



FULL COUNCIL REPORT

Date Written	8 th January 2021
Report Author	Jon Eyre
Service Area	People and Performance
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non-Exempt
Committee Date	3 rd February 2021

To: Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

Preparation for Adulthood – Transition Policy

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the introduction of the Preparation for Adulthood – Transition Policy.
- 1.2 Following two Adult Practice Reviews and changes to legislation, it was considered that the Policy needed to be updated.
- 1.3 Consultation has taken place with relevant services and the current Policy has been signed off by all those involved.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION that

- 2.1 The 'Preparation for Adulthood – Transition Policy' is approved.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Cwm Taf Safeguarding Board commissioned two Adult Practice Reviews in recent years. This was following two deaths of young adults. Both young people had been known to Children Services and transitioned into Adult Services.
- 3.2 There were various recommendations, but one referred to the Safeguarding Board Transition Policy being updated. The recommendation suggested that it should be written containing clear overarching principles to guide the process of safe preparation for adulthood for young people with additional needs. This is to support an effective transition from a service for children to a service for adults. The Cwm Taf Morgannwg Safeguarding board approved this Policy in December 2018.

This Policy can be accessed via the Safeguarding Board's website [here](#). This Safeguarding Board Policy focuses on seven principles for transition and prescribes that "each agency or service area must have its own detailed protocol for the transition process" (Page 2).

- 3.3 Under the principles of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act (2014) there were also new guidance for transition, which again required the Transition Policy to be updated for the local authority.

4.0 TRANSITION POLICY

- 4.1 Merthyr Tydfil's 'Preparation for Adulthood – Transition Policy' (Appendix 1) sets out a more detailed protocol of how preparation for adulthood can be achieved for young people in the Merthyr Tydfil area. This document considers the legal and good practice considerations. Central to this are how Children and Adult Services can work together to apply the principles of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014. This involves ensuring the necessary assessment has the young person central to decision making and that a clear pathway to adulthood is mapped in the right timeframe for the child. There is a focus too on the Transition Planning Panel which is the operational group where planning is achieved relating to each individual young person.
- 4.2 Successful transition to adulthood cannot rely only on Children and Adult Services' commitment to working together to achieve good practice. Our multi agency partners are essential allies in ensuring good preparation for adulthood for our young people. The Principal Manager for Safeguarding in Merthyr Tydfil met with partner agencies in December 2020 along with representatives from Children and Adult Services. Within this meeting discussions took place about the Policy, the commitment that would be needed from each agency and any barriers to implementation. The Policy was given clear multi agency approval and commitments were made to working closely with the local authority both with involvement in the transition assessment and the Transition Planning Panel.
- 4.3 Further multi agency work is needed to ensure the right processes are in place for all partner agencies, but the overall commitments were clear. Some core elements require specific planning, such as with our close partner the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and our Community Mental Health Team and this planning will be ongoing.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The financial implications will depend on the cost of service provision to young people that is established by the multi-agency assessment. More detailed person-centred planning at the right time is likely to mitigate some costs through achieving a more efficient process.

6.0 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Not Applicable
1. Merthyr Tydfil Well-being Objectives	3 of 4	0 of 4	1 of 4
2. Sustainable Development Principles - How have you considered the five ways of working: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term • Prevention • Integration • Collaboration • Involvement 	5 of 5	0 of 5	0 of 5
3. Protected Characteristics <i>(including Welsh Language)</i>	7 of 10	0 of 10	3 of 10
4. Biodiversity	0 of 1	0 of 1	1 of 1
<p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The main positive impacts are an improved skills base and wellbeing of the individual.</p> <p>There are no significant negative impacts.</p>			

LISA CURTIS-JONES
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COUNCILLOR CHRIS DAVIES
CABINET MEMBER FOR
SOCIAL SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council's Constitution?		

Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.