

Short Breaks for Children and Young People with Physical and Learning Disabilities

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Policy

- § Statutory duty on local authorities to provide short breaks from April 2011 working in partnership with the NHS
- § Aiming High for Disabled Children (2007)
 - § “all families with disabled children to have the support they need to live ordinary family lives, as a matter of course”
- § Better Care, Better Lives (2008)
- § Healthy Lives, Brighter Futures (2009)
- § Torbay Short Breaks Review (2008)
- § Torbay Children’s Disability Strategy (2008)
- § Torbay Children and Young People’s Plan (2010-2013)

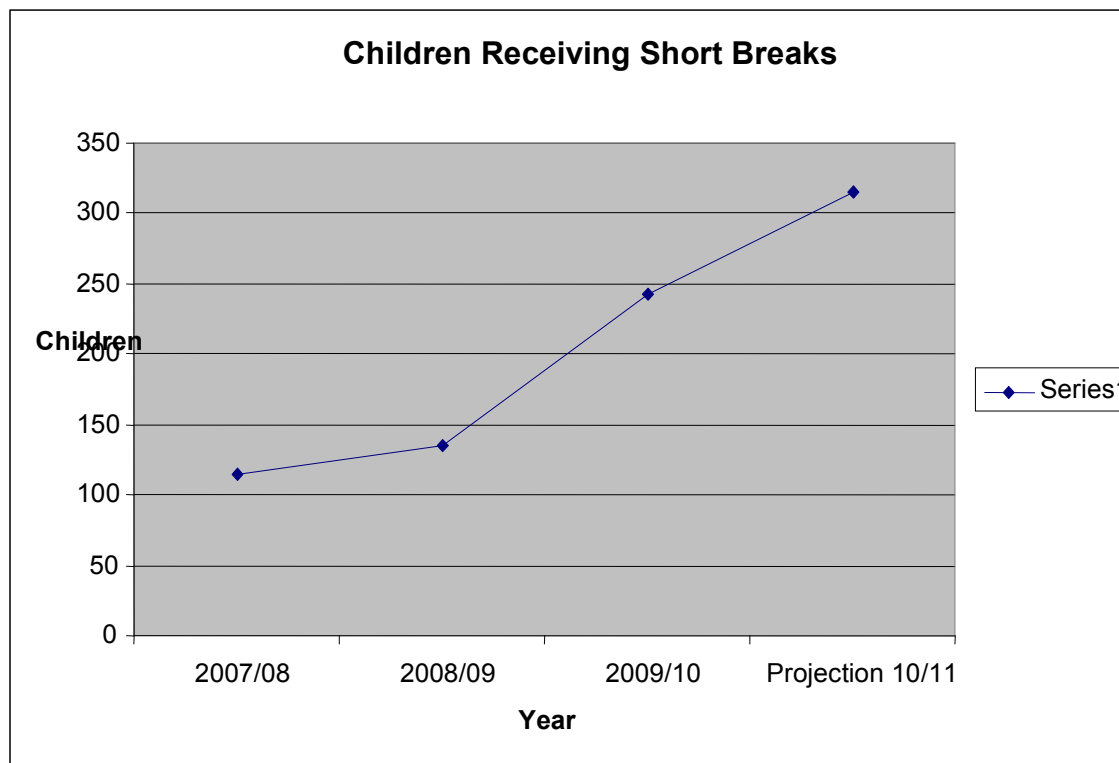
Short Breaks

- § Provide families with regular breaks from caring
- § Should be supportive, fun and stimulating for children and young people
- § Can take place over a few hours, overnight or a period of time i.e. a holiday
- § Can take place in a range of settings: i.e. through accessing play schemes and activities in the community, in a carers home, baby sitter, childminders and befrienders working in family homes, overnight residential settings
- § Families should have a choice- a menu of activities and options to choose from

Accessing Breaks

- § Fair Access to Carers Breaks Assessment to assess the short break needs of both the child/young person and the parent/carer and family undertaken by the Lead Professional with input from other agencies where appropriate.
- § The Assessment gives the family an overall score which equates to an indicative allocation of funding. This enables an appropriate short breaks package to be developed in partnership with the child and family choosing from a range of provision
- § The chosen short break services can be purchased on behalf of a family or they can have their own Direct Payment, giving them the control to purchase what they need

Torbay Statistics



Source: Torbay Local Area Implementation Plan Overview 04/05/10

A menu of short breaks

- § Families have a choice of services
- § This contract would be an option on the menu:
 - § Family to family
 - § Contract care
 - § Other residential settings
 - § Befriending, child minding, sitting
 - § Home support services
 - § Holiday, weekend and evening Playschemes and activities

Service Specification

Mandatory provision:

- § Overnight residential breaks
- § Out-reach overnight care into family homes
- § Day care

Optional provision:

- § Out-reach day care e.g. babysitting, child minding and befriending

Service offer:

- § enjoyable, developmental experiences for children and young people away from their family home:
- § a range of stimulating activities in line with the child/ young person's individual care plan
- § activities could include day trips, creative play, drama and sport
- § a dynamic and changing menu in response to the views of children and young people

Specification continued

- § Service to provide care for assessed need- using carers who have been appropriately trained and risk-assessed
- § Part of a 'menu of breaks' that a family might choose
- § Children with a range of learning and physical disabilities will be able to access services
- § Service will be accessible to families in Torbay and other PCT's on a spot-purchase basis
- § Indicative volumes of service provided
- § The service must be provided within the existing financial envelope

Procurement process

- § An Any Willing Provider open tender process has been selected on the basis that the service could be delivered by a range of providers
- § This has the advantage of opening up the market and enabling creativity, choice and competition within a market
- § In turn this will expand the menu of options available to families

Stage 1: Procurement documents:

- § Service specification and draft NHS contract prepared
- § Service accreditation questionnaire with pre-qualification questions
- § Provider forum will be held where prospective providers will have the opportunity to ask questions

Procurement process

Stage 2 : Prospective providers:

- § Service accreditation questionnaire's submitted with indicative pricing
- § Questionnaires scored with the assistance of families- emphasis on technical, quality and innovation: 60% and value for money 40%
- § Selections made on the basis of the scoring and contracts entered into

Quality and service delivery

- § Contracts will be monitored on a quarterly basis as per the detail of the NHS contract

Next Steps

- § Ongoing dialogue with the Short Breaks Steering Group and parents that formed the working party
- § Embark on the procurement process
- § Would like to invite a group of parents, carers, children, LiNKs representative and HOSC representative/s to attend the provider forum
- § Would like the above to assist with the scoring and evaluation of the tender
- § Award the tender
- § Ongoing evaluation of service by children, young people, parents and carers and Commissioners