better.

