



Initial Pathway Plan Introduction

 [Support for Care Leavers \(opens in a new tab\)](#)

The Initial Pathway Plan for a young person should incorporate a Needs Assessment. The Leaving Care Act requires that this assessment be completed for the young person's 16th birthday, but it is recognised that care and sensitivity will be needed for many given proximity of GCSE exams.

All young people should have their needs fully assessed before they leave care. The assessment forms the basis of a clear and detailed Pathway Plan leading to independence. For many young people in care their Family Assessment will have been conducted some time earlier and will have been for a different focus and purpose. For this reason the Initial Pathway Plan should be seen as a stock-take on the original assessment and consequent care plan. The initial Pathway plan will change the focus from care to independence.

It is very important that this Needs Assessment is completed as thoroughly as possible in order to provide an accurate picture of the services and support that the young person is going to need over the crucial next two years and beyond. It will also help identify who is best placed to provide that support, and when.

The young person should be involved with the Initial Pathway Plan but they may need support in understanding that the Needs Assessment aspects are a summary of the professionals' views of their situation and needs. The views of the young person must be recorded if they disagree with any part of the Initial Pathway Plan.

In order to help social workers and personal advisors complete the Initial Pathway Plan a series of prompt questions have been developed. The prompts draw from Department for Education guidance which sets out the areas they expect a pathway plan to cover, and the Ofsted inspectors' handbook which sets out what a "Good" service for care leavers should address. There are also a series of questions which Research in Practice has developed.

Click on the [green book](#) icon next to the 'Your Worker's Views' question to display all relevant guidance for that element.

Planning

Where I live

My Views

Do I feel safe where I live?

- Always
- Sometimes
- Hardly Ever / Never

What needs to happen to ensure I continue to feel safe where I live or so I do feel safe where I live?

My Workers Views

| What needs to happen? | Who is going to do it? | When will it be done? |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |

Health & Wellbeing

My Views

I feel I have a disability or long term health issue that limits my day to day activities?
Long term means over 12 months

- Yes
- No
- I don't want to say

Am I happy with the way I look / my appearance?

- Yes
- No

My Workers Views

| What needs to happen? | Who is going to do it? | When will it be done? |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |

Managing Money

My Views

How do I cope financially?

- Living Comfortably
- Doing Alright
- Just About Getting By
- Finding it Quite Difficult
- Finding it Very Difficult

What would help me cope better financially?

My Workers Views

| What needs to happen? | Who is going to do it? | When will it be done? |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |

I have the following:

- Passport
- Driving Licence
- Other Photographic ID
- National Insurance Number
- Birth Certificate
- Bank Account
- Information about any savings

Education, Work or Training

My Views

What am I doing?

- Education
- Working
- Training

Am I happy with these arrangements?

- Yes
- No

Why I am happy/unhappy with these arrangements?

My long term plans for education, work or training are

I feel I have special educational needs that affect how I access education

- Yes
- No

My Workers Views

| What needs to happen? | Who is going to do it? | When will it be done? |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |

My Identity

My Views

I have questions about my time in care / history

No, I know all I want to
 Yes, I know about my time in care / history but want to know more
 Yes I do not know about my time in care or history

They are

I would describe my identity as

My Workers Views

| What needs to happen? | Who is going to do it? | When will it be done? |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |

Immigration Status

My Views

My Immigration Status is

I have a solicitor and I feel I am being given good advice about my asylum claim?

Yes
 No

I understand what might happen next and the consequences

Yes
 No

I have the following questions about my situation and my claim for asylum

My Workers Views

| What needs to happen? | Who is going to do it? | When will it be done? |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | |

Family & Friends

My Views

I have someone I trust - who would stick by me - no matter what?

Yes
 No

Who are they?

I don't have anybody but I know somebody who could be such a person. This would help them become my trusted person

I have been supported by Life Long Links

Yes
 No

I have a pet

Yes
 No

I would like a pet but the following would need to change so I could properly look after it

My Workers Views

What needs to happen?

Who is going to do it?

When will it be done?

Independent Living Skills

My Views

I feel I have the skills to live independently

Yes
 No

The following would help me live a successful, independent life

My Workers Views

What needs to happen?

Who is going to do it?

When will it be done?

Manager Comments

Manager Comments
