

# **Children's and Adults Scrutiny Panel**

**10th June 2025**

**Update on Transitions and Preparing our Young  
People for Adulthood (PfA)**

# **Transitions Service – Phase 1**

**Update on Transitions and Preparing our  
Young People for Adulthood**

# The Transitions Service

The **Haringey Integrated Transitions Service** supports vulnerable young people (14-25) as they transition to adulthood. **This is an initiative to improve outcomes for young people.**

This builds on Haringey's 'Preparation for Adulthood Strategy'.

**The cohort of children and young adults identified to be supported by the Team are those**

- With Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- With Physical Disabilities
- With Learning Difficulties
- With Mental Health support needs

**And including**

- Children in Care and Care Leavers
- Young adults who are neurodivergent and
- Vulnerable young adults who may not meet statutory thresholds

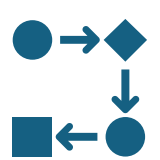
# Setting up of the Transitions Service – 2024/25



Following the programme's initiation in April 2024, the Transitions Service commenced its set up phase.



The service **filled the 6 roles in the Assessment Team**, with the final officer taking up post in February 2025. A summary of their work in 2024/25 is provided in the following slide.



The Programme Team was also **fully recruited**, and they will provide project management support to the Head of Service for Transitions in the coming years, to secure the required objectives to achieve wider system change.

# Training and Best Practice



With the new Transitions Service being formed over the course of 2024/25, the social workers and staff within the team attended a total of **35 training sessions** to develop their insight and practise.



Alongside SEND, the Transitions Programme organised for **Preparation for Adulthood Training Sessions** for colleagues from across the Children's Directorate. This focused upon alignment between services and achieving outcomes based upon children and young people's aspirations.

# Case Study from 2024/25

## Overview of Case

This young person came into care at a young age and has received a diagnosis of personality disorder. During their time in care, this young person experienced a significant amount of instability owing to multiple placement breakdowns, and they have expressed that they find starting relationships with new professionals and services challenging.

Areas of assessed risks for this young persons are:

- Safer sex support
- Mental health deterioration
- Homelessness
- Financial exploitation
- Sexual exploitation

A transitional safeguarding approach was required as was the need to identify a suitable and safe placement to meet her longer-term needs.

In the financial year 2023/24, her placement was costing Children's Services £126,730 per annum. This young person absconded from their placement in the latter half of the financial year 2024/25. Once the young person re-engaged with services, the Transitions Service were able to facilitate a timely and effective move to Adult's Social Care.

## Achieving a successful transition

The service continued to work on the young person's transition and was able to secure a new placement with a supported accommodation provider, costing is £645 per week, £33,540 per year. Over a year this is a reduction of £93,190 from their children's placement.

She is now settled in her new placement, and services have been provided to support a reduction of risks of harm, as well as build skills necessary for managing well in adulthood.

With support, she is working towards these goals:

- Maintaining and managing my nutrition
- Maintain personal hygiene and mental health
- Supporting me to be appropriately clothed
- Maintaining a habitable home environment including managing finances
- Developing and maintaining family or other personal relationships including risk of exploitation
- Accessing & engaging in work, training, and education
- Making use of necessary facilities or services in the local community

# Parent Feedback

I'd like to share my recent experience so far with the Transitions Team. I've been very impressed with the communication relating to my child's transition into adulthood. My first contact was a home visit with a social worker and a nurse. They had read up on X and were both very well informed before our meeting (in my experience that's rare). This gave me confidence immediately and I felt reassured that they were there not only to support X but to support all of us as a family.

The social worker then conducted a carers assessment with empathy and understanding. She also referred my younger child to the young carers team.

The social worker's communication has been constant since our meeting and she has replied to any questions I've presented swiftly and concisely. I was very anxious about the whole transition and I feel so much better about the process. We still have a long way to go but I'm feeling confident.

# Group Membership



As standard for a Children's Programme, the **governance structure** includes a Full Steering Board, a Strategic Operational Group, and 5 dedicated workstreams.



The membership of each group provides the programme with insight and direction from relevant levels of council officers, with **strategic scrutiny** from Corporate Directors in the Programme Board, **oversight and direction** of delivery from Directors in the Strategic Operational Group, and **service level planning and implementation** in the workstreams.



