

Report

Transitions for Young People with a disability from children's services to adult services Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board
14 December 2018



1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the development of the provision of support and planning for young people with a disability. It sets out five actions that are intended to improve this process for all young people with a disability and outlines the changes we propose to make to how professional staff engage with young people and their carers.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Integration Joint Board is asked to:

Note and agree the five key action points in relation to young people

2. Background

- 2.1 Recent feedback from parents and service users indicates that transitioning from children and families support services to adult services has been a complex and frustrating experience. One of the key factors in this process is that it relies on two departments to work to deliver two elements of this process. These departments collectively often do not achieve a good transition for the young people. This report proposes new ways of working to deliver an improved experience and outcome.

3. Main report

- 3.1 In reviewing the current arrangements for young peoples' transition there is a focus on the responsibilities of the individual departments including financial decisions, which impacts on the outcomes for young people.
- 3.2 In 2017, The Scottish Transitions Forum produced a document called 'Good transitions 3'. This was a consulted upon document that offered local authorities across Scotland seven principles that are considered to be the basis for a 'good transition'.

Edinburgh has been cited as an area of good practice, however to fulfil a joined-up approach

to transition we need to expand the current scope and remits of our staff. In Edinburgh we propose to adopt these five principles in these points.

A single point of contact – this will be someone who takes responsibility for planning through all the aspects of a person's life.

We will collocate professional staff in one location, begin working towards a single professional worker taking forward all planning for a young person through into adulthood.

Starting Transitions work earlier – currently this happens when someone turns 16. Planning can be at different levels and intensity, but important point is that dialogue is ongoing and available.

We propose that planning is started at 14 through to the age of 25.

Information to young people and families – a commitment to provide documentation to families and easy read version of all the aspects involved in transition

Provide information on all aspects of transition; this should focus in informing young people and their carers of the options available

Provide accommodation options; to work with housing and care providers to avoid out of authority placements.

Adult services work with housing associations across Edinburgh to provide a home for people with a disability. We want to expand these networks to offer support to young people whose lives are in crisis as a direct alternative to residential placements out of Edinburgh.

Communication approaches – we need to move our conversations away from focussing on services and what young people are seeking from their lives.

If planning is ongoing from the age of 14 we can work with young people with a disability towards meeting their aspirations. An approach that assumes a person-centred model of planning as opposed to a passive recipient.

These five key actions will be delivered by resources available in City of Edinburgh Council and Edinburgh Health and Social Partnership.

4. Key risks

- 4.1 The risks of not changing our approach is we will continue to work in two separate departments ultimately not delivering on positive outcomes for young people with a disability. Following the same path for young people will lead to carer stress, potentially costly placements out of Edinburgh.

5. Financial implications

5.1 There are no anticipated financial implications arising from this report.

6. Implications for Directions

6.1 As part of the commissioning plans that are being developed, these actions will be incorporated into the action plan.

7. Implications

7.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment will be completed.

8. Sustainability implications

8.1 Whilst there are no impacts envisaged on carbon or climate change arising from this report, issues of more general sustainable development are relevant. The biennial progress report required by the Scottish Government over the lifetime of the plan will ensure that sustainable progress is being made.

9. Involving people

9.1 The development of the Good Transitions 3 document involved consultation with professionals, carers and young people from Edinburgh.

10. Background reading/references

10.1 Good Transitions - Scottish Transitions Forum

<https://scottishtransitions.org.uk/summary-download/>

Keys to Life

<https://keystolife.info/>

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Appendices

None