

Report for:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee on February 6 th 2012	Item number	
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Title:	Progress update on the recommendations made in the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Transition from Children's to Adults Services
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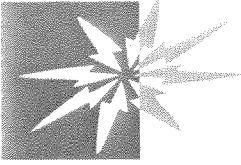
Report authorised by:	Mun Thong Phung, Director of Adult and Housing Services; and Libby Blake, Director of Children's Services <i>pp Phung</i> <i>LIBBY BLAKE</i>
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Lead Officer:	Lisa Redfern, Deputy Director, Adult and Community Services Telephone: 0208 489 2324 Email address: Lisa.redfern@haringey.gov.uk Debbie Haith, Deputy Director, Children and Families Telephone: 0208 489 1496 Email : Debbie.haith@haringey.gov.uk <i>Debbie Haith</i>
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Ward(s) affected: All	Report for: Non Key Decision:
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1. Describe the issue under consideration

To provide an update on the recommendations made in the Scrutiny Review of Transition from Children's to Adults Service in February 2010 and the Cabinet response in April 2010.



2. Cabinet Member Introduction

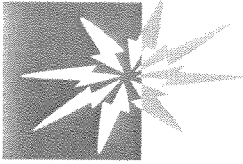
I welcome the opportunity to update on the recommendations contained in the Scrutiny Review of Transition from Children's service to Adult services carried out in 2010.

The report recognises that Haringey has a well established multi-agency approach to transition planning involving young people and their parents/carers, education and health professionals. The work of the My Service @ 18 strategic planning group and the multi-agency approach to implementation of the work plan has also resulted in significant progress being made with regards to the transition process for young people and their families.

Of particular note are the following outcomes:-

- Annual information evenings and annual Opportunities Fair for parents /carers of young people;
- Development of transition policy, protocols and pathways which aim to clarify the process, roles and responsibilities in order to enable a smooth transition to Adult Services for young people with disabilities who are currently supported by the Children and Young People's Service;
- Provision in place for young people with complex needs who left school in July 2011 and timely assessments planned for young people due to leave school in July 2012;
- Annual work experience programme in place for young people in residential placements outside London to enable them to prepare for transition back to Haringey;
- Increase in the number of young people with complex needs accessing a wide range of cross centre courses at Haringey 6th centre;
- Group of young people with disabilities contributing to the recruitment of staff within the Additional Needs and Disabilities Service;
- Two young people in transition received recognition for their hard work at the Children in Care Awards ceremony in October; and
- The National Transition Support programme recognised the significant progress made by the Council in improving transition arrangements based on the self-assessments completed over three years of the programme.

The report contained 19 recommendations. Our update to the individual recommendations in the Overview and Scrutiny report is outlined in Appendix 1.



3. Recommendations

That Overview and Scrutiny Committee note and agree the update found in Appendix 1.

4. Other options considered

Not Applicable.

5. Background information

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee commissioned a task and finish review into the transition of young people with assessed needs, from children's services to adult services in Haringey as part of their 2009/10 work programme.

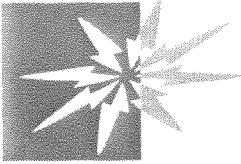
Prior to this Haringey's Children and Young People and Adults' Services identified the need to further improve transition for young people with Additional Needs, Learning Disabilities and other Disabilities, including young people with special educational needs but without a statement, young people with mental health difficulties and young people leaving care. There was also a recognition that greater emphasis also needs to be placed on the key roles young people and their families, separately and jointly have in this agenda.

In 2010 "My Service at 18" was established as a joint strategic transition planning group between the Children & Young People Services and Adults Learning Partnership. Up to this point each Directorate had its own strategic group with some representation from the Directorates on each. The new strategic group comprises wide representatives from Statutory and voluntary services, parents and providers. The group identified four work streams to take forward developments, namely:

- Needs analysis of young people in transition;
- Development of transition protocols procedures and pathways;
- Promote social inclusion and personalisation; and
- Information participation and inclusion.

The group also led on taking forward the recommendation of the 2010 Overview and Scrutiny Report. The group reports to The Disabilities Forum and to the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board.

There is a web of law, regulation and guidance affecting practice. The key points are outlined here, with hyperlinks to websites for further information.



5.1 The Transition Support Programme

The Transition Support Programme is a three year national government programme, running between 2008 and 2011. It was developed to support work on improving practice on all aspects of the transition to adulthood for disabled young people and their families. It is part of a wider government programme called Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC), which is transforming local services in England for all disabled children, young people and their families.

