

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	28 September 2011
Title:	Short Breaks Statement of Future Provision and Grant Awards
Reference:	3153
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. A total budget of £3.25m for 2011/12 was confirmed by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 6th April 2011, to support the provision of Short Breaks for Disabled Children within the framework of The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2010.
- 1.2. The purpose of this paper is to seek the approval of the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Grants to be allocated over the value of £5,000, totalling £120,349, to Voluntary Sector organisations within Hampshire. This falls within the overall budget set above.
- 1.3. A further **£267,283** has been awarded in sums of £5,000 and under within officer delegated powers, bringing the total of Grants so far awarded (August 2011) to **£387,632, providing services for the period April 2011 to March 2012 (See appendix A)**. Grants awarded to organisations listed in this Report will enable them to continue to develop services for disabled children and young people, which contribute to the range of Services required to be provided within the framework of The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2010.
- 1.4. In addition to the above Grant awards, a total of **£28,036** has been awarded between April and August 2011 to support individual disabled children and young people to access leisure and recreation activities where specific provision is required to ensure their full participation
- 1.5. The paper also includes a Service Statement to be published by October 2011 as required by the regulations.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. The Regulations bring into effect Paragraph 6(1)(c) of Schedule 2 to the Children Act 1989 (inserted by section 25 of the Children and Young Persons Act 2008), requiring local authorities to provide services to assist individuals who provide care for disabled

children to continue to do so, or to do so more effectively, by giving them breaks from caring.

- 2.2. The Regulations state that “a child is disabled if he is blind, deaf or dumb or suffers from mental disorder of any kind or is substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity or such other disability as may be prescribed”
- 2.3. The Regulations also define short breaks with the caveat that provision shall be made, in so far as is reasonable and practicable, for a range of services which are sufficient to assist carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively. In particular the local authority must provide, as appropriate, a range of:
 - day-time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere;
 - overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere;
 - educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes;
 - services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.
- 2.4 Under the Regulations, local authorities must also consult with parents, carers and others and publish, initially by October 2011, a short break service statement. The statement must be reviewed and updated regularly and must include:-
 - the range of services provided;
 - any criteria by which eligibility for those services will be assessed;
 - how the range of services is designed to meet the needs of carers.

3. Finance

- 3.1. The grants referred to in this report are proposed from the allocation of £765,000 to support 1200 children and young people accessing local universal services. Grants will continue to be awarded following this report and subject to further reports, with the £343,698 remaining of this allocation. These services offer provision of:
 - educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes;
 - services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.
- 3.2. Parents and carers of disabled children have contributed to the design and proposed delivery of the services for which grant funding has been applied for through:
 - feedback and consultation with service providers, through formal and informal evaluation of existing provision, and through participation in local groups;
 - their involvement in the assessment of the applications at a Grant Scrutiny Panel held in June 2011.
- 3.3. The process adopted for the evaluation and allocation of grants has been consistent with that of the Children’s Services Integrated (CSI) grant process to ensure a consistent approach to grant provision across Children’s Services

4. **Grants for Approval**

The following schedule of grants are recommended to the Executive Member for approval. The grants are awarded following the evaluation of bids received from providers following an advert requesting a range provision from across the county.

- **All of Hampshire**

- **The Rose Road Association**

- Provision of places for children and young people living in Hampshire at a holiday play scheme based at The Cedar School, during the October 2011 and February 2012 half terms and the Christmas holiday 2011.

- The Panel recommends a total of £6,995.

- **Wessex Children's Hospice Trust (Naomi House)**

- Provision of play opportunities for children with life limiting conditions, offering a range of activities including arts and crafts, outdoor play, music and entertainment and trips into the community.

- The Panel recommends a total of £26,177.

- **Basingstoke**

- **Kids**

- Kids Short Break Service, offering bookable three hour short break sessions for families of disabled children under 5 years old, with the aim of increasing the number of Short Breaks available to families in the Basingstoke area.

- The Panel recommends a total of £9,650

- **Fareham and Gosport**

- **Kids**

- Kids Explorers Short Break provision for families of children with disabilities aged 3months – 5years, 510 three hour sessions, including additional places during school holiday periods . These sessions offer children opportunities to play and learn in an inclusive setting and also offer access to a range of additional support services for families.

- The panel recommends a total of £6,591

- **Havant**

- **Riverside Community Special School**

- After school provision, three sessions per week offering a range of leisure and recreation activities for pupils from Riverside School and children with disabilities or Special Educational needs from the local community.

