

# **national transition support team**

working together to improve transition  
for disabled young people

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## **North-East Lincolnshire Transition Case Study**

### **The transition process**

#### ***Developing a strategic transition protocol***

North East Lincolnshire has a transition protocol entitled “ The Positive Transition Framework.” Endorsed by all key agencies it was launched in 2006 and is currently being updated in the light of local developments. The protocol primarily covers young people with a disability or a statement of special educational need. It explains the purpose and process of transition planning and the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved in the process, including young people and parents/carers, so all parties are clear about their respective responsibility and the support that should be provided.

#### ***Post-16 options: education and employment***

North-East Lincolnshire has improved links with the LSC and local further education providers; this will lead to resources being combined to provide an education package tailored to individual need. Systems are being developed to provide early notification to inform the development of local provision and future planning and commissioning.

There is a 14-19 Foundation Learning Group which also considers the needs of disabled young people in the wider agenda.

North-East Lincolnshire has developed its Supported Employment Service and a range of supported employment opportunities for people with a disability, which young people transitioning to adulthood will be able to access. The spectrum of employment support ranges from 2 hours voluntary work to fulltime employment paid at the national minimum wage or above. Support tailored to individual need and includes the development of employment related skills, independence, community participation and support to employers.

There are several social enterprises up and running in North-East Lincolnshire facilitated by joint working between social care and a local further education provider. Young people attending the local college have the opportunity to gain paid work experience in car valeting through Sparkly Marques, a social enterprise.

The Café in the Park provides the opportunity to develop catering and hospitality skills, and is a café serviced by the local college and open to the general public. Pedal Power is a cycle hire facility currently in development to provide paid work to people with a disability; technical support is provided by a local cycle shop.

### ***Transition reviews and Person-centred approaches***

North East Lincolnshire identified to a multi-agency team to attend the regional Person-Centred Transition Review Training (PCTR); following this a pilot was undertaken. Positive feedback was received from the young people and their families. Subsequently joint funded training has delivered to a large group of practitioners working within education, health and social care with vulnerable young people.

One special school within the locality will be providing PCTR for all Year 9 pupils.

The facilitators work with the young person to complete the “Listen to Me workbook,” which helps to identify the young persons priorities and what is important to/for them at the current time and in the future.

Preparation commencing in Year 8 and involvement of the young person are crucial for success. Young people are supported (by teaching assistants trained in PCTR) to create a single page profile to accompany the invitation; this provides those attending the review with some basic information prior to attendance. They decide who they would like to invite to attend their review and invite a friend if they wish.

Young people are encouraged to choose music and the refreshments for the meeting. Some young people invite a friend to come and serve the drinks, for example. The young person arrives prior to the start of the meeting and they assist with setting up the room, and then meet and greet the attendees asking them to sign in as they arrive.

The information gathered is discussed; the key points for action are then compiled to create a person centred Transition Plan. Further to the review and depending on individual need a youngster may have an Essential Lifestyle Plan, a Person Centred Plan or a Health Action Plan completed.

### ***Statutory services – an overview***

#### ***Children’s trust models and multi-agency working in the transition process***

North-East Lincolnshire has a small transition team consisting of a coordinator and two transition workers. The workers are from different professional backgrounds, but have a generic role within the team, and support the process of multi-agency working across children’s and adult services.

North-East Lincolnshire’s adult social care and the Primary Care Trust have recently merged to become a Care Trust Plus. There has been significant development within the Community Learning Disability Team. The traditional integrated health and social care team has been expanded with co-located workers from the Person Centred Planning and Supported Employment Teams, the addition of Health and Well-Being Co-ordinators and a new Intensive Support Team comprised of clinical psychologists,

specialist nurses and behaviour support workers for those whose behaviour challenges traditional services.

## ***Participation and further support***

### ***Participation of disabled young people in the transition process***

North East Lincolnshire has provided 'Getting Heard' training for young people with a disability to enable them to represent the views of their peers, participate effectively in school council meetings and at the Council for Young People.

### ***Supporting disabled young people and their families:***

- ***key workers and lead professionals***
- ***direct payments and individual budgets***

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The Transition Workers provide low level preventative support to vulnerable young people, attend transitional reviews, facilitate person centred planning meetings and provide general and specialist information regarding social and leisure activities.

North-East Lincolnshire are in the process of setting up systems to support the provision of individual budgets.

### ***Information for disabled young people and their families about the transition process***

North East Lincolnshire have produced a transition DVD – No Limits! to provide information for young people about transition and the range of choices and opportunities available locally. The content of the DVD has been driven by four disabled young people, who star in the DVD and visit services to ask questions about what they might expect when they leave school.

As befitting budding film stars the 'fab four' were picked up by limousine and given the red carpet treatment for the premiere.

A series of easy read leaflets are available about the transition process. These leaflets are easily accessible on the Internet.

North-East Lincolnshire has a website called 123-Go which is an information site for people with learning disabilities it has a section specifically about transition, which has links to the information leaflets, the DVD and transition protocol.

### ***Leisure services***

In North East Lincolnshire the Transition Strategy Co-ordinator has established links with local Leisure Centres to enable disabled young people to access them more independently. Preliminary discussion is underway with regard to identifying specific nights and a member of staff to provide low level support and be a point of contact. It is proposed they will be available to young people coming into the centres to answer questions or queries and address concerns, provide support with equipment, direct to activities etc.,

### ***Youth services and activities***

In North East Lincolnshire work has been undertaken to support disabled young people to access mainstream youth services. Further to discussion with youth service staff, an introductory process has been established which may involve sharing information via a single page profile and initial one to one support. Awareness training will be provided to youth service staff to enable them to understand how support can be provided.

### ***Housing***

In North East Lincolnshire a Learning Disability Housing Strategy sub-group has been established. A tendering exercise has been undertaken to establish a preferred provider list. The emphasis is on planning and commissioning local services to meet complex needs rather than people having their needs met by an out of county provider. A housing needs database has been created of all people known to the Learning Disability Team and those in transition age 13 upwards with current or future housing needs. Further to discussion consultation is planned with young people and their families. When groups of young people have been identified providers will be commissioned to provide a service specific to that group of young people, matching their needs and wishes. Young people and their families will be involved at all stages, particularly in the drawing up of the service specification.

### ***Transport***

Following the successful introduction of the passenger responsive bus service Phone 'n' Ride work is underway to identify the need for a possible extension of the operating hours to enable young people to access youth, social and leisure activities independently.

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