**Social Worker and co allocation of a personal adviser**

Transition audit tool/initial meeting and review meeting template

**Why:**

The transition from care time is significant as it is neither childhood nor adulthood, brain development is still taking place, non-care-experienced peers are often living with parents for extended periods of time (up to 27 years in the UK). Care leavers, or those preparing to leave care do not always have the privileged of prolonging their transition.

Exiting care or sometimes referred to as ‘ageing out’ of care has been described as having to navigate ‘instant adulthood’ or a ‘compressed and accelerated transition to adulthood’ and being ‘self-sufficient’. When we talk about independence this can feel like services assume support is no longer required. Speedy transition from childhood means our young people confront greater life changes and challenges in less time than the general population, regardless of their individual readiness.

We need to adopt a developmental approach to our assessment of need, as well as with a relationship perspective. Leaving care is a process not an event. Successful transition from care is not just about having practical skills (these develop throughout the life course) – emotional readiness, timing, resilience, and relationships all contribute.

For those with SEND, we can categorize their needs using the National Framework for Preparing for Adulthood into four key areas when assessing their possible needs post 18. Those are Independence, health, community inclusion and relationships, and education and employment. This then feeds into our duty under the care act to start Transitional planning at 14 for those young people with SEND

**How:**

Use the below assessment tool in a handover meeting between the social worker and their practice lead (or a senior from their team) and the incoming personal adviser and their practice lead (or a senior from their team). Agree actions and define roles in this meeting. for those with SEND this can include the Transition Coordinator from the Pathway to Independence Team.

An initial meeting should take place around the time the child turns 16 – this will be following the completion of their Pathway Plan (to be completed at age 15 3/4. For young people with SEND this meeting takes place as part of the Care Act transitional planning at 14 years old or year 9.

Then as a transition team around the child review the plan at age 17, 17.5, 18 and 18.5.

Remember to share transition discussions with young people, ensure they are realistic about this time in their journey. Confirm any information they may have received is accurate.

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| **Area of need** | **Checklist** |  | **Strengths** | | **Worries** | **Actions (SMART)** | |
| **Family, Friends, and Networks**  **PFA outcomes:**  **Community Inclusion; Positive Relationships** | Who is involved/Networks |  |  | |  |  | |
| Mobility Map |  |
| Genogram (word document) |  |
| **Home and Housing**  **PFA outcome: Independence** | Where are they living – type of accommodation |  |  | |  |  | |
| Housing Plan post 18 |  |
| Home Choice application |  |
| HSR (Housing Support Register) |  |
| Staying Put – this should have gone to panel/when to be reviewed |  |
| **Identity and Belonging**  **PFA outcome: Independence** | Life Story Work – when was the last piece of work – what do they know |  |  | |  |  | |
| ID (passport, Driving Lic. Asylum claim. Etc) (copies on LCS) |  |
| NI number (copies on LCS) |  |
| **Physical and**  **Mental Health**  **PFA outcome: Health.** | Registered with GP (General Practitioner) |  |  | |  |  | |
| Health passport |  |
| **Education, Training and Employment**  **PFA outcome: Employment and Education** | EHCP? |  |  | |  |  | |
| Education/Employment plan – contact details |  |
| **Personal and Practical Skills/Independent Living Skills**  **PFA outcome: Independent Living** | Completed independence tool |  |  | |  |  | |
| Adult Social Care |  |
| Preparing for Adulthood referrals |  |
| Pathway to Independence team |  |
| **Finance**  **PFA outcome: Independence** | Leaving Care Grant |  |  | |  |  | |
| Bank Account |  |
| Is a Univeral Credit (UC) application ready to submit |  |
| ISA forms - savings |  |
| **Additional checks** | | | | **Actions (SMART)** | |
| * PWP completed | | |  |  | |
| * CLA ended (relevant if at 18) | | |  |  | |
| * Check LCS tabs/any open referrals | | |  |  | |
| * Up to date case summary, incl. contacts | | |  |  | |
| * Consent to share info form | | |  |  | |
| * Up to date chronology | | |  |  | |