



St. Helens
Council

Children and Young People's Services

Adult Social Care and Health

**Information Leaflet Regarding the Transition of
Young People with a Disability
From Children's to Adult Social Care Services**

1. What is Transition?

Transition is a widely used term that can be applied to all young people as they move into adulthood. It covers that stage in their lives when most young people develop to become more independent. This will typically include leaving school, perhaps going on into further education, or going into employment or training, and maybe leaving home.

For some young people with special educational needs, having access to timely and comprehensive information and support prior to 18 may be enough to help them reach their goals. For other young people more support may be needed during and beyond the transition period from a range of services to enable them to reach their potential.

The period of transition in St. Helens applies to young people aged 14-25 years who have special educational needs (SEN) AND those who are also identified as being disabled or with complex health needs. This will include young people with:

- Severe learning disabilities
- Complex physical, sensory and/or social communication impairments
- Complex health needs
- Severe and enduring mental health problems

The Council has a duty to ensure appropriate educational options are available to all young people. The Education and Skills Act (2008) places a duty on all young people in England, to participate in education or training, until the age of 18. The intention is that young people will be able to participate in a way that suits them, for instance, in full time education at school, or college or through an Apprenticeship.

Transition from Children's Services to Adult Services also takes place during this time. The young person and their family/carer will be fully engaged during the transition process and will be supported to consider the longer-term options available to them. All professionals and services that support the young person will be consulted during the transition process to ensure that assessed need is met appropriately.

2. Duties Under the Care Act

The Care Act 2014 identifies the following key responsibilities for local authorities with regards to care and support for young people who 'transition' from children's services into adult social care services.

Transition assessment	A transition assessment which incorporates; a child's needs assessment, a young carer's assessment, and a child's carer's assessment if it is identified that there is a 'likely need'.
Likely need	The duty to conduct a transition assessment applies when someone is likely to have needs for care and support (or support as a carer) when they or the person they care for transitions to adult services. The transition assessment must be completed when it is of 'significant benefit'.
Significant benefit	A transition assessment must be conducted for all those who have likely needs (see above), however the timing of this assessment will depend on when it is of <i>significant benefit</i> to the young person or carer. This will generally be at the point when their needs for care and support as an adult can be predicted reasonably confidently, but will also depend on a range of other factors outlined below.

3. Significant Benefit – Factors Taken Into Account

- The stage they have reached at school and any upcoming exams;
- Whether the young person or carer wishes to enter further/higher education or training;
- Whether the young person or carer wishes to get a job when they become a young adult;
- Whether the young person is planning to move out of their parental home into their own accommodation;
- Whether the young person will have care leaver status when they become 18;
- Whether the carer of a young person wishes to remain in or return to employment when the young person leaves full time education;
- The time it may take to carry out an assessment;
- The time it may take to plan and put in place the adult care and support;
- Any relevant family circumstances;
- Any planned medical treatment.

4. Eligibility for Adult Services

All local authorities must comply with the national eligibility threshold. If a local authority has identified that an individual is eligible for services, it must meet the assessed needs.

The eligibility threshold is based on how an individual's needs might prevent them from meeting their desired outcomes and the detrimental effect that this might have on their health and wellbeing.

5. Personal Budget

Following the assessment, for those assessed as being eligible for services, a Personal Budget will be identified. The Personal Budget will be the actual cost of providing a support plan to achieve desired outcomes to meet eligible needs.

6. Support Plan

The local authority will complete a Support Plan in partnership with the service user and their carer. The individual is supported to identify the options available to meet desired outcomes. Examples of services may include a personal assistant employed using a direct payment, a care agency, respite, supported employment, group activities and supported living depending on the needs assessed.

7. Contact Numbers

Contact Centre -01744 676600

Carers Centre – 01744 675615

CWD - 01744 674196

All-Age Team – 01744 675259

CHC Team – 01744 673189

Customer Finance Team / Direct Payments Team – 01744 676204