

Adult Social Care – Preparing for Adulthood Approach

Adults Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

7th October 2025

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Background 1

- Transition is the term used to describe the period of change in a young person's life as they move from childhood to adulthood.
- Locally, we are moving away from this single word, and using the term Preparing for Adulthood, in line with our GM colleagues
- The experience of transition has often been described as a 'cliff edge' with some young people reaching the age of 18 only to find themselves without the care and support they need as an adult
- This is often due to different eligibility thresholds between children's and adults' services, which means that some young people are no longer eligible for statutory support when they turn 18.
- Adult Social Care have a duty under the Care Act 2014, to support young people with care and support needs who are eligible for adult services
- In addition, we have a duty for supporting young adults who are not eligible under the Care Act but who are at high risk of experiencing harm or abuse and likely to need support as an adult

Background 2

- Transitions was highlighted as a key priority for the Oldham Safeguarding Adults Board in 2022/23, following local learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR) and Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs)
- It was also noted as an area of improvement in the Children's SEND inspection, again, in 2023
- A joint project group was established to progress this with the aim of improving the process between Children's and Adults Social Care.
- One of the key aims of the project is to improve the systems and governance around the transition process
- But, more importantly, it was to ensure a better service and experience for children and young adults

Transitions Project - Phase 1 (2022-23)

Key deliverables from the first phase of the Transitions project included:

- Development and launch of a multi-agency **'Preparing for Adulthood: Oldham's Transitions Policy'**
- **Establishment of a Transitions Hub**, with supporting processes.
- **Development of Mosaic forms and workflow** to support the transitions processes and to improve data recording.
- **Practice resources and training** were put in place to increase understanding amongst ASC & CSC workforce.

