

1

## Introduction

In July 2024, the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group ('SEG'), a subgroup of the Salford Safeguarding Adults Board, completed their seventh piece of assurance – a Spotlight Report on the current position of 'Transitions' in Salford.

Our aim was to develop upon existing understanding, gather information and build assurance relating to the current policy, processes, practices and position of 'Transitions' and 'Transitional Safeguarding', highlighting any areas for development identified.

7

## Useful Links

- ['Bridging the gap: Transitional Safeguarding and the role of social work with adults'](#)
- ['Transitional Safeguarding – Adolescence to Adulthood' briefing](#)
- [Derbyshire SAB Multi-Agency Transitional Safeguarding Audit](#)
- [Transitional Safeguarding Academic Insight Paper](#)
- [The Innovate Project](#)

2

## Context

'Transitions' refers to the process around the professional support of young people 14+ years-old with Care Act-defined care and support needs (and their families) through their transition to adulthood, helping them navigate all this entails.

'Transitional Safeguarding' is the "approach to safeguarding adolescents and young adults fluidly across developmental stages which builds on the best available evidence, learns from both children's and adult safeguarding practice and which prepares young people for their adult lives." (Holmes and Smale, 2018)

It is also important to recognise that young people who do not meet Care Act 2014 eligibility criteria for their care and support needs may still require Transitions planning, support and Transitional Safeguarding.

3

## Transition Team

Established within Social Care in 2016, the team are dedicated to supporting and improving outcomes for young people who have care and support needs that are lifelong or ongoing, which mean they will, or are very likely to, move from being supported by Children services to being supported by Adult services upon reaching 18 years old.

They create an informed space to effectively support and safeguard them, whilst also helping them gain the skills they need to live the most independent, positive lives possible in line with their own aspirations

4

## Systems & Measures

As of July 2024:

- Multi-Agency Transitions Policy (and associated practitioner pathway documents) are under review
- Transitional Safeguarding mapping exercise completed by SSCP
- Non-operational Transitions Strategy oversight group in place; operational group is a consideration
- Reporting needed for assurance around safeguarding effectiveness in this area.



6

## Considerations

There are 20 considerations outlined in the full Spotlight Report, including:

- Practitioner transitional safeguarding support and training
- Transitional safeguarding documents
- SEG access to reporting for this area
- Further assurance on Transitions operational and non-operational oversight
- Preventative, proactive Transition work to help young people build independent living skills
- Key services in the Salford Transition offer with a gap at 17 years old to span the transition
- To access a Transitional Safeguarding or Transition specialist when developing related policy – and to consult young people who have experienced Transitions themselves.

5

## Training & Awareness

There is currently no multi-agency offer for Transitional Safeguarding or Transitions practitioner training in Salford. This has been raised by the Spotlight Report as an area to consider for development.

Awareness about Transitions and Transitional Safeguarding for young people with ongoing / lifelong care and support needs should begin as early as possible within the Transitions age range (14-25), to allow young people and their families to build knowledge and be prepared for the changes that happen from 16-18 years old.