# Governance across Children's Service and Adult Social Care including Preparation for Adulthood (PfA)

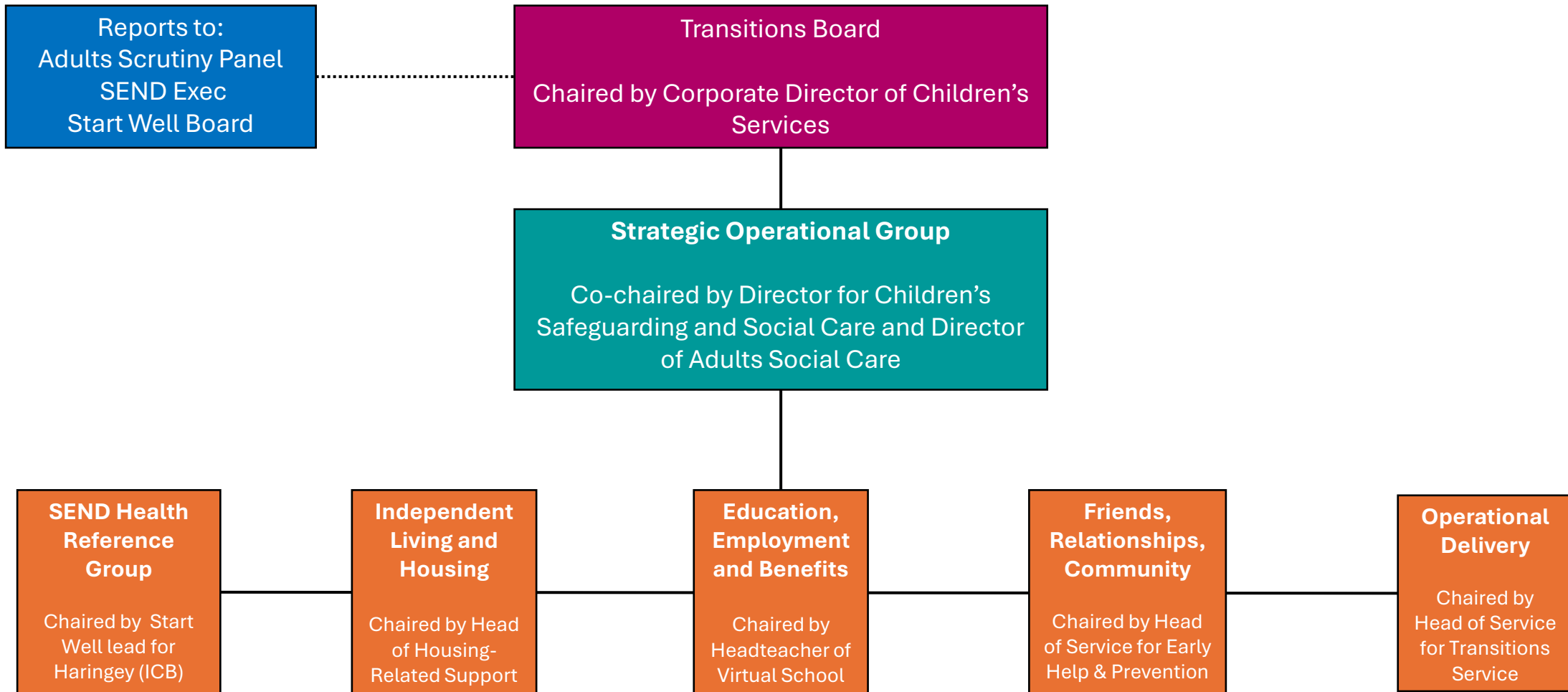
**Weekly SEN  
Panel – chaired by  
Children's  
Services - ASC  
Locality Managers  
in attendance**

