



# The Through Care Service in East Sussex

A Guide for 18 years old+

**East Sussex**  
County Council



## Welcome to the Through Care Service, we look forward to working with you.



In this guide you will find out about the support and services which will be available to you now that you have turned 18.

So what you can expect from us now you have turned 18?

- ▶ You will have an allocated Personal Advisor
- ▶ Your views and feelings will be put together in a Pathway Plan which will be updated at least every 6 months; the written document will provide information about your current circumstances and your plans and goals for the future.
- ▶ You will be encouraged to attend health appointments.
- ▶ Support will be available to assist you in making decisions with regard to your future and to help you with any difficulties you are facing.
- ▶ We will continue to work with you until you are at least 21, this will be extended to 25 if you stay in higher education or express a desire to continue to work with us. You can return to us for support if you decide to access higher education after the age of 21 and before your 26<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

### Financial Support

- ▶ A setting up allowance to assist you in equipping your accommodation once it has been agreed that you will live independently.
- ▶ If it becomes necessary we will support you in applying for Benefits.

### Accommodation

- ▶ Support to 'stay put' with your foster carers or lodgings providers if this is appropriate.
- ▶ Support to find appropriate accommodation; this may include applying to your local Housing Department to have your name added to the housing register.

### Education and Training

- ▶ Support to assist you in continuing in education, training or finding employment.
- ▶ If you continue in further education you will be encouraged to continue to engage in a PEP.
- ▶ If you decide to undertake an apprenticeship we will consider your individual circumstances and ensure that you are not worse off financially than you would be on benefits.
- ▶ If you decide to attend university, your accommodation will be paid for and you will receive a grant to assist you with academic expenses.
- ▶ If you get a job we will ensure that the transition from benefits to wages does not leave you in financial difficulty.

### What we ask of you...

- ▶ To keep in contact with your Personal Advisor and agree how often you want to meet with them.
- ▶ Let your Personal Advisor know what support you need and how they can assist you, remembering that you are now an adult and will need to start to take responsibility for your plans and decisions.
- ▶ Take a lead in your Pathway Plan, you can chair the meeting if you would like to do so.
- ▶ Identify any gaps in your life skills and work with your Personal Advisor to address these areas.
- ▶ Treat those who work with you and your accommodation with respect.
- ▶ Consider ways that you could support other 'looked after' young people and the Through Care Service.
- ▶ Have your say about how services are delivered.