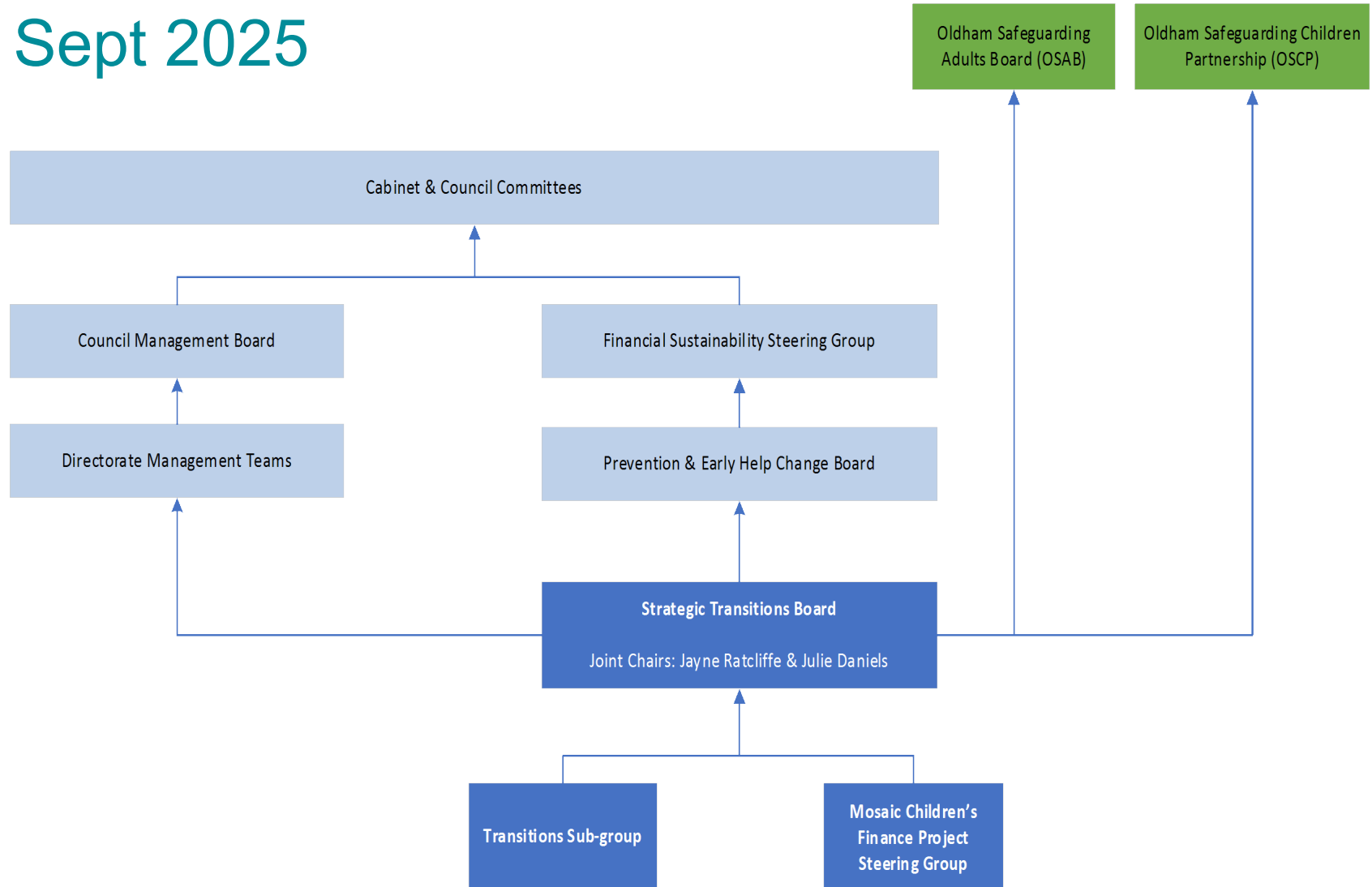


Transitions Project - Phase Two (2024)

Project Governance & Planning

- **Strategic Transitions Board** was established in late 2023, to provide strategic direction and oversight to the development and implementation of the transitions work programme, ensuring that the project objectives are met. The Board is co-chaired by the DASS & DCS.
- **Governance structure** includes a multi-agency Transitions sub-group, which reports into the Strategic Board on a monthly basis, along with a joint commissioning sub-group.
- **Project plan & highlight reporting** covers the following workstreams:
 - Processes & Procedures,
 - Professional Practice & Service Model,
 - Data & information,
 - Housing & Commissioning Support.