**Monthly  
Transition Panel –  
chaired by ASC  
Service Manager**

**Six-weekly  
Transitions  
Operational  
Group – co-  
chaired by  
Directors in  
Children's  
Services and ASC**

**Six-weekly  
Transitions Board –  
chaired by Corporate  
Director of  
Children's Services**

# Group Membership – Organogram



# Key Headlines Areas of focus on workstreams

SEND Health Reference Group	Independent Living and Housing	Education, Employment and Benefits	Friends, Relationships, Community	Operational Delivery
<p>Focus is transitions pathways for CAMHS to Adults Mental Health Services, Learning Difficulties and Disabilities, Health and Neurodevelopmental Conditions</p> <p>Mapping work is ongoing to identify key pathways and processes where there are multiple funding streams</p>	<p>The mapping of services associated with Independent Living has commenced</p> <p>A needs and gap analysis has commenced</p> <p>Data sharing for housing to plan future need</p>	<p>Needs and gap analysis completed to inform priorities</p> <p><a href="#">Increased SEND Supported Internships (45)</a></p> <p>More young people and young adults with SEND are being supported into employment: our <a href="#">Haringey Works</a>.</p>	<p>Elevated Youth influencing service design, delivery and involved in recruitment of leaders.</p> <p>Directory of community services developed</p> <p>Opportunities to be involved in Haringey Borough of Culture 2027</p> <p>Partnership work with young people, parents and carers and key stakeholders eg) Council and Elevated Youth</p>	<p>Coproduction with parents/carers and children/young people has taken place</p> <p>Developing Transitions webpage, service name, and service launch</p> <p>Developing a suite of policies, procedures and guidance documents</p>

The workstreams are in the process of being reviewed by Directors from Children and Adults services to inform future planning and priorities for PfA that are wider than SEND : [SEND preparation for adulthood action plan 2022 to 2024](#)

# Co-Production – 2024/25



The programme is founded on a commitment to ensuring the processes of transitioning to Adult's Services are designed **alongside parents, carers and young people**.



Therefore, SEND Power and their designated Parent Carer Representatives currently attend the Operational Delivery workstream meeting. This allows relevant groups to **give their view** on the progress of service design and **provide updates** to their wider networks. Adults Social Care also have co-production opportunities through the Commissioning Co-production Board, Carers Co-production Group and Learning Disabilities Carers Forum for example.



The Transitions Programme has also engaged with members of the **Service User Council, Elevated Youth** and the **Aspire Council**. Plans for further co-production work is outlined in Phase 2 of the programme.

# Co-Production – Next Steps



The Programme will continue to **work collaboratively** with parents and carers within workstreams, with dedicated events for specific elements of service design – this work will be done jointly with Adults, Health, Housing and Inclusive Economy and the voluntary and community sector.



The Transitions Team will work to constructively engage with the array of **young people's bodies and representatives**, bringing together the viewpoints of young people from across the needs and experiences of the Transitions cohort. Including expanding engagement through ASC co-production structures where appropriate.



The Programme Team also aim to engage parents and carers from the **full spectrum** of those providing care to a young person, such as parents in the wider community, wider family networks, foster carers and special guardians.

# Savings and KPIs – 2024/25



As the team was being established by autumn 2024, they began to take on allocations and the assessment activity commenced. In the financial year 2024/25, the new service saw **37 cases allocated** within the team and completed **26 Care Act assessments**. Of these, **12 support plans** were fully signed off in 2024/25. The remaining assessments are in the process of being completed this financial year.



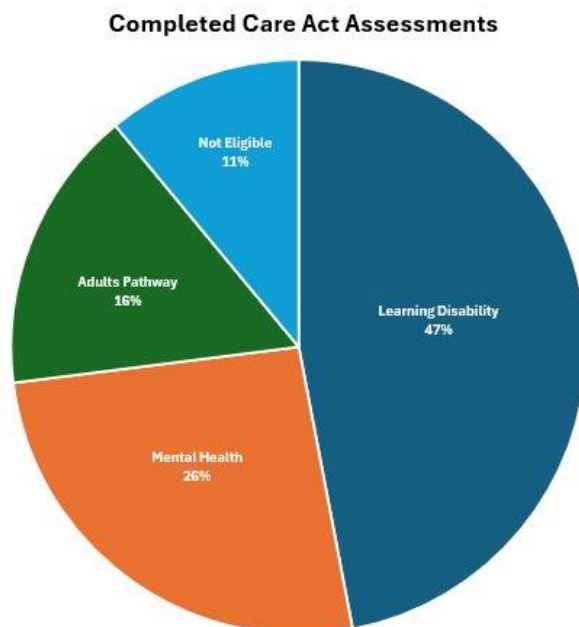
The team also completed **5** carers assessments, **4** Continuing Healthcare checklists, and **5** Mental Capacity Act assessments.



