

# Preparing for Adulthood Scrutiny Board 14 November 2022



MIDDLESBROUGH  
**CHILDREN**  
M A T T E R



**Our mission is to show  
Middlesbrough children  
that they matter.**

# Preparing for Adulthood - The Middlesbrough Way

## *Children & Relationships First*

**The message in this presentation is that this is everyone's business**

**Stronger Families Service**

**SEND & Inclusion Service**

**Children with Disabilities Service**

**Children Looked After and Pathways Service**

**Virtual School; Education and Schools**

**Youth Offending Service**

**NHS North of England Commissioning Support Unit**

**Adult Social Care**

**Integrated Support Solutions – e.g. Substance Misuse**

# Preparing for Adulthood – Stronger Families & EET

## Stronger Families

- Identify children/young people and families who would benefit from early help
- Undertake an assessment of the need for early help
- Provide targeted early help services to address the assessed needs of a child and their family which focuses on activity to improve the outcomes for the child
- Where necessary referred into adult services prior to 18 years old for preparation for adulthood
- Youth provision works with SEND young people up to 25 yrs

## EET Team

- Support young people 16-18 years into education training and employment
- Post 18 are allocated into support workers caseloads
- Young people with EHCPs and care leavers are supported until they are 25 years old

# Preparing for Adulthood – SEND & Inclusion



Have a clear plan of delivery, through the Inclusion and Specialist Support Strategic Plan, to ensure that the 'Preparation for Adulthood' vision and outcomes as identified within the SEND Code of Practice are achieved

Key areas of focus for PfA are:

- Increasing the range of pathways and post-16 opportunities, including Supported Internships and Enterprise
- Improving and increasing the number of employment and independence opportunities
- Improving provision planning and transition to adulthood
- Ensuring that the voice of the child/young person is central to what we do, with coproduction at the heart
- Embedding PfA fully across the whole 0-25 Education, Health and Care system
- Ensuring there are robust policies and procedures in place which facilitate a smooth transition to adulthood for all children and young people

# Preparing for Adulthood – Children with Disabilities



**Children with Disabilities Service** there are 2 Social Work Teams and 1 Short Break Team

**Capacity Assessments** many of our Children with Disabilities will have to have a capacity assessment to ascertain if they can make their own decisions as adults and we work closely with parents; the young person and courts to meet their needs and rights

**We have to work closely with:**

**Adult Social Care** We work closely with adult care colleagues and our young people are presented to their “transitions panel” at the earliest opportunity. Adult social workers are usually allocated at least 6 months before the young persons 18 birthday so that their transfer to adult care is seamless

**Lead Health Professional** Young People with a disability will have an assessment to ascertain if their needs are Health or Social Care. If the outcome is Health a Lead Professional from Health is appointed to work with the Children with Disabilities Social Worker. At 18 years old they will close to Children's Social Worker and will not be open to an Adult Social worker

**Their needs are the same as any other young adult; i.e. SAFE; SECURE; HAPPY; A Good Home; Employment; Education or Training; People who care and a good support network around them**

# Preparing for Adulthood – Pathways Service



- Legal status/ rights and entitlements/Care Leavers Offer
- Voice / Care Leavers Forum/Advocacy
- Education/training/Employment
- Housing options
- Health Passport
- Social Support – Staying Close – Staying Put
- Planning

# Preparing for Adulthood – Teeswide

- Teeswide LPS implementation group as well as liaising with the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Manager (Adult Social Care) and the Legal department
- Tees Transitions document which follows national guidance in place
- A forum has been created to support young people who have been exploited aged 17.5 years
- System in place for the Police to inform the LA of people who go missing of all ages, and then an internal system to pass those over the age of 18 to adult Social Care

