What options do I have?

Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services

It’s your decision whether you want a support service case to help you with your transition to adulthood.

**Support   
service case**

Information for young people   
transitioning to adulthood

If you choose not to work with us once you turn 18, we can refer you to Next Step Plus for support. Next Step Plus is a free support service for young people aged 15 to 25 years with a care experience. If you need practical advice or have trouble with anything, they’ll help you to sort them out, no matter how big or small. Check out their website: [**www.nextstepplus.com.au**](http://www.nextstepplus.com.au)

We can also provide information about other services in your community that may help you.



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| More information  We recognise that this may be a worrying time for you, and we want to work with you to do what’s best for you. You can talk to us at any time about what’s happening.  **Transition Officer:**  **Child Safety Officers:**  **Senior Team Leader:**  **Child Safety Service Centre:**  Phone:  **Child Safety After Hours Service Centre:** Phone: 3235 9999 or freecall 1800 177 135 |

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What is a support service case?



Turning 18 is a big deal for most young people because it means you’re now legally an adult and you can choose how you wish to live your life. You can vote, find your own place to live and get a job.

For many young people in care, turning 18 can feel a little scary because it means your child protection order ends and we no longer have a legal role in your life.

It’s very important to us that you’re supported to live as an independent adult and know that you’re not alone.

A support service case is about working together to support you in your transition to adulthood.

We’ll talk with you about the goals you want to achieve and make a plan to help you meet your goals. This could include help with:

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|  | **housing** — helping you find somewhere to live  **education** — helping you enrol in training or education  **employment** — helping you find a job  **counselling and other services** — helping you access support to look after yourself. |

The length of time for a support service case varies and depends on your needs.



What happens next?

When you’ve agreed to the support service case, our Child Safety Officer will meet with you regularly to review your plan and support you in meeting your goals.

We can talk with you at home, your child safety service centre, or at another location that you agree to.

We’ll continue working with you until all the goals outlined in your plan have been met and you have the support you need to live independently as an adult.