

Policy: Leaving and After Care Support for Young People

Policy Purpose

To improve the opportunities for a successful transition from care for young people through better preparation and planning and the provision of aftercare support.

Policy Statement

The success of a young person's transition from care to independence will depend on a number of factors. Territory Families is committed to supporting young people to make a successful transition from care to independence when they leave the care of the Chief Executive Officer.

Research indicates that when young people have acquired sufficient independent living skills and are adequately supported during their transition from care, they are more likely to have successful outcomes as adult members of society. A key factor in achieving this success is planning for the transition over an extended period of time.

Planning for the young person's transition from care should commence by the age of fifteen and be regularly updated through the care plan review process every six months, in accordance with s71 of the [Care and Protection of Children Act](#).

Planning should be a collaborative process involving the young person, their Case Manager, family, partner agencies and any persons identified by the young person as significant in their lives.

A young person, who has left care and meets the criteria for ongoing support, has the right to continued assistance from Territory Families and agencies funded to provide this support. The ongoing support will be designed to meet the needs of the young person.

Legislative Basis

[Care and Protection of Children Act 2007 sections 68 and 86](#)

Standards

[Standards of Professional Practice 1, 2, 5 and 6](#)

Authorised by:

Executive Director, Service Development and Policy on:	16/03/2015	Active from:	16/03/2015
Version 1.0	To inform Territory Families staff of the requirements for leaving care planning for young people leaving the CEO's care.		

Current Version v1.01

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