## **Current priorities**

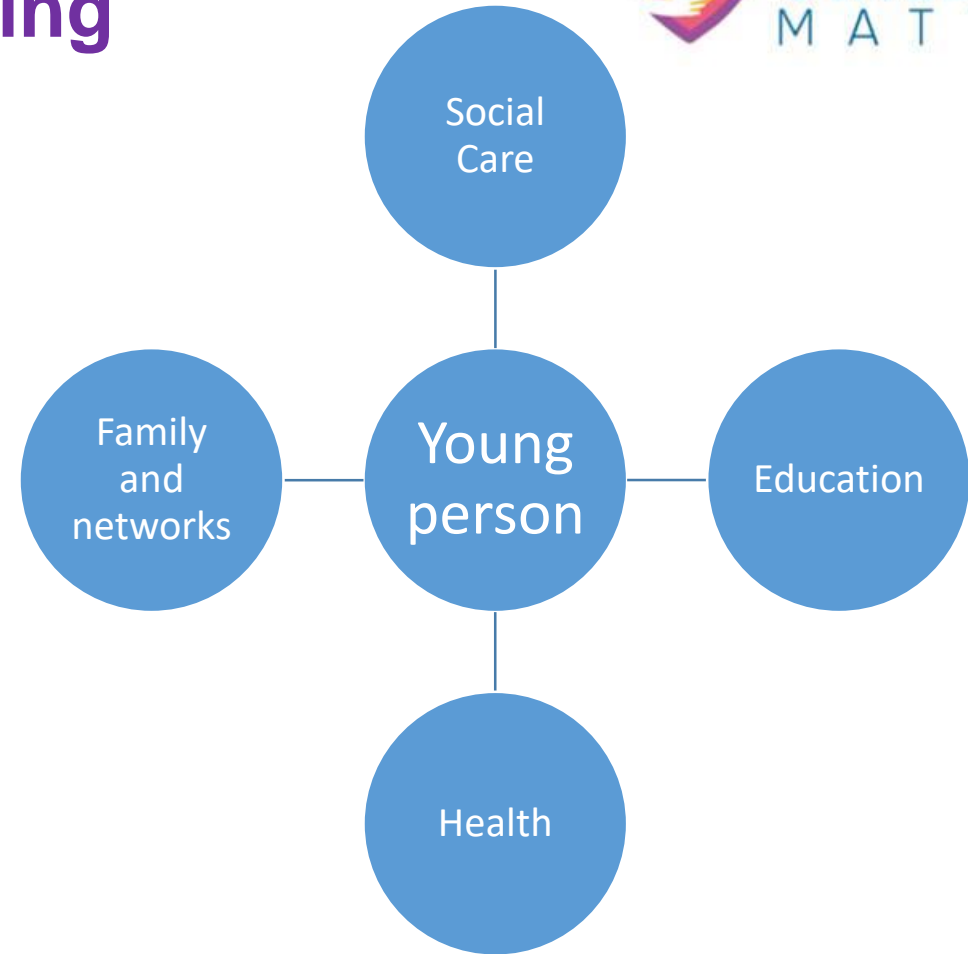
- Workers to understand the Human Rights Act
- Mental Capacity Act Training – Training currently being delivered due to finish in January 2023
- Workers to be able to recognise a deprivation
- Best Interests Assessors to feel comfortable completing assessments – Adult Social Care are willing to offer opportunities for workers to complete assessments and support through this process.



# PFA: Team around the young person

## Importance of co-ordinated planning

- Child in Need; Child Protection and Children Looked After Plans and Care Management Meetings are used to identify a young persons aspirations, needs and outcomes they would like to achieve. If a Looked After Child they will also have a Personal Education Plan that is reviewed termly.
- Education, Health and Care Plans are also used to identify a young persons aspirations, their needs and the outcomes they would like to achieve. Support is then put in place to help young people meet their outcomes



# Preparing for Adulthood – Employment



- Post 16 and further education providers are commissioned to provide education to prepare young people with a disability for adulthood
- Study programmes include:
  - Qualifications from Entry Level to Level 3
  - Supported internships
  - Skills for employment and independence
- Employer engagement, careers and work experience

Project Choice

Making a Difference



MIDDLESBROUGH  
CHILDREN  
MATTERED

Middlesbrough  
moving forward

# Opportunities at Middlesbrough Council



- Opportunities are offered via 50 Futures for work experience and internships
- Some opportunities have led to full time and part-time employment.
  - Last year 8 young people with a disability/ learning difficulty moved into employment, 1 of these was at Middlesbrough Council.
- A small number of young people are also supported into apprenticeships



# Preparing for Adulthood: Travel Training

- Middlesbrough Council offers travel training as part of the Integrated Transport Unit Team
- So far this year, 22 young people with a disability/ learning difficulty have successfully completed travel training with another 11 in progress.
- Schools and colleges also promote independent travel training as part of their study programmes.
- Independent travel is an essential part of a supported internship





## Preparing for Adulthood So what needs to happen?

- Better commissioning of suitable places to live for young adults particularly when they are more vulnerable
- Internships Work with National Development Team for Inclusion
- Inclusion of young people in developing services, policies and procedures
- Pathway/Flowchart to help young people & practitioners understand processes
- Publication and awareness raising of expectations
- Training / Development of understanding Capacity Assessments
- Legal training and development of Liberty Safeguarding processes
- Pathway for young people whatever their status: Care Leavers, Special Educational Needs and or have a disability
- Awareness – Multi agency focus day followed by another Open Day for employers and universities