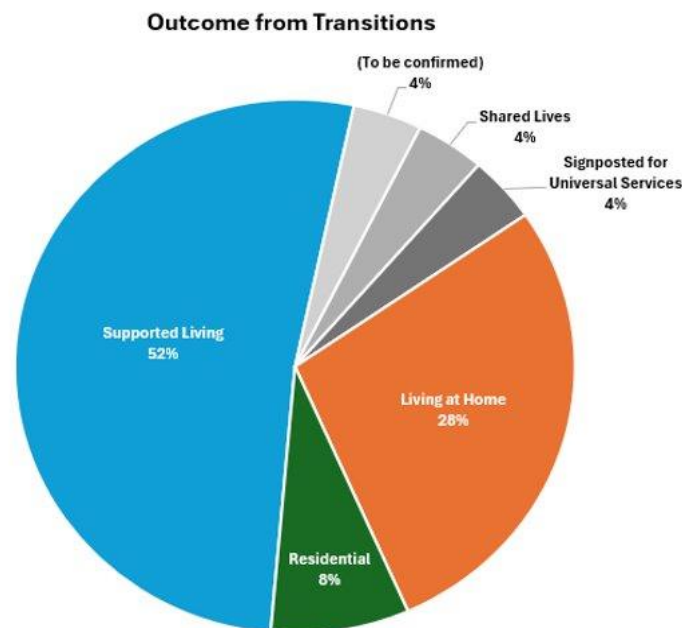
Through undertaking these assessments, the new service was able to achieve **£317k of savings**.

# Savings and KPIs – 2024/25 (continued)

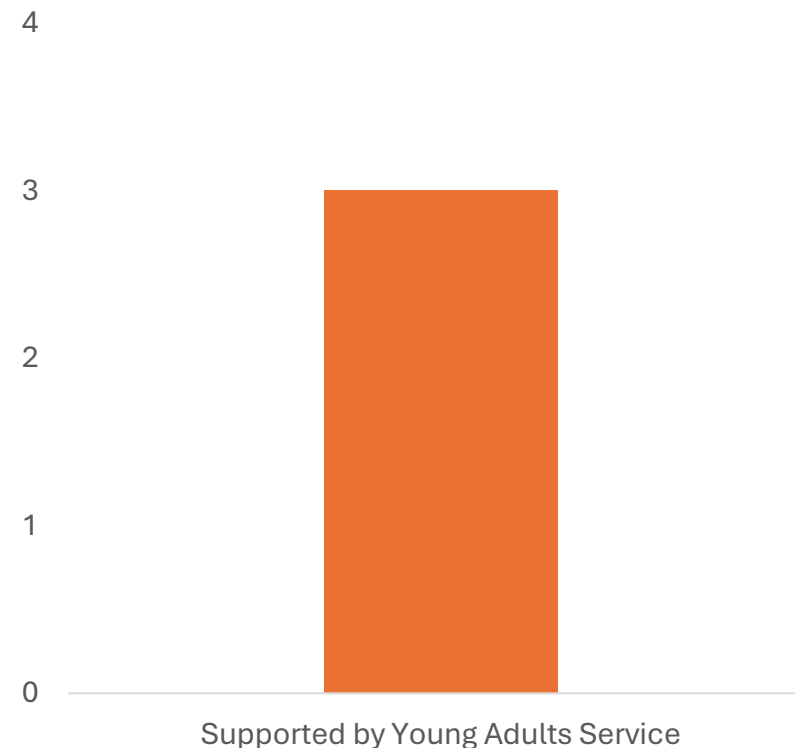
## Care Act Assessments Outcomes:



## Housing Outcomes:



## Outcomes for those who did not meet threshold (3 total):



# **Housing and Transitions**

**Update on Transitions and Preparing our  
Young People for Adulthood**



# Working in partnership to prevent homelessness

## **Corporate Parenting Pledge – a Joint Protocol between Housing and Children’s Services**

**‘Corporate parenting’ refers to the collective responsibility of the Council, elected Members, employees and partner agencies for providing the best possible care and safeguarding for children who are looked after by the Council. A child in the care of the Council looks to the whole Council to be the best parent it can be. Every Member and employee of the Council and partner agencies has the statutory responsibility to act for that child in the same way that a good parent would act for their child.**

Haringey Council take our role as corporate parents very seriously.  
This pledge is incorporated in the joint protocol between Housing and Children’s  
Services for Care Leavers.

