**Proposed Children’s Home Care Model - Nottingham City Council**

Nottingham City Council are seeking a home care provider to offer a high quality home care service to children and young people with a permanent and substantial disability, aged up to 18 years old[[1]](#footnote-1). The provider will need to be able to provide support Monday to Sunday, 356 days a year. Nottingham City Council intend that our home care service will work to the principles of the re-ablement model of care. The aim of the model is to empower families to be able to take responsibility and manage their own child’s personal care with support, rather than being solely reliant on a home care provider completing their child’s personal care. The model encourages the parent/carer to take the lead in their child’s personal care with a view to the family becoming as independent as possible.

**Referrals to the service**

Where a family requires home care support, they would make a referral to Nottingham City Council’s Whole Life Disability team. A needs led assessment will be undertaken by a Social Worker/Occupational therapist, who would assess and identify if there is a home care requirement, and assess what the home care requirement may be. Following this being approved by the head of service, a referral would be made to the home care provider.

On request of home care, the home care provider would be required to arrange a home visit to the family to develop a plan of support that they will provide to the family, and assess what time period this will be completed over. The home care provider may need to observe a morning/evening routine in order to be able identify what areas the family are struggling with and what support they will require.

**Service model**

The home care intervention is intended to be short term. Having completed the assessment it may be identified that the family are struggling with completing the personal care due to a number of reasons which may include;

* The family may not have a clear routine, or the routine they have in place may not be working for them. The home care provider would be required to work with the family by offering some practical support sessions to help them implement changes and establish a strong routine. The sessions would include offering advice around practical support/skills that the parent may be lacking, causing them to struggle with managing their child’s personal care. Following delivery of the support identified in the initial plan, and equipping the parents with these practical skills, the home care provider would cease their support.
* The child/young person may need 2:1 support due involuntary movements, and therefore the family may need support with transfers/moving and handling. The parent may have the skills to undertake the personal care tasks but may be a single carer and have no-one to support them in these tasks. The home care provider would act as the secondary worker supporting the parent, however the parent would be the lead carer. The home care worker would be going into the family home to support with the moving and handling as identified. Prior to the home care worker’s arrival, the parent would be required to have completed the tasks which can be complete without a second worker. For example, if it is to get the child/young person showered, the parent will have already completed any preparation such as having the cleaning products out, child/young person’s clothes, already woken the child and administered any medication/health procedure the child may need prior to bathing. The home care provider would be required to develop a step-by-step plan with the parent/carer outlining the expectations/tasks to be completed by the parent/carer prior to the home carer’s arrival – this would need to be done before the care package could commence.

In this example, the home care provider would be expected to work with the family in the longer term.

Once the home care provider has completed their assessment, and developed a care plan detailing what their proposed package of support would look like, this must be returned to Nottingham City Council for oversight and agreement before the home care provider can commence delivery of the package of support.

If the home care provider delivers the agreed package of care, and finds that the family require more support than initially identified, the home care service would need to re-submit an updated care plan to Nottingham City Council and outline the reason for the extension, the time they require and what support they would expect to provide. This would need to be reviewed and agreed by Nottingham City Council before the home care provider would be able to provide the additional support sessions.

**Expected level of activity**

Nottingham City’s current Children’s Homecare service is contracted to provide up to 1,000 hours of activity per year. However, the current service is provided as part of Nottingham City Council’s Short Break offer to disabled children and their families. The new service will not be provided as a Short Break. This may increase the number of hours required.

**Payment**

This service will be paid for in two parts –

* Block payment of £33,500 for up to 450 hours of support provided
* Additional support beyond the first 450 hours will be paid at an hourly rate of £28 per hour.
1. The service is intended for children/young people of any age up to 18 years old, though it is very unlikely that the provider would be asked to support a very young child. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)