

Aftercare Data Protection Notice

This notice was last reviewed in June 2024.



Introduction

Aftercare services provide support to young people and young adults to assist them in developing independent living skills and to prepare them for leaving care. The programme delivers services to young adults in their earlier adult life, up to 21 years of age or to the age of 23 when in full time education or accredited training. The support services are customised to each young person's individual circumstances and involves co-operation and partnership with other key stakeholders.

The aftercare service process is summarised below, describing the purpose, types of personal data, and whom the information may be shared with, depending on the various individual circumstances and eligibility.

Process	Personal Data	Purpose*	Information may be shared with
Referral for aftercare service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification information including birth certificate, genogram, and photographs• Care plan• Physical characteristics• Location information• Information on family, lifestyle, and social circumstances• Health and welfare information• Special category information, including court orders	<p>A referral is made by the young person/young adult or anyone acting on their behalf.</p> <p>A formal, written referral is submitted to the aftercare manager by the allocated social worker, or social work department.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tusla Social Worker/allocated worker• Voluntary groups• Other professionals• Family members/legal guardians• Foster carers/ supported lodgings• residential services
Skills assessment for development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification information including name, Personal Public Service (PPS), and passport number• Location and contact information• Financial information• Education and employment information• Immigration information• Health and welfare information• Personal and social development information	<p>The skills assessment is optional, allowing young persons to identify life skills they possess</p> <p>identifying options to develop further skills to prepare them for independent living.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioned Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) (e.g. St John of Gods)• Service providers (e.g. for health care, provision of work experience, apprenticeships, and employment opportunities).• Education providers (offering access to additional training and individual financial support to help secure employment).

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Assessment of need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification information • Location information • Information on family, lifestyle, and social circumstances • Health and welfare information • Immigration information • Financial information • Education and employment information • Personal and social development information • Special category information including religion, ethnicity, views and opinions of young person and criminal information 	<p>The Child Care Amendment Act imposes a statutory duty on Tusla to undertake an assessment of need for young persons, who meet the eligibility criteria for an aftercare service. The assessment of need includes the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Education – Finance and budgeting – Training and employment – Health and wellbeing – Personal and social development – Accommodation – Family support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned NGOs • Community groups • Foster carers/Support lodgings • Health Service Executive • Guardian ad Litem • Residential Services • Tusla Social Worker/allocated worker • Courts • Commissioned Private Services • Solicitors • Education Board/Education Training Board • Family members/legal guardians
Aftercare plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification information including name, PPS, and passport number • Location and Contact details • Immigration information • Financial information • Education information • Health and welfare information • Information on family, lifestyle, and social circumstances • Special category information 	<p>The Child Care Amendment Act places a responsibility on Tusla to prepare an aftercare plan following an assessment of need.</p> <p>An aftercare plan is prepared, maintained, and reviewed by the aftercare worker and the young person/young adult in conjunction with their social worker and other key people in their lives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned NGOs • Foster carers/Support lodgings • Local Authority • Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) • Health Service Executive • Department of Education and commissioned services (National Learning Network) • Department of Social Protection • Department of Environment and commissioned services • Department of Children and Youth Affairs • Department of Justice and associated services • An Garda Síochána (AGS) • Commissioned Private Services • Solicitors • Family/legal guardians • Residential services • Courts • Education Providers/Education Training Board

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Referral form for Interagency Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name • Date of birth • Current address • Brief care history 	A referral is made to the Interagency Steering Committee by the social worker or aftercare worker.	<u>Interagency Steering Committee:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authority • Health Service Executive • Commissioned NGOs • Commissioned Private Services • Approved Housing bodies • Education providers/Education Training Board • Empowering People in Care (EPIC) • An Garda Síochána (AGS) • Guardian ad Litem • Probation services • Residential Services • Department of Social Protection • Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSCs)
Interagency Steering Committee decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pseudonymised information (<i>where personal identifiable information is replaced so data cannot be attributed to a specific person without additional information</i>). • Physical characteristics and location information • Information on family, lifestyle, and social circumstances • Special category information 	The interagency steering committee establishes a system for interagency planning for young person/young adults. The purpose of the committee is to have a mechanism for interagency planning for young people leaving care with complex needs, that will require a coordinated response to access a range of adult services. Packs are circulated amongst committee members for decision making. The packs contain pseudonymised personal data of the young person/young adult.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interagency Steering Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authority • Health Service Executive • Commissioned / private NGO • Approved Housing bodies • Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage • Education providers • An Garda Síochána (AGS) • Residential Services / Supported Lodgings • Department of Social Protection • CYPSCs
Drop-in service clinic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifiable information for cases that are not open to aftercare • Pseudonymised information (<i>where personal identifiable information is replaced</i> 	An ad hoc drop-in service clinic and dedicated phone line is available to young person/young adults (with a care history) who wish to avail themselves of additional support services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioned NGOs • Community groups • Foster carers/Support lodgings • Health Service Executive

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- Case note will be created for open cases or cases that will be open as a result of drop in contact, these will not be pseudonymised.
- Date of birth
- Gender

- Guardian ad Litem
 - Residential Services
 - Tusla Social Worker/allocated worker
 - Courts
 - Commissioned Private Services
 - Solicitors
 - Education Board/Education Training Board
 - Families/legal guardians
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*Purpose and Legal Basis

The purpose for processing personal data is to provide aftercare services and supports to young people under the following legal basis:

- Compliance with a legal obligation where Tusla is required under section 45A of the Child Care (Amendment) Act 2015 to assist in meeting the needs of young people and young adults who have been in care.
- Necessary for the performance of tasks carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in Tusla.

The processing of special category data for aftercare purposes is necessary:

- For carrying out the obligations and exercising specific rights in the field of social protection law.
- To protect the vital interests of an individual and for reasons of substantial public interest.
- For the provision and management of social care systems and services.

Data Protection Rights

All individuals have legal rights in relation to their personal data. For further data protection information or to exercise these data rights please see the main [Tusla Data Protection Notice](#)