- The panel recommends a total of £18,000

- **New Forest**

Kids

Development of new provisions in the New Forest area:

- New Forest Primary and Secondary Youth provision, both offering evening and weekend leisure activities for young people aged 5-16
- New Forest Play scheme offering 4 days holiday activities during October 2011 and February 2012 half terms, for young people aged 5-18.

The Panel recommends a total of £27,489 for these three provisions.

SCARF (Supporting Special Children and their relatives and friends)

Scarf is a New Forest charity which aims to support families of children with special needs by providing opportunities for the children and their families to meet up for support and the exchange of information, and also offers a range of leisure and holiday activities.

The Grant is requested to offer a Taster Day and regular Saturday multi-sports clubs, offering a variety of sports over the period September 2011-March 2012.

The Panel recommends a total of £8,912

- **Winchester**

Kids

Provision of 'Thumbs Up' and '18Up', evening and weekend play and leisure activities for young people aged between 11-25 years old. These are designed to provide a social network and community based activities, led by the ideas of the young people.

This project is also supported by the Children's Services Integrated Grant, to fund the provision for young people aged 20-25.

The Panel recommends a total of £16,535.

5. Service Statement

- 5.1. The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2010 require that each local authority must publish a service statement that sets out services available along with relevant eligibility criteria.
- 5.2. The proposed service statement is attached at Appendix C and following consideration by the Executive Lead Member will be published on the County Council web site and made available to stakeholders.
- 5.3. The service statement confirms the arrangements for the provision of services to three target groups:
 - services for those with complex needs following a needs assessment;
 - a targeted short break service for those likely to attend a special school or be eligible to claim a higher rate Disabled Living Allowance;
 - access to a broad range of community services for any child or young person who has a disability or needs support to participate in leisure and recreation activities.

5.4. It is proposed that the service statement will be reviewed during 2012 and that further consultation will lead to a revised statement by April 2013. It is anticipated there will be further guidance as local authorities publish their initial statements and the time scale for revision may change.

6. Future direction

6.1. It is anticipated that we will be in a position to commence the commissioning and procurement process for grants to be allocated for the financial year 2012/13 considerably earlier this year to ensure organisations are provided with more planning time.

6.2. It is also expected that, dependent on the success and service user feedback of this years schemes, we may be in a position to award grants for longer than one year for some services in the future, providing more stability and development opportunities for organisations.

6.3. The participation and engagement of parents and carers and children and young people will also be enhanced in the planning and development of future short break services by the continued development of the Parent Forum and also by the required consultation exercise as future service statements are prepared.

7. Recommendation(s)

7.1. That the Executive Lead Member agrees those Grant applications over £5,000, totalling **£120,349** to the organisations listed in 4 above.

7.2. That the Executive Lead Member approves the Service Statement included in Appendix B for publication in October 2011.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u> Short Breaks for disabled children and their carers	<u>Reference</u> 2589	<u>Date</u> 6 April 2011
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u> Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulation 2010		<u>Date</u> December 2010

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

- 1.1. The proposals support that the needs of disabled children and their carers are met within local services and that parents and their representatives have an opportunity to be consulted and to influence services.

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

N/A

3. Climate Change:

N/A

APPENDIX A

Short Breaks for Disabled Children Grants of £5,000 and under

Provider	Location	Activity title/details	Date of activity	Funding Awarded
UK Youth (Avon Tyrell)	New Forest (County wide)	Outdoor Fundays at Avon Tyrell	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,050.00
Springfields Playscheme	Gosport	Summer Holiday playscheme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 1,968.76
The Rose Road Association	Southampton	Summer Holiday playscheme places for Hampshire Children	Summer holidays 2011	£ 5,000.00
Hedgehogs (ESS Ltd.)	Eastleigh	Summer Holiday playscheme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 2,925.00
Priestlands Pyramid Extended Services	New Forest (West)	Summer Holiday playscheme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,983.00
Havant and District Holiday Venture	Havant	Summer Holiday playscheme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 5,000.00
Lakeside School	Eastleigh	Teenage Summer Holiday playscheme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 5,000.00
Rainbow Trust Children's Charity	County wide	Holiday activities of choice for children with life-threatening conditions	Summer holidays 2011	£ 5,000.00
"Parent Link" and Fawley Parish Council	New Forest (East)	Holiday scheme activities	Summer holidays 2011	£ 5,000.00
Salterns Playscheme	New Forest (East)	Summer Holiday playscheme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 2,601.00
Basingstoke Play Council	Basingstoke	Summer Holiday playscheme for age 14+	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,995.00
Gordon Brown Outdoor Education Centre	North Hants	Summer outdoor centre activities	Summer holidays 2011	£ 2,343.95
Solent Youth Action	Eastleigh & Winchester	Teenage Summer activity programme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,872.00
Friends of InTouch	Eastleigh	Teenage Summer activity programme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,400.00
Woodpeckers Childcare Ltd.	Fareham	Summer Holiday playscheme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,586.40
QEII Activity Centre	Southampton (County wide)	Country Park Summer activities	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,080.00
PALS	Havant, Fareham & Gosport	Weekend and School holiday Fundays	Summer holidays 2011	£ 3,419.45
UK Youth (Avon Tyrell)	New Forest (County wide)	Forest School: outdoor activity programme	Summer holidays 2011	£ 4,980.00

