**Short Breaks for Disabled Children - Cheshire East Market Engagement Event – 28th February 2020**

Cheshire East Council is holding a market engagement event for providers interested in the forthcoming re-commission of Short Breaks for Disabled Children.

The event will take place on **Friday 28th February 2020 at Cledford House, Long Lane South, Middlewich, Cheshire, CW10 0DB, between 10:00 to 12:00hrs.**

The purpose of the event is to provide an overview of current Short Break services available for Disabled Children of Cheshire East, together with our plans for commissioned services in the future. In order to raise awareness and share our plans surrounding the re-commission, you are invited to join this event which will provide an opportunity to ask questions prior to the procurement exercise that will commence March-April 2020.

**About Short Breaks**

Short Breaks Services for Children with Disabilities form an integral part of the overall local offer for children with disabilities within Cheshire East ensuring that our statutory duty as a local authority is met. In addition to commissioned services, the local offer for children with disabilities includes Early Help Individual Payments, Direct Payments and Residential Short Breaks. The current service design of commissioned services will be reviewed to ensure that the re-commission focuses on achieving the 6 outcomes of the Children and Young People’s Plan 2019-2021. The re-commission will also focus on achieving greater value for money and effectiveness for children, young people and their families.

The current Short Breaks service provision includes the following programmes:

* Regular activities weekly or fortnightly during term time and / or school holidays. These activities are offered during weekends, after school and/or in school holidays
* Examples of this provision include: group based social or youth clubs, sports and activity sessions, drama and arts classes, social skills groups 1:1 support and rebound therapy
* One-to-one support for disabled children and young people to access local community based universal (available to all) social and leisure activities they would not otherwise be able to participate in
* Example of this support include supported activities in universal settings, ‘Buddy’ schemes
* Group sessions for young people who traditionally because of specific care needs, experience difficulties accessing universal and inclusive or other targeted provision

The session should take around 2 hours and the format of the event will be as follows:

* Introduction
* Co-production and engagement
* Partnership working and adding value
* Social Value
* Service delivery e.g. times/locations
* Financial Information
* Procurement timetable and using the CHEST (e-tendering portal) and ICT Security
* Questions and answers

If you are interested in attending this event, please book your place by going to Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/short-breaks-for-disabled-children-cheshire-east-market-engagement-event-tickets-90795254049> or telephoning 07909953508.

It is important that you book your place at the engagement session so that we can ensure a productive discussion and manage the practicalities surrounding the venue.

Also, ahead of the market engagements session, if you require any initial guidance / hints & tips to help you prepare for the tender opportunity and some of the practicalities utilising the CHEST portal please make contact via the email address below:

Procurement@cheshireeast.gov.uk