





Services for children with disabilities

Transformation plan

In order to achieve the outcomes for children and young people with disabilities and their families and to create effective and efficient services, the following 6 key themes for redesign and recommissioning will be focussed on in 2011/2012. The aim being to draw up service specifications by April 2011 and to procure services to be in place by January 2012.

1. To develop a flexible and creative model for short breaks, respite and family support, building on the personalisation agenda and use of direct payments and personal budgets.

outcomes

-  To demonstrate increased resilience in parent carers of children/young people with disabilities
-  To show an increase in the independence of children and young people with disabilities
-  To reduce social isolation of children and young people with disabilities and their families
-  To promote life chances and maximise potential of children and young people with disabilities

To develop a system for the recruitment, management, training and support for workers interested in offering support to children and young people and their families who can be employed via a personalised budget. To work with all partners to consider the most appropriate way to manage such a network, within or outside the statutory sector and ensuring the key features relied on by parents are available ie :

- Security in the knowledge that the child/young person is being supported by an individual(s) who is appropriate, trained and competent to manage the needs of the child/young person
- All safeguarding and child protection procedures are in place
- The system will respond to emergencies/crises wherever possible eg sickness of a PA
- Parent carers are well supported to manage (if necessary) recruitment and payment issues for the PA and

- appropriate infrastructure is in place to manage direct payments and personalisation
- Allocation of resources is via a fair and transparent system

The system should also ensure there are employed staff who are able to offer direct support to children and families where it is agreed that the parent carers are unable to manage a personal budget

To develop a resource allocation and access criteria system, making clear links with commissioning and provision of services for adults and ensuring joint planning and shared commissioning from the age of 14 years.

To make more flexible use of personal budgets, to allow families to 'purchase' services that best meet their needs, and those of their child, from a menu of available options. This could include both individual support and access to clubs, holiday schemes and groups.

Action plan

Action	Date	responsibility
To convene a commissioning group to define a service specification	First meeting December 2010	Strategic commissioner
To describe the services required	January 2011	Commissioning group
To define the levels of service required	February 2011	Commissioning group
To analyse the impact on current services and providers/contracts	February 2011	Commissioning group
To describe the outcomes and performance framework	February 2011	Commissioning group
To finalise service specification	March 2011	Commissioning group with support from contracts and procurement
Procurement	April 2010- September 2011	Commissioning group with support from contracts and procurement

The service specification will be costed and alternative costing models included in light of financial uncertainty.

2. Residential services

outcomes

- ✚ To demonstrate increased resilience in parent carers of children/young people with disabilities
- ✚ To show an increase in the independence of children and young people with disabilities
- ✚ To reduce social isolation of children and young people with disabilities and their families

To undertake a review of respite/residential provision in a strategic way looking at the viability of in-house provision and the needs of young people and their families for respite taking full account of what we know about the difficulties of finding alternative overnight respite for some children/young people

To consider linking continuing health care resources with those for respite and residential services to extend the range of needs that could be met within settings

To actively engage with third sector and in-house placements team to revisit the placement of some specific young people

To work collaboratively with colleagues in social care and housing to best and most effectively meet the needs of children and young people who require substantial packages of care.

Action plan

Action	Date	Responsibility
To establish a short term review group	First meeting March 2011	Strategic commissioner
To define levels of overnight respite provision needed	June 2011	
To analyse current provision against required within a value for money framework	June 2011	
Agree service specification for overnight respite provision	September 2011	
Consultation	September-November 2011	
Procurement	November 2011 - January 2012	

3. Intensive support service

outcomes

- ✚ To increase inclusion within mainstream services
- ✚ To minimise impairment and disability

To look at outreach service and linking with health visiting, nursery nursing and therapies and other CVS partners to develop an intensive support model for those experiencing particular difficulties with behaviour, communication, complex developmental delay.

Action	Date	Responsibility
To establish a short term group to define the service	First meeting March 2011	Strategic commissioner to facilitate setting up of group
To define levels of provision needed	June 2011	
To analyse current provision against required within a value for money framework	June 2011	
Agree service specification	September 2011	
Consultation	September-November 2011	
Redesign and implementation	November 2011 - January 2012	

4. Service modernisation

To redesign administrative pathways and modernise support functions taking account of the business analysis project and considering the balance between support services and frontline service provision

Action	Date	Responsibility
To establish a short term review group	First meeting January 2011	Strategic commissioner to facilitate – Head of Child Development and Disability to lead operational working group
To define administrative pathways	January-March 2011	

To analyse current provision against required within a value for money framework	April 2011	
Consultation	May 2011	
Implementation	September 2011	

5. To work with all key partners to ensure the core offer is met

Access to appropriate information at all stages of life,
 Transparency in support services with eligibility criteria clearly communicated,
 Involvement of children with disabilities and their families in the development of services.

outcomes

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- ✚ To show an increase in the independence of children and young people with disabilities
- ✚ To reduce social isolation of children and young people with disabilities and their families
- ✚ To promote life chances and maximise potential of children and young people with disabilities
- ✚ To improve participation of children, young people and parent carers in the design and delivery of services
- ✚ To improve the quality and transparency of decision making

Action	Date	Responsibility
To establish a short term review group	First meeting January 2011	Strategic commissioner to facilitate
To define access criteria	January-March 2011	
Consultation	May 2011	
Implementation	September 2011	

6. Work with all key partners to ensure short breaks are effective, value for money and meet the needs of children, young people and families

To respond to identified need from parents and carers for short breaks in school holidays, after school and weekends and ensure services are designed accordingly. By taking account of local and national intelligence, define service specifications for short breaks and commission against these service specifications.

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