5.2A Transition Guide for all Services (DH, 2007)

This document provides good practice guidance on the roles, responsibilities and duties for all service providers working with disabled young people (including those with complex health needs) through their transition to adulthood. The content in the guide is drawn from a wide range of contributors and does not necessarily reflect the views of either the Council for Disabled Children, the Department for Children, Schools and Families or the Department of Health, however, it aims to provide a comprehensive map of the requirements, expectations and current good practice on transition at local level.

5.3 Transition: getting it right for young people, (DH, 2006)

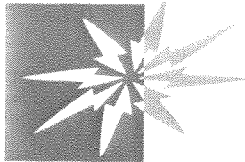
This good practice guide aims to show that the handover should be planned and managed as a process, for which the term “transition” is more appropriate. The guide suggests how this can best be accomplished in the context of the evidence base and suggests a definition of transition as follows.

5.4 Prioritising need in the context of *Putting People First: A whole system approach to eligibility for social care*

This guidance is issued under section 7(1) of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 and replaces Fair access to care services - guidance on eligibility criteria for adult social care which was issued in 2003. The aim of the revised guidance is to support fairness, transparency and consistency of application and to reflect the increased focus on personalisation and prevention as set out in Putting People First.

6. Comments of the Chief Financial Officer and Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations and any costs that do occur will be contained within existing resources. The implementation of the recommendations will need to be carefully monitored to ensure that any future impacts are picked up and dealt with if they arise.



7. Head of Legal Services and Legal Implications

There does not appear to be any legal implications arising from this update of the progress of putting into place the recommendations for June 2010.

8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

An Equalities screening of the Transition policy developed in 2010 concluded the following:

This Policy and its implementation must be compliant with Haringey Council's Equal Opportunities Policy 2008 and the Equality Act 2010 from its implementation on 1 October 2010.

Local authorities have a legal duty to challenge discrimination and prejudice, and to work with partners to improve equality of opportunity, particularly for those who are most disadvantaged. Understanding the needs and the differences in younger people with disabilities as they transition to adulthood is vital to making the best decisions and best use of resources.

It was also recommended that all transition processes must be reviewed to ensure compliance with the Equality Act 2010 across the nine protected characteristics* of:

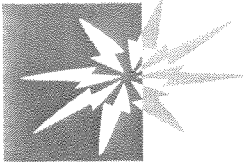
- Age;
- Disability;
- Gender reassignment;
- Marriage and civil partnership;
- Pregnancy and maternity;
- Race;
- Religion and belief;
- Sex; and
- Sexual orientation.

Information

Information must be given in a format that they can understand as be part of the young person's transition process.

Disability

To give appropriate support, all users should be provided with information in a format that they understand. For example people with learning disabilities should be supported to make decisions about care they will be given. Many individuals who might have considerable



cognitive impairment can make meaningful decisions if the options are explained to them appropriately, clearly explaining the advantages and disadvantages of each option.

Community languages

Young People who need it must be provided with information in community languages either through an interpreter or in written form.

Summary of actions to ensure Equality
Review transition processes to ensure compliance with Equality Act
Ensure information about transition is available in appropriate formats

9. Head of Procurement Comments

Not Applicable.

10. Policy Implications

Adult and Community Services Council Plan Priorities are:

- Encouraging lifetime well-being at home, work, play and learning;
- Promoting Independent living while supporting adults and children in need; and
- Delivering excellent customer focused cost effective services.

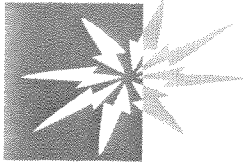
Children and young People's Service Priorities are:

- Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life - ensuring all children make good progress from conception to 3 years to improve outcomes at age 5;
- Reducing inequalities; and
- Ensuring children, young people and their families access services in a timely and appropriate manner.

Full council Plan Priorities can be found on the left hand side of the page at <http://harinet.haringey.gov.uk/index.htm>.

11. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 - Recommendations and update; and
Appendix 2 - Transition Policy.



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12. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

The following section lists the links that set the local context relevant to the policy:

1. Transition Children to Adults (A Review by the Haringey Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee, March 2010);
2. Priorities of Haringey's Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2016;
3. Haringey Council Priority A Healthy, Caring Haringey; and
4. Well-being Strategic Framework Outcomes and Objectives (Objectives 1, 3, and 4).

