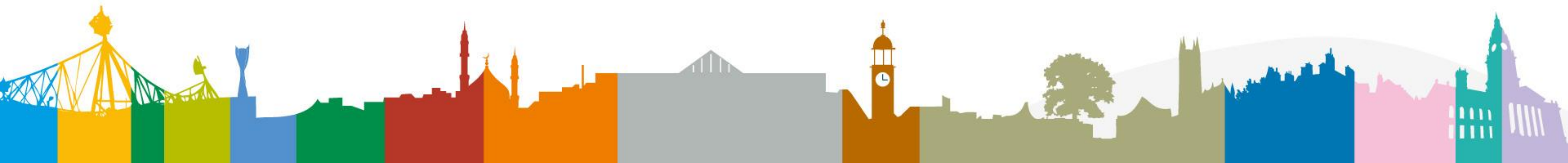


# **TRANSITION SERVICE FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TEAM**

**Children's Services Scrutiny Committee - 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023**  
**Minaxi Patel, Head Of Service, Placements and Resources**

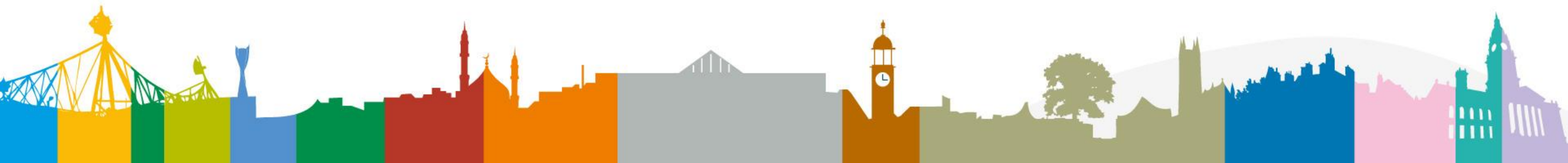


# THE TEAM

Transition in social care aims to support young people who have health and social care needs, providing a smooth transition from Children's Services via planning to access support from Adults Health and Social Care Services.

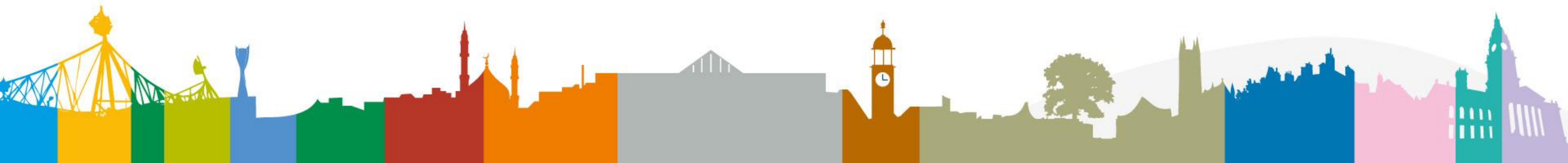
There has been an investment and expansion in the service from 6 workers to 11 workers, the team now consists of:-

- 1x Transition Team Manager
- 1x Deputy Manager
- 2x Community Assessment Officers
- 7x Social Workers



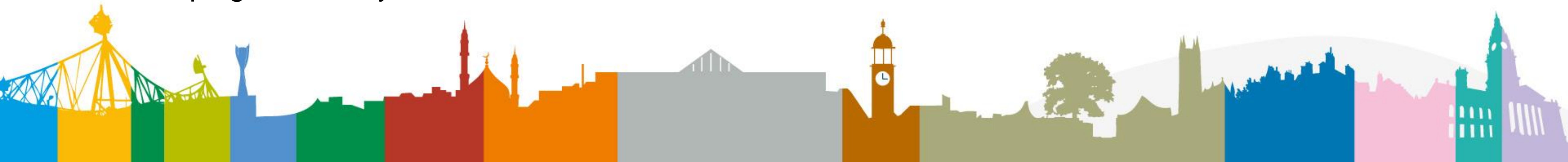
The team works with young people who have an impairment considered as a lifelong disability and require social care support, provide planning, assessment, advice and support services for young people in line with :-

- Preparing for Adulthood options,
- Education, Learning and Development,
- Independent living, self-care,
- Community inclusion and relationships
- Health and wellbeing.



# HOW SUPPORT IS OFFERED

- Before the young person becomes 18, a member of the Transition Team will work with them, their family and anyone else involved in supporting them at an age that is appropriate to their health and social care needs.
- A needs assessment is completed, following this, services may need to be commissioned or advise to parents and carers about other organisations and universal community services.
- If the young person is eligible for support from Adult's Social Care, a plan will be made with young people, parents and carers. This plan may include:-
  - Access to the community, being independent as possible,
  - Help with tacking part in activities, engaging in positive relationships,
  - Support with personal care needs,
  - Advice with relationships or well-being,
  - Helping with safety and risks.



# LINKING WITH CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TEAM

- Children with Disabilities Team are managed alongside Bridges Family Support and Shared Care Services by the Head of Service, Placements and Resources.
- All children with an allocated social worker from Children with Disabilities Team and/or in receipt of Short Break Care Services will be allocated a worker from the Transition Team. This enables assessment for planning of appropriate Adult Services to be undertaken in advance of their 18<sup>th</sup> birthdays.
- Both Transition Manager and Deputy Manager have worked in Children's and Adult's Services and therefore have a good understanding of structures, processes, statutory duties and the thresholds in Children's Services:-
- Seamless service for young people and their families. No delays in transferring between teams/services.
- Joint working with complex cases – to provide creative solutions.
- Attendance at Children's Services Placement Panel to advise of the Transition Plan/arrangements for children in residential placements.



## Case Study 1

- Known to Childrens Services from age 10 accommodated in residential for 5 years due to extreme violent and sexualised behaviour.
- Admitted to hospital under s.2 of the Mental Health Act at age 15 following mental health episode and subsequent breakdown of placement
- Bespoke solo placement has been created due to complexity of the young person's presentation. Subject to Deprivation of Liberty order.
- Early Transition planning has been vital as his diagnosis and pathway in to adulthood has been unclear.
- Identification of his post-18 provision will benefit advance planning given his unique care arrangements and risk management plan
- Mum is reassured that his future Social Worker is getting to know him early enough to plan ahead. Young person is feeling that his wishes for the future are being heard.
- Attendance at VOICE 4 U with his Mum – huge achievement for this young person.



## Case Study 2

- This young person had been a Looked after child in long term foster placement since she was 5 years old.
- For the last few years she has been having increasing time with her birth family and expressing that she was ready to become more independent from her foster family.
- Effective and Early Transition Planning and close working relationships between the Children with Disabilities Team and Transition team enabled an early identification of a supported living arrangement that enabled her to move a few weeks before her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday at her request.
- Voice of the child was heard and this has increased her independence and autonomy as a young adult care leaver.

