# Pathway Planning Process dated 11th May 2023.

## **Purpose**

To ensure that Pathway Planning begins alongside the young person from the age of 15 years and 9 months and the initial Needs Assessment and Pathway Plan are completed by 16 years and three months.

We expect that all young people have Pathway Needs Assessments and Pathway Plans by 16 years and three months regardless of how long they have been Looked After.

This allows clear future planning from age 16 for all young people focussed on their goals in all areas of their lives including, health, education, social, relationships and accommodation.

Child Looked After Reviews for young people older than 16 years and 3 months should review a Pathway Plan and not a Care Plan.

The young person's needs should be well assessed so that we know what their future plans are and how these will be achieved in a timely manner.

The Needs Assessment and Pathway Plan should outline how we will support the young person to achieve their goals, what timeframe this will be within and who is responsible for this support.

The Pathway Plan should be aspirational to ensure every young person is given every chance to achieve what they are able to achieve.

Plans for future accommodation should be well assessed including whether the young person requires care or support and what plan we are working towards from age 16.

Contingency plans should be in place in case plan A cannot be achieved.

The young person's support network should be clearly evidenced within every Pathway Needs Assessment and how the network supports the young person should be included within their Pathway Plan.

Any concern about the young person's safety should be assessed within the Pathway Needs Assessment and how safety is going to be achieved should be clear within their Pathway Plan.

#### **Process**

- When a young person is 15 years and 9 months old the Pathway Needs Assessment will be completed with the young person by their social worker.
- Following the Pathway Needs Assessment being completed the Pathway Plan will begin and be completed at the latest by the time the young person is 16 years and 3 months old.
- Child Looked After Reviews for any child over 16 years and 3 months will review Pathway Plans and not Care Plans.
- Three months following a young person's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday the social worker and team manager will attend a clinic with the team managers from the Care Leavers Service and Service Managers from Care Leavers and Children Looked After. The Pathway Needs Assessment and Pathway Plan will be reviewed at this clinic and a Young Person's Advisor will be allocated.
- If the Pathway Needs Assessment has identified that a young person needs support not care then this assessment will form part of information for Placement Resource Panel to agree a supported provision meets the child's needs.
- A Care or Support Form would then be completed for all young people requiring support not care and this must be signed off by Practise Leads Jodie Henderson or Bernie Tooney, be uploaded to the child's file and form part of the referral for a supported provision.
- Pathway Review Reports will be completed for Child Looked After Reviews for all young people over 16 years and 3 months.
- If there are any significant changes for a young person, then the Pathway Needs Assessment and Pathway Plan must be updated. This is to include any re assessment of their accommodation needs.
- Pathway Needs Assessments and Pathway Plans must be updated at a minimum of every 6 months.

### **Liquid Logic Process.**

If a young person has been in care for longer than 91 days when they are 15 years and 9 months, then there is a Pathway on Liquid Logic to open the Pathway Needs Assessment and part two which is the Pathway Plan.

The below link guides the above process.

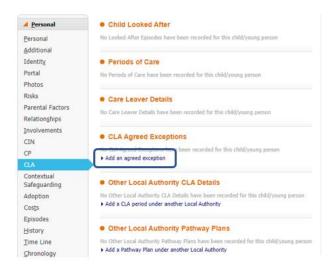
#### Looked After Children

If a young person has been in care less than 91 days when they are 15 years and 9 months there is a short cut to use on Liquid Logic which is explained below.

# **CLA Agreed Exceptions**

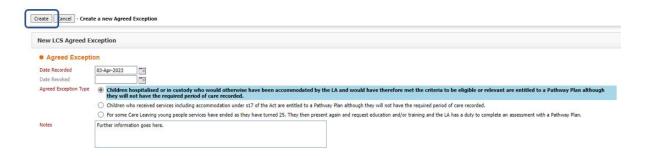
This is to be used for young people who fall under certain categories where they would not normally be eligible for a Pathway Plan. For example, they are 15 years and 9 months old but have not been CLA for 91 days.

From the CLA tab on the demographic record, click on Add an agreed exception



Enter the **Date Recorded, Agreed Exception Type** and any **Notes** you wish to include – these are all mandatory fields.

Please note: the options against the *Agreed Exception Type* question cannot be added to/changed. If the standard set of options do not apply, select the most appropriate one and use the *Notes* field to provide further information.



Finally, press *Create*. The information will save on the record.



The Agreed Exception can be updated at any time. Click into the original entry and use the *Update Agreed Exception* link.

#### Actions

### ▶ Update Agreed Exception

Once you have created the CLA Agreed Exception, the validation preventing the Pathway Plan Needs Assessment stage being started will be removed. You can navigate to the *Pathway Plan Needs Assessment* stage and generate the form.

