**28/09/2020 – CYP leadership group urgent action required**

Children and young people with disabilities and especially those with more complex disabilities and their family carers require urgent action to ensure that consistent and effective care packages are in place for further COVID restrictions. This group were neglected during the first phase with the withdrawal of services including allied health professions leaving their health and wellbeing compromised and an unsustainable 24/7 care role placed on their family carers. Increased physical care including; extended moving and lifting; expectations of education and therapy to be delivered as well as supporting other children in the household; and for some attempting to home work; has left family carers in a fragile and unsustainable position.

Young people in transition from children to adult social care services are also in crisis and families have been left with no day opportunities or respite for their young person. The expectation that they can continue to provide 24/7 care must be addressed immediately and planning for future transitions should be instigated as a priority.

Children, young people and their families require immediate action on:

1. Development of individualised packages of care and intervention to support further COVID restrictions. This should include the provision of AHP intervention and support, equipment and training, 24 hour postural care interventions, designated teacher/education support.
2. Collaborative risk assessments with family carers at the heart of these so that expertise is utilised and they are partner to all planning and interventions.
3. Virtual transition teams to be established now to support young people leaving school
4. Urgent review and action of those young people who have left school and currently have no day opportunities or support.

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