

To: All CSs staff

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Our Ref: GH/dh

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Date: 11 December 2020

Dear Colleagues

Re: Improvements to the Pathway Planning Process

We hope you're keeping well.

We are writing to inform you about improvements to the Pathway Planning process for our Care Leavers that will be introduced on Monday 14th December 2020.

Over the last four months, having gathered your views about what is working well and what needs to be improved, a small group of practitioners and managers have been working together to develop and test a number of changes relating to the Liquid Logic Pathway Planning process. The outcome of this activity, which Vicki has been leading, has resulted in the following improvements:

1. **The Pathway Planning Tool** – this is now a form on Liquid Logic which means there is now a paper version, a word version and an electronic Liquid Logic version available for you to use with young people
2. **The Pathway Plan Part 2** – the existing Liquid Logic form has been amended and now aligns with the Pathway Planning Tool. This means that the same headings are now in the form and the tool and the sections are all in the same order. We are hoping this will be easier for recording and makes more sense in terms of the flow and read across.
3. **The Liquid Logic process** – the process has been changed so that the Outcomes Form is now the start of the reviewing process and this records the assessment of need and the review of progress.
4. **The Outcomes Form** – this has been reviewed and a few changes have been made to make it more meaningful. The Pathway Planning Tool now needs to be attached to the Outcomes Form and used to update the Pathway Plan.
5. **The printing options** – these have been changed so the whole of the Pathway Plan or just the planning section can be printed off. This will make it easier to use with young people and they will be able to see the whole plan now which was not possible before.

The original purpose of this development work was to make the electronic process less 'clunky'. The aim was to help you translate what the young person has shared as part of the planning tool to ensure this is aligned with the Pathway Plan and easier to print off and review. Ultimately, the changes outline above are designed to make the process much more 'user friendly' by being more streamlined and coordinated and

able to provide greater clarity about the plan of action and the support that the young person requires moving forward. We hope you feel the benefit from these developments and that this assists you in your work with young people.

There are two further phases remaining to complete the overall development work. The first outstanding phase is to work with the Disabled Children and Young People's Service (DCYPS) to clarify how the Pathway Plan can be adapted to be fit for purpose with disabled young people who have complex additional needs. The second phase is to review whether we can merge the Pathway Plan and the Pathway Planning Tool together into one document which will make the process even more streamlined and coordinated.

There is a call out for nominations from volunteers who may want to help with these further developments. It will be important to obtain input from Care Leavers as well so please think about the young people you are supporting and check out if they are willing to assist. This next phase of development will start in mid to late January 2021 and further communication will follow about this from Vicki.

We are attaching a copy of the new and amended Liquid Logic process. Please familiarise yourself with the new form and the new process.

In terms of 'top tips', please make sure you:

- Use the Pathway Planning Tool to engage young people
- Make sure the Pathway Planning Tool is attached to the Outcomes Form
- Remember to print off the whole plan so young people can see what this looks like

The feedback from our recent 'Bright Spots' survey in relation to young people's involvement in the pathway planning process was as follows:

- 56% of care leavers said that they have been involved in their pathway planning
- 31% said that they are sometimes involved
- 7% said they are hardly ever involved ☹️
- 6% said they didn't know what a pathway plan was ☹️

There is clearly some room for improvement here so hopefully these developments will really help.

Thanks for your help to improve the way we support our Care Leavers - let's achieve great things together!

Kind regards



Gail Hancock
Interim Director (Children's Safeguarding and Care)



Vicki Luke
Head of Service (11-25 Stroud & Gloucester)