



Joint Health, Social Care and Education Transitions Strategy

Adult Social Care Scrutiny

Date of meeting: 30 April 2025

Lead directors: Laurence Jones

Useful information

- Ward(s) affected: ALL
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1. Purpose of report

1.1 This report sets out the achievements of the current Joint Health, Social Care and Education Transitions Strategy which ended in 2024, and the plans for the development of a new strategy going forward.

2. Summary

2.1 For young people who receive support from children's health and social care services, these services often end when they turn 18 and they become 'adults' (though some services continue until age 25). Some of these young people will then go on to receive support from adult health and social care services, but these are often different to the services young people had received before. Some young people will not receive adult services at all. This period of change as a young person enters adulthood is known as 'transition'.

2.2 The Joint Health, Social Care and Education Transitions Strategy (2019-22) [Leicester Transitions Strategy](#) (appendix 2) was developed to ensure that staff working to support young people as they transition into adulthood were clear about the work needed to make sure young people have a good experience as they leave children's services and become adults.

2.3 The strategy also provided information for young people, their parents/carers and any other people supporting young people (e.g. school staff) to understand what is being done in Leicester City to support young people as they transition into adulthood. The Joint Health, Social Care and Education Transitions Strategy ran from 2019 to 2022, and was refreshed and extended to 2024. [Joint Health, Social Care and Education Transitions Strategy Refresh 2022-2024](#) (appendix 3)

2.4 The priorities for the strategy focussed on streamlining the transitions process for children and families, and earlier identification and preparation of children and families to support informed decision-making and deliver better outcomes. Key deliverables have included the development of multi-agency decision making panels, and a resources pack for children and families.

2.5 Engagement plans are currently being developed to support the Strategy refresh to launch in summer 2025.

3. Recommendations

3.1 To note the progress made on the existing Transitions Strategy, and plan for the strategy development going forward.

4. Report

4.1 To ensure there are appropriate transitions processes in Leicester City, the Joint Health, Social Care and Education Transitions Strategy set out the direction of travel, priorities and actions needed for improvement and to meet our ambition that young people with additional care and support needs are supported to be independent in adult life and achieve positive outcomes.

4.2 The Strategy aims to support three groups of children and young people who are likely to require additional support as they transition to adulthood. This includes some of our children who are looked after by the council and may have more complex needs, some children with special educational needs, and young people who are eligible for support from adult social care.

4.3 In Leicester there is a significant number of young people who will require additional support as they leave children's services and enter adulthood. To put this in perspective, the council currently looks after 591 children and young people of whom 124 have an Education, Health and Care Plan, and of these looked after children 91 are of school age. Most of these children live locally in foster carer family households and attend local schools whilst a smaller number live outside of the local authority area and live in foster homes or residential care.

4.4 The strategy supports the coordination of support for our children looked after to ensure that their education and health care needs are met with coordinated support from the Virtual School and the SEN service whilst identifying those children who are likely to require additional ongoing support as they transition to adulthood.

4.5 A key ambition of the strategy is that young people with additional care and support needs are identified earlier and supported to be as independent as possible in adult life. This enables young people to better achieve positive outcomes in terms of employment; independent living; friends, relationships and community; and promote healthier lifestyles.

4.6 The current strategy has made progress in advancing key objectives:

Earlier Planning: Implemented and embedded the use of an Independence Checklist starting at age 14 to support preparation for adulthood.

Accessing support: Developed more user-friendly materials, including easy-read information guides to enhance accessibility.

Working together: Established multi-agency panels comprising representatives from social care, health, SEND, and education sectors to identify and proactively support young people with more complex needs.

Supportive Initiatives: Introduced programmes such as travel training and supported internships to empower individuals to realise their potential.

Housing Support: Developing a comprehensive Housing Information Pack (HIP) to provide detailed guidance on housing-related transitions.

Pathway Development: Designed a structured Transitions Pathway and alternative support for young people not eligible for support from Adult Social Care.

Joint Collaborative Workshops: regular open workshops for families and carers in community settings that offer advice and information.

Supported internships: 80% of the interns in the last academic year were offered permanent employment.

5. Next Steps

5.1. Delivering our ambition that young people with additional care and support needs are supported to be independent in adult life and achieve positive outcomes in terms of employment; independent living; friends, relationships and community; and good health remains a key priority.

5.2. We are committed to building on the successes of the Transitions strategy and focusing continued efforts on areas that require further work and commitment to embed our approach.

5.3. To deliver our commitments a strategy refresh is in progress supported with an engagement plan to coproduce the 2025–27 strategy, ensuring young people and their families/carers inform the future direction.

5.4. The refreshed /relaunched strategy will be implemented during 2025 supported by planned activities to promote awareness. A robust governance arrangement will be in place to ensure accountability and maintain a cycle of continuous improvement by evaluating and enhancing information, pathways, and services for young people.

6. Financial, legal and other implications

6.1. Financial implications

This report notes the progress of the Transitions Strategy and as such there are no direct financial implications arising. Identifying care and support needs for young people in order for them to be as independent as possible in adult life will reduce demand for adult social care services and this will have a financial benefit – the value of which will depend on individual circumstances. It is recognised though that early intervention most likely avoids greater costs later on.

Mohammed Irfan, Head of Finance
16 April 2025

6.2 Legal implications

There are no direct legal implications arising out of this report which is to note progress of this strategy. This strategy is welcomed and will ensure that the authority identifies need and meets its statutory duties towards children and adults who require support and services.

Susan Holmes, Head of Law

6.3 Climate Change and Carbon Reduction implications

There are no significant climate emergency implications associated with this report.

Duncan Bell, Change Manager (Climate Emergency). Ext. 37 2249 8th April 2025

6.4 Equalities Implications

The paper provides an update on the progress made on the existing Transitions Strategy, and plan for the strategy development going forward. There are no direct equality implications arising from this report. However, it is important that equality considerations continue as part of the work going forward. Any consultation and or engagement should be accessible and relevant to key stakeholders. Initiatives that aim to ensure a smooth and supported transition into Adulthood with clear plans with a person centred approach that enable young people to reach their potential should have positive impacts across many protected characteristics. The most relevant being age and disability.

Equalities Officer, Surinder Singh, Ext 37 4148 17 April 2025

7. Background information and other papers:

8. Summary of appendices:

Appendix 1 – Slides

Appendix 2 – Leicester Transitions Strategy 2019-22

Appendix 3 - Joint Health, Social Care and Education Transitions Strategy
Refresh 2022-24