The joint protocol is reviewed and re-signed annually.

## **Housing Related Support Mission Statement:**

**We exist to create meaningful, lasting impact by embedding our core values into everything we do.**

**Guided by confidence, empowerment, and collaboration, we work across teams, sectors, and communities to support growth, inclusion, and positive change.**

**We are committed to accountability and adaptability, ensuring our actions are responsible and responsive to the evolving needs of those we serve.**

**With equity at the forefront, we challenge inequality and champion fairness for all.**

**Rooted in hope and optimism, we believe in the potential for recovery, progress, and better outcomes. We act with courage and boldness, embracing difficult conversations and decisions to do what's right.**

**Through continuous learning and shared leadership, we nurture every voice, foster growth at every level, and strive together for a more just, empowered, and connected future.**

# Commissioning Supported Housing Services



Our Housing Related Support Commissioning Team are currently re-tendering the **Young People's Pathway**, with a view to commission accommodation services for up to 46 people at any one time, in a range of specialist young people's housing services.

These services provide young people with a safe and secure environment in which they are empowered to develop independent living skills, engage in or continue education training or employment and develop positive relationships and to enable them to integrate successfully into the local community.

These services include:

- A Generic Mixed YP accommodation service for 18–25-year-olds
- An Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Minors service for 18–25-year-olds
- A Housing First for Care Leavers service for 18–25-year-olds

# Commissioning Supported Housing Services

We are also introducing a **Local Housing and Support Offer** aimed at young people with SEND as they transition to adulthood.

This draft protocol sets out clear roles, responsibilities, and timelines for coordinated support, ensuring young people have safe, stable housing and the right wraparound care as they move into greater independence. It's designed to be implemented across services, with a focus on early planning, person-centred outcomes, and smooth transitions.



## **Existing services which would be suitable for YP transitioning to adulthood:**

- A young person's LGBTQ+ Accommodation Service for 18–25-year-olds
- Universal Floating Support 18+
- KIDVA – Children's Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- Mental Health Accommodation service 18+
- Advice and guidance services i.e. Citizens Advice
- LD Floating support 18+
- High Low Needs Mixed 24 Hour and Floating Support for clients with some ASC needs 18+

# Supported Housing Case Study



## Overview of Case – Young Women's Only Service

Young Adult A, who is a care leaver, entered HRS Young Women's Only service, in 2022. Shortly after moving in the following risks were observed:

- Sexual exploitation
- Substance use
- Mental health with emerging signs of psychosis
- Peripheral gang association via family members

Gang associated risks triggered ongoing volatile interaction with another resident raising concerns for A's safety on site. With increased risk around sex working, leading to safeguarding alerts being raised by both the police and the support provider.

Subsequently, Young Adult A placed her tenancy at risk by refusing to allow the landlord access to carry out gas safety inspections. This led to an eviction notice being issued.

During this time, the support provider became aware a warrant had been issued for Young Adult A's arrest. Regular MDT meetings led to wrap around support being implemented. The team around the YP, agreed Young Adult A showed possible signs of LD and was likely overwhelmed by the current situation regarding the need to attend court coupled with the need to address the eviction notice. The wrap around support team consisted of YAS social worker, the support provider, ASC, Probation, and HRS Commissioning. With intense support being delivered, an eviction was avoided.

## Successful Move on into Housing First Provision

Using a trauma informed approach Young Adult A was supported to access accommodation via YAS quota. This enabled her to be transferred over to HRS Housing First for Care Leaver service, which supports complex needs clients to sustain their tenancies in the community.

Between Feb 2022 -March 2025 (when Young Adult A moved out of the women only service), HRS supported accommodation provision afforded a saving to YAS of £25,146 per annum.

As Young Adult A continues to access HRS services via Housing First for Care leavers, HRS supported housing continues to offer a savings to YAS of £23,272 per annum.

## Summary

HRS continues to strengthen our approach to commissioning effective, value for money services and work towards further bringing down costs:

- All services we commission are delivered locally in Haringey, supporting YP in their local communities
- Block purchasing of contracts helps keep costs down
- HRS providers are RSLs or charities with a social mission, which is a big contrast to some more expensive, privately run semi-independent options
- There is a potential option to internally deliver Housing First schemes for care leavers/YP transitioning using acquired properties via Grace Crawford - Capital Project and Properties Team.

