

Pathway Plans

What is a Pathway Plan?

- An important document that details your transition from care into adulthood.
- It sets out how you want your life to be and the support you need to achieve this, particularly from your local authority – Durham County Council.
- By law, every Child Looked After must have one and it should be in place about the time of your 16th birthday. It continues up to the age of 21, or 25 if you'd like it to.



What is in a Pathway Plan?

- Practical skills - to enable you to live independently and transition into life as an adult.
- Finance – it's important you understand your financial entitlements and exactly how to access these.
- Your home – your accommodation must be safe, affordable for you and in a suitable location.
- Education, training and employment – to achieve your career/education goals.
- Health – to live a healthy lifestyle and be supported with any health problems.
- Family and social network – it is important that you have positive relationships in your life and a network of people to turn to when you need support.
- Identity – what makes you a unique person. Practically this could include ensuring you have the correct ID documents and access to your files.

How often are the meetings?

- Every 6 months, or sooner if something in your life changes.
- You can request extra meetings when you need them.

Who is at the meetings?

- You!
- Up to the age of 18, your social worker. After this age you have a Young Person's Advisor (YPA) instead.
- Anyone else who you would like to be there, such as a teacher from school/college, your carer, or a family member.



Do I get a say in my Pathway Plan?

- Yes, as the Pathway Plan is all about you!
- The Pathway Plan should reflect your wishes, needs and aspirations and the whole process should be young-person friendly.