Transitions Governance – Sept 2025



Where we are now:

The 2023 OSAB Preparing for Adulthood policy is being updated to reflect the current position across the partnership.

Oldham's Transitions Policy aims to:

- Clarify the eligibility criteria for transitional support.
- Set out multi-agency responsibilities and expectations as part of the processes before, during and after transitions.
- Ensure that young people experience a smooth, positive, and timely transitions process.
- Ensure the views and wishes of young people are central to their transitions process.
- Provide a baseline to measure quality and consistency of transitions practice in Oldham.

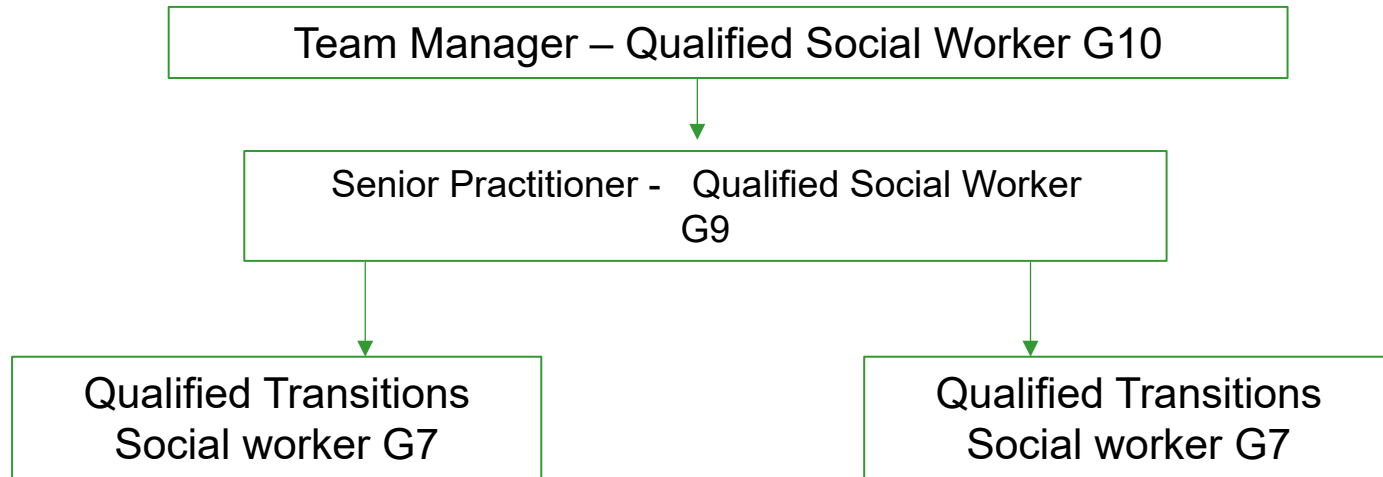
[OSAB-OSCP-Transitions-Policy.pdf](#)