# Supporting Transitions: Preventing Homelessness



Enabled a record number of care leavers to be rehoused,  
**massively exceeding the 66 target by 43 lets in 24/25**



Haringey has historically seen very low numbers of young people  
or care leavers sleeping rough



We currently have 32 care leavers in the Pathway aged 18-25  
This is an increase from a total of 34 in 2023/24



Those in supported accommodation services are offered  
personalised support that is tailored to their individual need

# Supporting Transitions: Increasing Social Lets

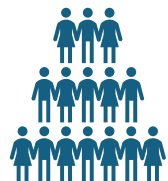
Providing safe and stable accommodation & security of tenure enables young adults who are care experienced and have support needs to have a stable foundation to pursue their goals



We completed **2.6 times (162% increase)**  
**more lets to general needs properties** in 24/25 than 23/24



We have **reduced average waiting times** for 3 bed and under



The number of homelessness households rehoused into social housing **more than doubled** from 152 in 2023/24 to 382

# Haringey Council Bespoke Housing Delivery Programme



# Why do we need a Bespoke Housing Programme?

**With our current housing stock (Band A&B) we have a total of 81 households waiting for Wheelchair Accessible properties**

**We also have a total of 96 households on the waiting list for Level Access properties**

**Many families and individuals placed out of borough due to not having suitable properties in portfolio**

**From our current Programme of 3,000 new Council homes more than 300 will be adaptable and suitable for the Bespoke Homes Programme**

# Aims of the Bespoke Homes Programme

First Bespoke Home in N15 occupied in December 2021 by a young man who was a disabled care leaver.

To date 52 Bespoke Allocations have been made and tenants have been and are being provided with new, adapted, accommodation in Nilgun Canver Court ,Walter Tull House, Hale Wharf and Rowan Court. The Bespoke Homes Programme will provide 300 new, adapted homes by 2031 to Band A tenants and their families a significant number of whom will be care leavers and young adults going through transition.

# Why the increase?

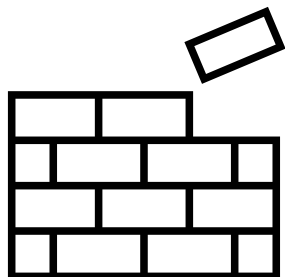
Ageing population

Medical  
advancement

Financial  
challenges

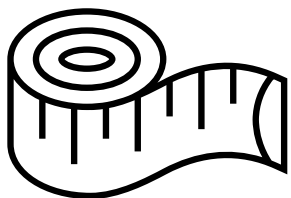
Out of Borough  
placements  
<increased costs  
for council.

Every 20mins a child  
is born who will grow  
up to have additional  
support needs



## Housing Development Programme

We can build to **our** standards, needs and specifications in order to provide life-long housing for a variety of families that are unable to get their needs met elsewhere in the housing market



## Tailored for our needs

We can build to **our** standards, needs and specifications in order to provide life-long housing for a variety of families that are unable to get their needs met elsewhere in the housing market



## A home not a unit

We can reduce the cost of housing families outside of the borough and bring them back home to be closer to their family, friends and local support networks...reducing isolation! Providing independence

How can this is  
achieved?



# Steps to their home allocation



## **Matching exercise**

New  
opportunities  
register



## **Possible Household & property matches shared with site PM**

Design Concept  
stage – make PM  
aware site may  
have allocation &  
Lead Professional  
(LP) contacted



## **OT Housing Assessment of household**

Assessments to  
be no more than  
three years old

# Steps to their home allocation



**Discussion held  
with family**

To be organised  
by LP



**Information  
shared with site  
PM**

Design specific  
information  
shared with PM



**If agreed – official  
allocation made**

Develop pre-planning  
drawing including  
Occupational  
Therapist (OT)  
recommendations –  
OT to attend meeting

# Steps to their home allocation



**LP to update  
family at key  
stages**

To be decided  
between PM & LP



**Once onsite and  
safe – Family visit  
to be booked**

Visit organised  
between site PM  
and LP



**Helping person(s)  
imagine themselves  
in property**



# Moving Day!



# **Employment and Transitions**

**Update on Transitions and Preparing our  
Young People for Adulthood**

# Supported Internships Project - Update



Since the project's inception from 2022 as part of the Safety Valve Programme, the number of supported internship placements has increased from 6 to 45 in the current financial year (including pre-supported internships).



