

National Transitions to Adulthood Strategy for Disabled Young People: A Statement of Intent

Easy Read Version



Introduction



The Scottish Government wants to make disabled young people's transition to adulthood better. In 2021 Scottish Ministers promised to write a National Transition to Adulthood Strategy.



This strategy will be a plan that will help to improve support to disabled young people as they move into adult life.



This document is called a Statement of Intent. It explains what we have heard the strategy should focus on to make transitions to adulthood better.



The strategy is still being worked on and this is a chance for you to tell us if you agree with what we have heard it should include.

Why we need a strategy

We have heard that disabled young people's experiences of the transition can include:



- stress and uncertainty



- difficulties moving from child to adult services



- Changes in eligibility for services and support



- A sharp drop in support



- Not enough planning or clear information about transitions



- lack of communication between services



- young people not being listened to



- stress for the family members.



We want to make the transitions journey better for every disabled young person.

Who will the strategy be for?



When young people develop from children to young adults this is called the transition to adulthood. It is a growing up process which takes place over many years. It involves many different changes.



We think this strategy should focus on planning and support for disabled young people aged 14-25 years old.



The Scottish Government knows that people are disabled by barriers in society. Not by their impairment or disability.



We think this strategy should use the Equality Act definition of disability. This means people are disabled if they have a 'physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on their ability to carry out normal daily activities'.

Our vision



Our vision is that disabled young people feel happy and confident in the transition to adulthood. They are supported to control their own path to success.

Our priorities



Our priorities are the things we have heard the strategy should focus on to improve the transition to adulthood better for disabled young people.

They are:

1. Choice, control, and power for young people



Disabled young people should be at the centre of planning and decision making for their future.

Early transitions planning should be available. It should support young people to achieve their dreams and hopes for the future.

2. Clear information



Disabled young people, their families and others that support them should know their rights and what support is available to them. Information should be clear and easily accessed.

3. Good, joined-up support for young people



The transition to adulthood can involve different services like health, social work, and education. They should all work well together. Good communication across services, young people, and their families is important.

4. Good practice across Scotland



Those supporting disabled young people making the transition to adulthood should get training. They should be supported to understand and follow the principles of good transitions. These are guidelines to improve support in the transition to adulthood.

5. Information to measure



Measuring good transitions should be about the young person's whole life. Their experiences of their transition to adulthood, as well as if they access further education or employment after school. All this information should be collected and looked at.

Next steps



We want to check our ideas and priorities. If you would like to tell us what you think, please fill out this anonymous [survey](#).



This survey will be open until 30 November 2023. We will use feedback to help develop the strategy.



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