Sept 2025 data

- There are 175 open transitions cases in Mosaic with work happening across CSC, Transitions Hub and ASC
- Work with children commences from age 14 to ensure a smooth transition from CSC to ASC, with a planned approach.
- An initial transitions referral form is completed by ASC to begin the process and outline the current needs.
- This is then transferred to the Transitions Hub for review and onward allocation to the relevant ASC team.
- Care Act (ASC) eligible needs should be assessed as soon as possible to allow sufficient time for planning and commissioning of services required Post 18.
- Not all children will be Care Act eligible, and some will not require ASC support.
- ASC Budget Reduction of £1 million has been agreed for delivery in 2025/26, by improving efficiency in both children and adult services.

The Transitions Hub

Joint CSC and ASC team specifically for transitions cases – team structure:



- The team are currently being recruited to, and all staff are expected to be in place early 2026
- It is recognised that there are still some challenges regarding the wider transitions team and process in terms of the complexity of cases, the increasing volume, difficulty recruiting to the team for example, which are being monitored through the Transitions Sub-Group of the Board.

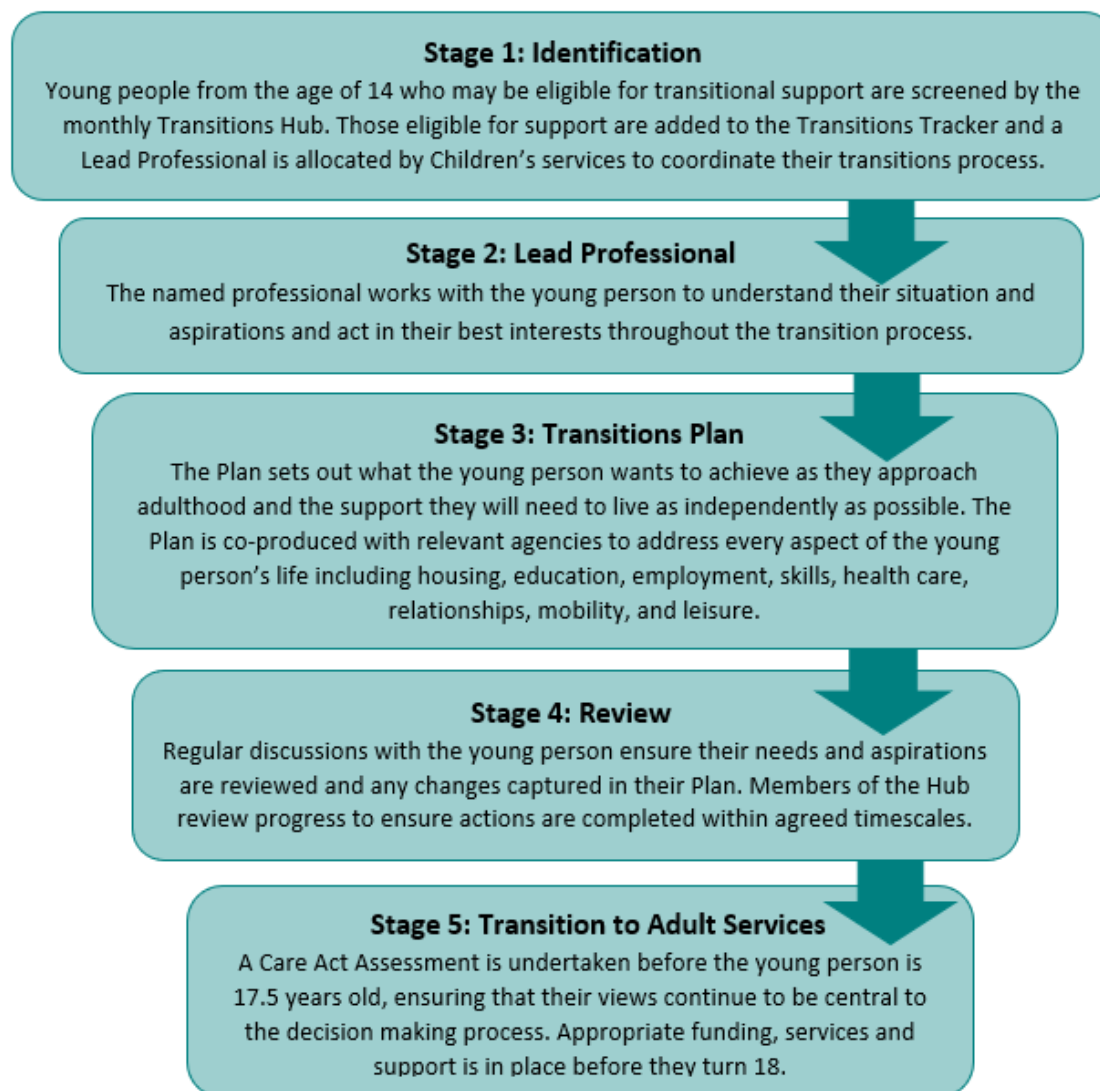
The Transitions Hub

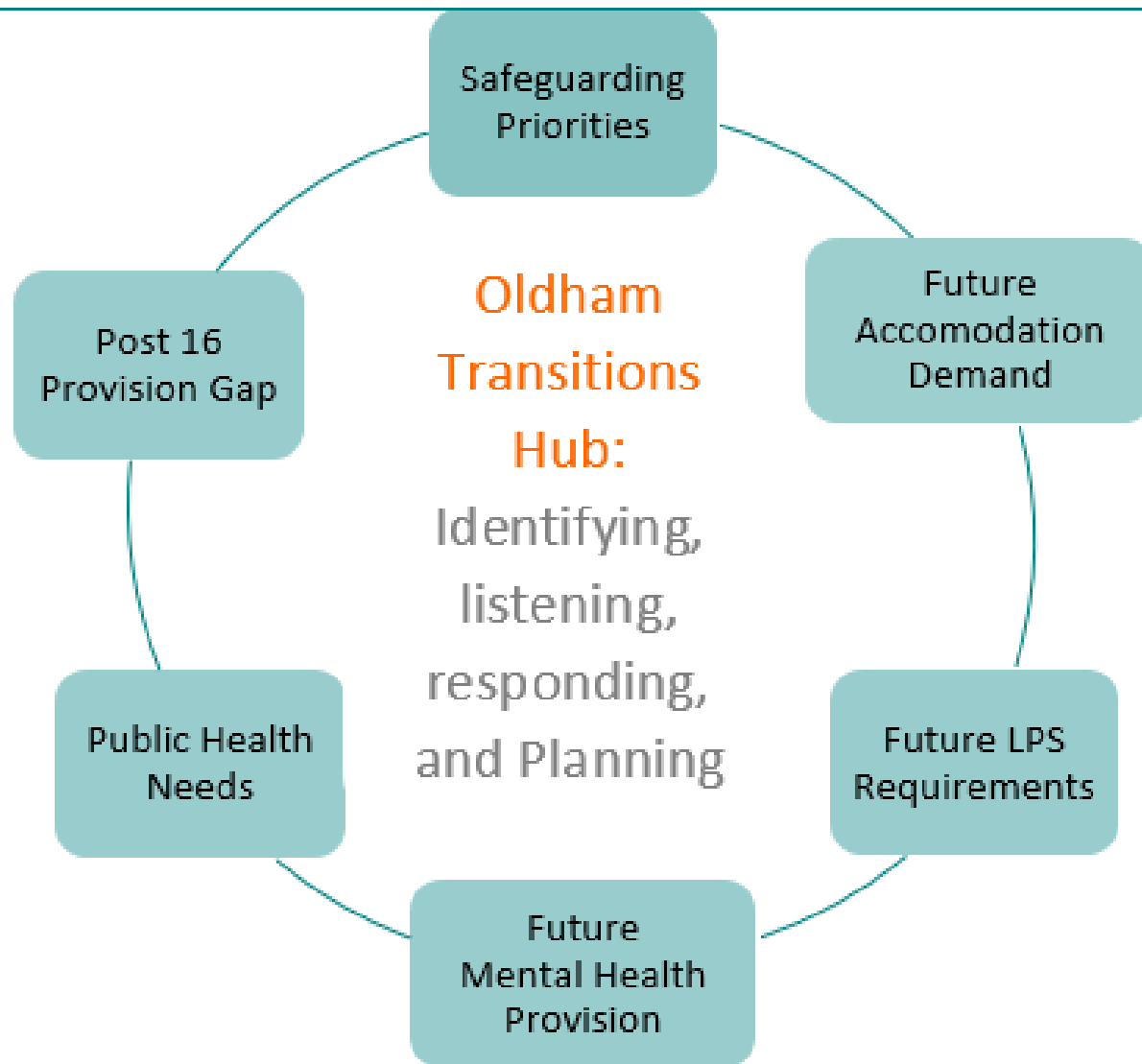
- The Transitions Hub hold a monthly operational meeting designed to identify young people eligible for transitional support and coordinate a smooth transition from children's to adult's services.
- The Hub accepts referrals for young people from the age of 14 who meet one or more of the eligibility criteria and where it is expected that post-18 support will be required.
- The Hub is responsible for working with each young person to develop their Transitions Plan, which details the young person's aspirations and any practical or life skills support, and the actions required for a well-planned and timely cross over from children's to adults' services.

The Transitions Hub

- The Hub acts as a problem solving forum where partners can address challenges and barriers such as different legislation, criteria or capacity issues across services.