Currently Haringey has 30 supported internships and 15 pre-supported internship placements occupied by Haringey young people with an EHCP. Of the previous internship cohorts, 6 residents have moved into paid employment.



There has been increased access to a range of Supported Internships across Haringey's colleges, including CONEL, using a collaborative approach to identify young people in secondary schools and colleges to help them gain the life skills as part of preparing for adulthood.



As part of the Safety Valve Programme, the Project has a savings target of £558k in costs attached.

# Haringey Works

- The council's employment support service based in Wood Green Library supporting residents 18-25 into good work paying at least London Living Wage
- Young adults are supported with careers advice, CV writing, application support, interview preparation, work placements and group sessions

Young Adults Outcomes 2024-25			
Age	Registrations	Into Employment	Disability
16-18	54	6	0
19-24	208	83	17

# Proposed Haringey Works Offer

- Weekly presence in Children's Services Office / Adult Services
- Employability workshops tailored to young people / Job Clubs
- NEET 18-24 Upskilling GLA Funded: construction, health & social care, creative industries
- Youth DWP (June) Young adults with multiple barriers / criminal activity
- Connect to Work (July) Supporting back into work for those with poor physical and mental health
- Council-based unpaid work placements
- Joint planning with Personal Advisors and Transitions colleagues
- Earlier engagement and targeted interventions for 16–18 year olds
- Expanding supported internships and tasters for SEND
- Better tracking of needs including disability and care experience

# **Transitions Service – Phase 2**

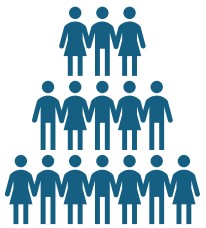
**Next Steps on Transitions and Preparing our  
Young People for Adulthood**

# Multi-Disciplinary Team



This financial year, the service will expand to include further positions, that will provide the service with practitioners from an **array of disciplinary approaches** to fully meet the needs of the cohorts requiring transitions preparation and support.

The roles to be recruited are:



- Mental Health Practitioner
- Educational Mental Health Practitioner
- Mental Health Occupational Therapist
- Mental Health Key Worker



As well as supporting those who meet Adults Services thresholds, this multi-disciplinary team will also offer support to those **who do not meet** these thresholds and are then sign-posted for further support.

# Savings and KPIs – 2025/26



In the coming financial year, the Transitions Service has been set the target of completing **50 Care Act Assessments** for the identified cohorts.



This is accompanied with a target of **£1.5m** worth of savings.



The Programme Team are currently in the process of writing **Project Initiation Documents** to cover each workstream area, and these will provide specific objectives and targets for the workstreams to deliver.



# Next steps on Transitions and PfA (1)

**Improved dataset  
which supports planning  
and forecasting – S117  
and Continuing Health  
Care for children with  
complex health needs**

**Establishing consistency in  
language in reports to  
support accurate planning**

**Broker and Negotiator  
roles required**

**Monthly financial  
forecasting across  
Children's/Adults (and  
Health)**

**Management of risk  
across directorates and  
with Health (including  
Mental Health)**

**Robust outward facing  
and co-produced  
Information and Advice  
on Transitions**

**Whole system co-  
production with  
parent/carers and with  
young people**

# Next steps on Transitions and PfA (2)



**Partners in Health and Care Review of Transitions – reviewing pathways, processes, policies and practice**



**Review of existing governance around Transitions and PfA**



**Strategic and operational engagement with Health/ICB**



**Collaboration with NCL Local Authorities to benchmark our progress and understand best practice**



**To work collaboratively across the Council, with Health, with the VCS and with our families, carers and young people to establish a Transitions Task Force**

# Glossary

PfA = Preparing for Adulthood

SEND = Special Education Needs and Disabilities

KPIs = key performance indicators

CAMHS = Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

ICB = Integrated Care Board

HRS = Housing Related Support

MDT = multidisciplinary team

LD = learning disability

ASC = Adult Social Care

YAS = Young Adults Service