

Report for: Joint Children and Young People and Adults and Health Scrutiny Panel, March 2019

Item number:

Title: Transitions project update

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Lead Officer: Shana Nessa, Project Manager, Transformation

Ward(s) affected: N/A

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 To provide a progress update on the developments to date and next steps of the Transitions project 'Preparing for Adulthood'.

2. Recommendations

2.1 None – the report is for information only.

3. Background information

3.1 The Preparing for Adulthood, Transitions project is part of a Transformation programme and reports to both Children's and Adult's directorates. The current project is in phase 2 and builds on the previous work programme on Transitions.

3.2 The focus of the project is in line with the key elements of reform detailed in the Care Act 2014 and the Children and Families Act 2014 in relation to preparation for adulthood. The purpose of the project has been to ensure the right pathways, support and processes are in place, with a focus on achieving better outcomes for young people with special educational needs and disabilities, learning difficulties and mental health who are moving towards adulthood. By delivering improved outcomes and by providing the right support at the right time in the right setting, the project seeks to enable improved value for money provision across Adults and Children's Services.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

4.1 The Transitions project supports the strategic direction in the Draft Borough Plan 2019-2023, that is linked to Priority 2: People and specifically Objective 6: Young people will feel prepared for adulthood.

Other outcomes this project supports are:

- "Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future"

- “All adults are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, with dignity, staying active and connected in their communities”
- “Strong communities where people look out for and care for one another”

5. Looking Back 2018

5.1 The objective for Transitions project for year 1 was to develop a seamless service between Children’s and Adult pathways, so that young people receive support before reaching adulthood, one that maximises their opportunities for independent living.

5.2 The Transitions project focused on four work areas in 2018 these include:

- Preparing for adulthood – Ensuring key processes are in place to deliver early help and support independence away from social care.
- Case management – Ensuring data reporting mechanisms are in place to support good Transitions planning
- Families and carer engagement – a focus on improving information, advice and guidance through co-production with families and professionals
- Brokerage and Commissioning – Assessing quality of services being delivered for young adults and ensuring value for money for the Council

5.3 Progress on these areas were reported via the monthly Transitions Steering Group, chaired by the Assistant Director for Adult Social Services / CYP Early Help and Prevention. The key achievements include:

- New guidance issued on the role of the Transitions panel to ensure clarity on role and responsibility of panel members
- A revised protocol developed on the process for Transitions from children’s to adult services to ensure a smooth and seamless Transition takes place
- A proposed 14-25 model of Transitions developed and awaiting implementation to ensure early referrals and assessments process is in place across the partnership
- An improved pathway offer for young people aged 16+ with low level mental health needs to access early help via the Haringey Wellbeing Network
- Secured funds from Department of Work and Pensions to deliver employment opportunities for 27 young people work with learning difficulties with our delivery partner my AFK (formerly Action For Kids)
- A Continuing Health Care pathway process for young people with complex health problems transitioning from children’s to adult services to ensure continuity of services where necessary and eligible
- Improvements to the Mosaic database to record Transitions data for young people with an Education, Health and Care plan to support strategic planning and commissioning intentions.

5.4 In addition, as part of the Families and Carers engagement workstream, a monthly Moving On co-production group was set up in January 2018 and is represented by staff, parents and local organisations. The group has developed the following:

- Enhanced the SEND Local Offer web pages to include information on post 16 choices, colleges, preparing for adulthood, news, policies and procedures and links to adult social care web content.
- Improved information on the Haringey adult social care web pages related to Transitions information and advice, housing and support.
- Developed a Moving on Tool for young people with disabilities to help find information and advice quickly
- Co-produced the Preparing for Adulthood pathways guide in print format for SEND families and professionals and this has been distributed to schools, libraries GP surgeries and community centres for families
- Strengthened the Haricare directory of services to include medical centres and community organisations not already listed
- Co-produced a survey in 2018 on how useful information on Transitions is in the borough. Group designed, surveyed and collated results that has helped shape changes made to Transitions information in Haringey
- Group helped to co-produce and collate a survey at the Transitions Event 2019 to capture service user feedback on Transitions Information.

6. Looking forward 2019

6.1 The objective for Transitions project for year 2 is to ensure that young people have a smooth transition from children's services to adult life. This will ensure they know what their personal local offer is before age 17.5, so that they can maximise their opportunities for independent living.

6.2 Year 2 of this project will concentrate on the following preparing for adulthood outcomes:

- Planning for good health and wellbeing;
- Enabling independent living in the community;
- Development of friendships and relationships in the community
- Support into employment pathways

6.3 The project exclusions are:

- Young people not known to children's services
- Adults aged 25+
- Development of systems and processes that underpin brokerage and the use of direct payments

6.4 The key deliverables are:

- Better information sharing between Children's and Adult services in relation to Transitions cohort for next five years
- To hold a joint Transitions Event with Adults and Children's services for young people with SEND and their families.
- To develop a new model of transitions for young people aged 14-25
- To ensure young people not eligible for adult pathways are identified at the age of 16 and that they are signposted appropriately to community services or employment pathways
- To ensure young people know what their local offer is before the age of 17.5
- To develop clear referral pathways that will enable continuity of services for people eligible for adult services
- To develop clear pathways and referral processes for people with mental health needs
- To develop clear pathways people not eligible for adult services i.e. employment support
- To ensure new processes for Continuing Health Care (CHC) pathways are implemented so that assessments take place before the age of 18
- To ensure Transitions panels for SEND and mental health are aligned to deliver optimum benefits
- To co-produce an up to date Transitions Policy
- To oversee that information and advice on preparation for adulthood is available in a variety of formats
- To engage with internal stakeholder to ensure accurate management information is available to support strategic planning and commissioning intentions
- To develop proposals for a 0-25 model of transitions

7. Transitions event 2019

- 7.1 In January 2019 Adult's and Children's services jointly held a Transitions event at Tottenham Leisure Centre. This was attended by the respective Directors of services and Members for Children's and Adults and Health services who launched the [Preparing for Adulthood Pathway Guide 2019](#). The event was held to support young people and their families with post 16 options and was attended by more than 47 parents/carers and 20 professionals. Attendees also had access to 17 information and advice stalls made up of community, health and council support services. Families appreciated being able to network with those in similar situations and to speak with professionals about the things that matter to them.
- 7.2 Feedback from the Transitions event has been captured and will help shape future events and inform gaps on Transitions information.

8. Next steps

- 8.1 The Transitions project will continue to work on the deliverables outlined in 6.4 which continues to report to Children's and Adult's services.

9. Statutory Officers comments

8.1 Finance

There are no immediate financial implications arising directly from this report.

8.2 Legal

There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

10. Use of Appendices

None

11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

None