

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee
Date: 6th January 2020
Report for: Information
Report of:

Report Title **Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) Protocol**

Purpose

The following report and information has been requested as an update on the process of implementing a new Preparing for Adulthood Protocol to replace the old Transition Protocol.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the information outlined in this report

Context

Preparing for Adulthood is a process or period of change. The term can be applied to all young people to describe the stage in their lives when they move from adolescence to adulthood. However, for the purposes of this protocol it refers to children and young people with an EHCP or a Pathway Plan where it is likely that they may receive care and support due to the Care Act when they are adults. There are also sections that apply to the carers of young people preparing for adulthood and young carers who are themselves preparing for adulthood.

The protocol sets out Trafford's commitment to supporting those young people who may have the need for additional care and support in adulthood. It reflects Trafford's approach to multi-agency practice across the areas of Education Health and Social Care. It describes how all the agencies will fulfil their duties and responsibilities under current legislation and guidance relating to transition.

Scope

This protocol is a shared document that reflects agencies working in partnership with young people and their families. It outlines how we all work together and guides professionals and families alike in managing the transition to adulthood. This protocol describes what should happen and when, who has responsibility and how agencies should work together. It is aimed at professionals from across education, health and social care, including the following services/organisations:

- Trafford's all age integrated health and social care service
- Healthy Young Minds
- Pennine
- Trafford Local Authority SEND services
- Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Adult Learning Disability Services
- Trafford CCG
- Schools, colleges educational settings
- Other partner agencies, e.g. information and advice providers and advocacy services.
- Trafford Parents Forum

This protocol applies to children and young people between the ages of 14 and 25 who have disabilities and/or complex needs who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC).

It also covers young people who:

- Those who are likely to meet the eligibility criteria for adult social care services (in line with the Care Act 2014) which may include:
 - i. Young people with Care Planning Approach (CPA) plans;
 - ii. Young people with Pathway Plans;
 - iii. Young People in receipt of Continuing Care funding;
 - iv. Young people known to Children Community Nursing Team (CCNT)
- Those who would benefit from support in planning for adult life but do not have an EHC Plan/SEN (e.g. those with high-functioning autism or social/emotional/mental health difficulties/ill health);
- Carers of young people preparing for adulthood and young carers who are themselves preparing for adulthood.
- Complex Safeguarding

Objectives Achieved

A multi-agency group including professionals from across Education, Health and Social Care have worked together to achieve the following;

- A new complete protocol which has had recent sign off from the SEND board
- The development of the PfA board that meets to ensure all activities related to this area of work are completed. The PfA board reports to the SEND board.
- A new online training package has been written to inform professionals across education, health and social care for their specific role and responsibilities in the protocol. This is in draft form and it is anticipated that this will go live at the beginning of the next academic year.
- A monitoring group has been established and meets bi monthly. The TOR of this group is to gather assurance that the new protocol is being implemented effectively and to monitor the cohorts of young people as they move through to accessing appropriate adult services in line with the new pathway model.

Future Objectives

The following activities have been identified as part of the ongoing process around implementation;

- Further co-production work with Trafford Parent Forum on the type/format of information that young people and parents would find useful to help them effectively navigate the journey from children's' to adults' services. This will inform the development of an agreed rolling schedule of information events available to young people and their families.
- Rolling out of the online training to all professionals.
- Training for all secondary school SENCOs on holding Person Centered Annual Reviews (as per the protocol)

- Completing a review of Annual Review paperwork to include Preparing for Adulthood as a central tenet from Year 6 onwards

The objective listed above form part of the PfA implementation plan.

Appendices

Pathway Experience

PfA Policy

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Dr Karen Harris (Principal Educational Psychologist and Head of Inclusion)

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