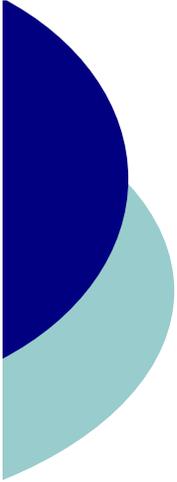


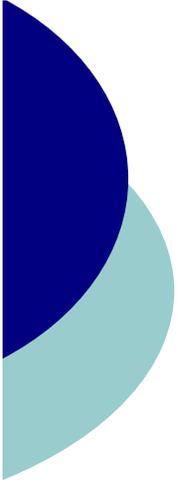
Pathways to adulthood The challenges of corporate parenting

Mike Stein
Research Professor



Care2adulthood: presentation

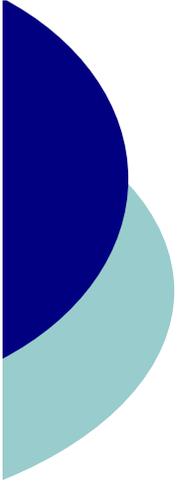
- ◆ What are the challenges of the new agenda?
 - ◆ *Care Matters* implementation plan
 - ◆ Children and Young Persons Act 2008
 - ◆ Planning Transition to Adulthood for Looked After Children guidance and regulations
- ◆ What are the implications for young people's pathways to adulthood?
- ◆ What are the implications for supporting these pathways
- ◆ What are the implications for corporate parenting?



Care2adulthood: the big challenge

'What if this was my young person would it be good enough for them?'

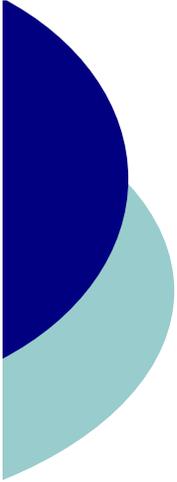
- ◆ 3 main pathways to adulthood
 - ◆ Being in settled, safe accommodation
 - ◆ Being in education, training and employment
 - ◆ Achieving good health and wellbeing
- ◆ Connected and reinforcing
- ◆ Gradual, extended, non-linear and supported
- ◆ Care2adulthood can be:
 - ◆ Shorter, more severe, inconsistent support
 - ◆ Disadvantaged on 3 main pathways



Care2adulthood: accommodation pathway

'Make sure you are on your feet first, don't leave early just because you can'

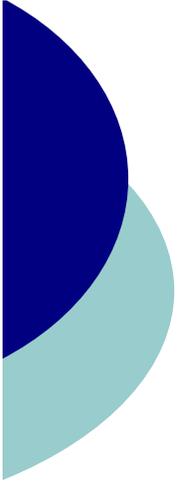
- ◆ 'Staying put' – the foundation stone
- ◆ Changing role of foster carers?
- ◆ Changing role of children's homes?
- ◆ Section 8 of CYP Act 2008
- ◆ Similar reasons for 'staying put'
- ◆ Range of supported accommodation



Care2adulthood: being in settled, safe accommodation

'I didn't want to be on my own, I just felt lonely, I didn't stop at the house very much, without key worker support I would collapse'

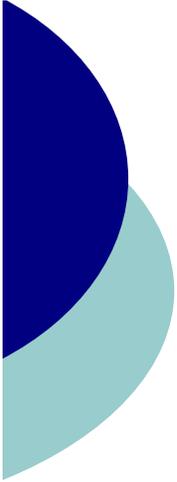
- ◆ choosing when to leave care
- ◆ being well prepared
- ◆ having a choice of accommodation
- ◆ being safe
- ◆ being supported by leaving care services
family, friends and mentors
- ◆ having an income or receiving financial assistance
- ◆ being involved in all stages



Care2adulthood: education, training and employment

‘Stick in at school, go to college, it will pay off in the end’

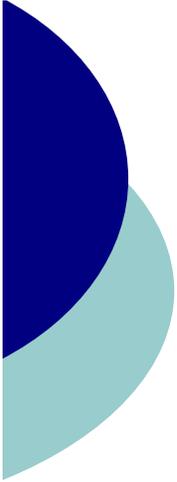
- ◆ More recognition of post 16 Further Education:
 - ◆ Pathway to employment
 - ◆ Pathway to higher education
- ◆ Helping young people ‘catch up’
- ◆ More recognition of ‘catch-up’ in universal benefits (starting FE after 19)
- ◆ Employment initiatives



Care2adulthood: health and wellbeing

‘I’ve got much worse (since leaving) and I hate being like I am, I don’t care about myself so why should I care about other people’

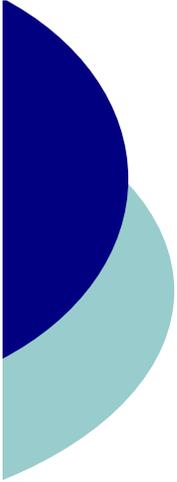
- ◆ Vulnerable ‘former relevant’ young people
 - ◆ Not in education or training
 - ◆ Complex needs
 - ◆ Do not meet thresholds for adult services
 - ◆ Benefit from continuity of support by PA to 25
- ◆ *‘Children with disabilities’* large group
- ◆ Transition issues for specific groups
- ◆ Additional group *‘young people not in suitable accommodation’*



Care2adulthood: supporting pathways

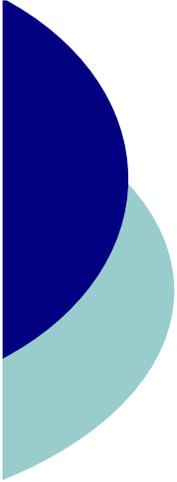
‘I’ve learnt to live out of care – with a back up team’

- ◆ Being supported into adulthood – out of hours support, opportunities to return to care
- ◆ Formal, personal advisers, leaving care teams
- ◆ Regulation of ‘personal adviser’ workforce
- ◆ Mentoring schemes, peer mentoring
- ◆ Informal, former carers, positive family links



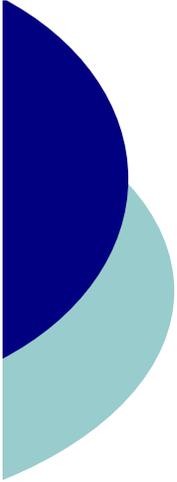
Care2adulthood: supporting pathways

- ◆ Wide variations between local authorities in financial support
- ◆ *‘the types of support families provide’*
- ◆ For young people – *‘the best parent’*
- ◆ Guidance could identify the ‘levers’:
 - ◆ Involving young people in the development of all financial policies
 - ◆ Transparency through publication in all formats of financial policies
 - ◆ Involving young people in the review of financial policies



Care2adulthood: the challenges of corporate parenting – resilience across the life course

- ◆ **Corporate parenting:** the quality of the carer gives meaning to corporate parenting
- ◆ **In care:** stability and continuity; assistance to overcome educational deficits; assistance with health and wellbeing
- ◆ **Leaving care:** gradual and supported journey from care
- ◆ **After-care:** ongoing support into adulthood
- ◆ **From leaving care to care2adulthood:** a radical re-think of services?



Care2adulthood: meeting the challenge

‘Care has done a lot for me. It’s helped me out. Helped me realise what life is all about and how to look after myself’

‘Care has given me great opportunities. Before I didn’t have a clue what I wanted to do. At home my parents didn’t care what I did’