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Short Breaks Market Engagement 2023

Agenda

Welcome

Strategy

Re-Procurement

Needs

Questions

Next Steps

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Short Breaks Strategy – The Vision

We want our children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to be healthy, happy and safe, and able to achieve their potential to lead a fulfilling life. We want them to have, and to expect, the same opportunities in life as other children and young people (SEND Strategy). Our approach will be from birth to settled adulthood (0-25 years old).

A key part of this is supporting children who are disabled to enjoy family life. Part of how we do this is by enabling parent carers who need it to have regular and substantial breaks from looking after their children, who can in turn have fun and constructive activity opportunities which meet their complex needs, help develop friendships and prepare for adult life.

This is part of the SEND Pathway, one of our strategic priorities, and the vision is to ensure that children and young people with SEND, and their families can easily access the right support from services, at the right time. We want short break opportunities for children and young adults to be available and meet the needs of all families who require them.

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Short Breaks Specification and Re-Procurement

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Short Breaks Strategy - Planning

We plan to:

- Re-Procurement of the Short Breaks Framework
- Expand the Short Breaks offer to Dorset families by including young people aged 18-25.
- Promote local and accessible provision by aligning commissioning of services with Dorset Localities.
- Ask providers to focus on activities which promote friendships and the development of daily living skills.
- Enable more choice and control by improving how young people and families can use Direct Payments to purchase care and support.
- Communicate the short breaks offer more effectively to families.

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Provisional Timeline

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Short Breaks Specification

- **Services**

Individual Support 0-25 (Dorset Care Framework)

Overnight Residential Short Breaks 0-18

Individual Support 0-25 PAs via Direct Payments

Group Activity Short Breaks 0-25

Blended approach – block contracts and Direct Payments

Age 0-25

Outside of School Hours

Personal and Social Development to include Independent living skills for 14-25

Parent/Carer will not be responsible for the care of the CYP during the break

Targeted short breaks across the whole county

Key Requirements

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Dorset Care, Support, Housing and Community Safety Framework
1:1 Support 0-25

Lot 27 – Children's Care and Support at Home and Support in the Community

- Care and Support at Home includes services to support children and young people with disabilities as individuals in their own home.
- Community Support involves the inclusion of children and young people with disabilities into mainstream and universal activities, and targeted short break activities within their local community.
- Social Care assessment required
- Spot purchased

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Group Activity Short Breaks

Targeted Short Breaks

- Services intended for children and young people who are disabled and who need some additional support, or who may need groups and services specifically designed to meet their needs.
- Social care assessment not required.
- To cover 0-25 age group
- A combination of block contract and independently paid for services.
- A 3 year contract April 2024 – March 2027 with the option to extend for a further 2 years
- Provision that covers all localities

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Residential Short Breaks

Residential Short Breaks aged 7-18

- Planned overnight breaks typically for a single night or weekend.
- Provides opportunity for interaction with others and the development of friendships, independence and communication skills within a homely environment.
- Social care assessment required
- Individual Call-Off

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What did families tell us?

Group Activities

Direct Payments Survey December 2022

Parents and carers not able to access provision locally told us:

- Their child has medium or high support needs (80%)
- They are prepared to travel 30 minutes (100%) to an hour (45%)
- They would like short (up to 4 hours) weekend provision (75%), or all day weekend provision (15%)
- They would like school holiday cover (85%)
- They would like after school and/or evening support (60%)

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What does Dorset Need?

- Venues that meet the needs of children and young people with disabilities
- Inclusive approach across the delivery of support for all levels of need
- Diversification to include additional support funded through Direct Payments.
- Adequate Targeted Provision for circa 450 children and young people
- Specialist provision for circa 350 children and young people
- Support outside of school hours
- Support across the whole local authority

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Discussion

Are there any questions?

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Next Steps

Feedback from today will be shared on the Supplying the South West portal

Providers to register on the portal

Full details of the tender to be released via the Supplying the South West Portal – applications welcome!

Thank you!

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