**LONDON BOROUGH OF REDBRIDGE**

**MARKET ENGAGEMENT EXERCISE FOR**

**THE PROVISION OF SHORT BREAK SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

**TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED VIA THE LONDON TENDERS PORTAL MESSAGE FUNCTION BY**

**WEDNESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2022 MIDDAY (12 NOON)**

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The London Borough of Redbridge (“the Authority”) is seeking expressions of interest and information for the provision of Short Breaks Services for children and young people with disabilities.

Short breaks are intended to have positive benefits for both disabled children and young people (5-25 years) and their parents and carers. The main aims of short break services are to provide disabled children and young people the opportunity to:

* Spend time away from their parents and carers
* Relax and have fun to develop friendships
* Develop their independence.

They also give families an opportunity to have a break from their caring responsibilities; and spend time with other members of their family. Short break provision can range from a few hours per week to an allocated number of activity days/breaks per year. Short breaks can include day, evening, weekend activities, school holidays and after school. It can also include befriending and enabling young people to access leisure-based activities, transition support and independence skills. The service may take place in the child or young person’s own home, or an activity centre or community setting. The provision of short breaks is considered an important part of the support provided to families of disabled children and young people.

The service is scheduled to commence on 1st November 2022. It is anticipated that the contract will be for a period of three years with possible extensions, dependent on performance but that is yet to be confirmed.

Please note that this exercise is intended to assess the level of interest from potential providers, to provide the services outlined above and help inform the service. Your responses are not “evaluated’’ or scored as this exercise is not part of a procurement process this is for engagement and development purposes.

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| **General Business**  **An overview of your organisation.** | |
| Name of your organisation? |  |
| Do you currently offer this service? If yes, do you provide short breaks only or short breaks and other support services? |  |
| If you currently offer this service, do you provide whole days, half days or other? |  |
| Please briefly outline your organisations’ track record in providing this type of service |  |
| Please list the scope of all the services your organisation currently provides. |  |
| The names of any local authorities where you carry out similar services. It would be of assistance if you provided a short synopsis of the services provided and contact names. |  |
| Are the services your organisation offers commissioned via Framework Agreements or Spot purchasing? |  |

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| **Market Information**  **We wish to understand how your organisation looks to develop in the future.** | |
| Are there current developments, trends or innovations in the marketplace that you feel the Local Authority would benefit from utilising? |  |
| Please identify the challenges or constraints in the market or in-service delivery? |  |
| Are there any other services you think could be included in the scope that could assist in achieving efficiencies? |  |
| How could the Local Authority ensure your organisation is able to remain financially sustainable? |  |

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| **Delivery**  **We are keen to know how your organisation currently operates.** | |
| Does your organisation operate a short breaks service using a certain model? If so, could you provide a brief overview and any benefits. |  |
| How would you evidence the impact that service delivery has had on service users? |  |
| What innovative services do you offer that improve outcomes and reduce inequalities? |  |
| What ability and experience do you have of working in partnership with key stakeholders and other providers? |  |
| Do you have the capability to signpost and refer to other suppliers when you are not able to provide a particular service? |  |
| Do you provide services to users who do not live in the borough you are primarily based in? If not, would you be interested in accepting service users from other boroughs? |  |

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| **Engagement**  **We are trying to understand how we can encourage service users who are unknown to the Local Authority or who may have difficulties engaging with specific services.** | |
| Are you aware of any approaches that would enable us to improve access with communities that do not engage with mainstream services? |  |
| How would you target service users who are hard to engage with? |  |
| How would you assist with increasing visibility and awareness of the service? |  |

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| **Buildings**  **We are interested in how providers are currently managing buildings relating to Short Breaks and how much flexibility there is to expand or change the services on offer.** | |
| Are you based in any buildings relating to Short Breaks? If yes, is the building privately owned, rented from a private landlord or rented from the Local Authority? |  |
| If rented from the Local Authority, are you paying peppercorn rent, commercial rent or other? (Another arrangement) |  |

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| **Covid**  **We would like to understand what your organisation had to change during the pandemic.** | |
| Did you have plans for mitigating the effect of COVID when supporting people? |  |
| What were the main changes you made during the pandemic? Will you go back to how you were before Covid or will you keep some of the changes in place? |  |
| During COVID did you offer an alternative to building based services that met the needs of the service users? |  |

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| **Capability and Capacity** | |
| Based on the information provided, would your organisation have capacity and interest to provide this service? |  |
| Would your organisation be willing to discuss the responses in more detail? |  |