- Membership of the Transitions Hub includes representatives from a range of children's and adults' services and partners.
- The Hub reports directly to Oldham's Transitions Partnership; a Joint Subgroup of the Oldham Safeguarding Children's Partnership and Oldham Safeguarding Adults Board.

The Transitions Hub – the process





Transitions and CQC

- As part of our CQC self assessment, Transitions has been highlighted as a key strength
- The transition hub process is established and improving with continual review from both ASC and CSC
- It involves a multi-agency approach and ensures a Care Act assessment and mental capacity consideration before age 17.5.
- A Transitions Board, chaired by the Director of Children's Social Care and the DASS, and includes representation from Children's Services, Adult Social Care, Health, and Education has been established
- The joint working approach across Children's Services, Adult Social Care, education, data and performance and health is continually improving and strengthening.

The Transitions Hub – areas for development

- Whilst there has been significant improvement – such as the work to review the process, expand and grow the team, and in the working links between ASC and CSC, it is also recognised that there is further work required
- The transitions team and process in Oldham is relatively new and is still developing.
- The development of the Transitions Hub and the team is positive, and the work is a key focus across both CSC and ASC.
- One area of development is the gathering of feedback from children and young people, and how their experiences can shape the future services.
- Another is the role and experience of parents, carers, and guardians and the changes to the legislation at age 18, and the responsibilities of young people as they become an adult
- We need to strengthen our communication with parents to ensure they have a clear understanding about the transition process and their expectations about the care and support available once their child reaches the age of 18.
- Part of this will include clarifying the legal changes and responsibilities between the Children's Act and Care Act needs and ensuring our systems and process's make this clear so that parents and young people are confident in our approach.