



North Tyneside Council

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Johanne Mears
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21 December 2010

Dear Johanne

Re: LINK Report – The Way Ahead – An Investigation by LINK Members into the Experiences of Transition from Children to Adult Services in North Tyneside

Thank you for your letter dated 15 November 2010 enclosing a copy of your recently completed report on the experience of transitions between children's services and adult social care services in North Tyneside. You have asked for a response on the recommendation in the report.

I note from the final version of the report that the LINK have already incorporated a lot of the information that had previously been provided by Adult Social Care and this gives some context and response on the first ten recommendations identified in the main body of the report.

The overall recommendation in part 8 of the report is around the perceived gap in what North Tyneside Council is offering people in transitions and what parents, carers and young people are experiencing at a local / personal level and I will deal with that within this response.

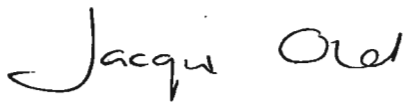
First of all, I would like to thank the LINK for the report as it does cover a number of aspects of transitions and the report acknowledges in each of these areas the good work that is happening across North Tyneside. However, I do feel that the areas that have been looked at relate directly to concerns that LINK members have with transitions and not to other areas where there has been good work, practice and outcomes for people in transitions and it is useful to recognise the context of this in this response and the overall report. We have made some step changes in transitions, although we do recognise there are also some areas where improvements can be made.

Within North Tyneside there is a multi-agency approach to transitions and we are proud of how this works and how the partner agencies are able to work together for the good of the child in transition into Adult Social Care services. We are, however, always keen to promote the further improvement and development of our services. I do think that there is some further work that we can do within the Council to improve the effectiveness of how we communicate what we are doing with parents and children to make them better aware of the range of services that are available and also being explicit about what is not available.

In November 2010 we held a highly successful transitions event for parents and that was well attended and we have good positive feedback on this. This is something we can build on for the future to embed this within our systems, processes and practices in the various Social Work teams.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqui Old". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jacqui Old
Head of Adult Social Care