Glenwood School	Emsworth	After School Hiking Club	September 2011 - March 2012	£	1,598.00
Forest Arts Centre	New Forest (West)	Saturday Club arts activities	October 2011 - March 2011	£	1,395.00
Gordon Brown Outdoor Education Centre	North Hants	Outdoor centre activities at half term and Christmas holidays	School holidays 2011 - March 2012	£	2,221.02
Rainbow Trust Children's Charity	County wide	Individually tailored participation in leisure and recreation activities	September 2011 - March 2012	£	5,000.00
Springfields Playscheme	Gosport	Holiday Playschemes	School holidays 2011 - March 2012	£	3,003.00
Sonus - (working name of Hampshire Deaf Association)	County wide	Community outreach service for young deaf people	September 2011 - March 2012	£	4,037.00
AACT (Autistic, Asperger's Climbing as Therapy)	County-wide	Climbing activities	July - September 2011	£	4,980.00
AACT (Autistic, Asperger's Climbing as Therapy)	County-wide	Climbing activities	10 September 2011 - 6 November 2011	£	4,980.00
AACT (Autistic, Asperger's Climbing as Therapy)	County-wide	Climbing activities	School Holidays 2011	£	2,490.00
Acent Gymnastics	County-wide	Gymnastics-based fitness class	Every Friday from 12 August 2011 for 10 weeks	£	2,581.60
Andover & District Sports Association for the Disabled (ADSAD)	Test Valley	Swimming lessons/access to the swimming pool	Weekly, Saturday Evenings	£	750.00
Ashcroft Arts Centre	Fareham & Gosport	Weekly drama classes	12 Sept 2011 - March 2012	£	4,296.00
Ashcroft Arts Centre	Fareham & Gosport	Dance, music & movement	Aug-11	£	3,211.00
Basingstoke Gymnastic Club	Basingstoke & Winchester	Makaton' tutor	Wednesday 10 August - Thursday 11 August 2011	£	597.50
Basingstoke Town Football Club	Basingstoke & Winchester	Teach 16-19 year olds football skills	September 2011 - December 2011	£	1,756.00
Caterpillar Crafts - Lepe Country Park	County-wide	Pirate themed day	Friday 5 August 2011	£	1,846.52
Caterpillar Crafts - Queen Elizabeth Country Park	County-wide	A pirate or 'RSPB love nature' themed days	Aug-11	£	2,482.80

Caterpillar Crafts - Royal Victoria Country Park	County-wide	Arts & crafts, Batman trail/train trail/bug hunt & miniature railway rides	Aug-11	£	3,783.10
Cycles for All	County-wide	Access to a variety of inclusive bikes, and the appropriate support for safe use.	Saturdays 16 July - 1 October, Wednesdays 27 July - 31 August 2011	£	4,124.00
Equine Experiences	Havant & surrounding area	EAQ Pony Fun day	Wednesdays August - September 2011	£	2,920.00
Fareham Autistic Spectrum Support	County-wide	Sports, film & play	August 2011 - March 2012	£	3,083.00
Fareham Borough Council	Fareham & Gosport	Power chair football	June 2011 - April 2012 All School Holidays	£	2,151.72
Fir Tree Farm Equestrian Centre	New Forest	EAQ Pony Fun day	Fridays July - September 2011	£	2,920.00
Genesis Special Needs Youth Group	Fareham & Gosport	4 club nights (jewellery making, ceramics, etc)	October - December 2011.	£	217.00
Go, Kids, Go!	South Hampshire	Wheelchair skills workshop	Friday 19 August 2011	£	2,253.20
Hampshire Autistic Society	County-wide	Post 16 Activity Break	April - October 2011	£	3,600.00
Hampshire Autistic Society	County-wide	Pre 16 Activity Break	April - October 2011	£	4,800.00
Hampshire Records Office	County-wide	Hands on History!	Oct-11	£	1,854.00
Hampshire Riding Therapy Centre	County-wide	Half Day "Fun With Horses"	July - August 2011	£	1,773.00
Hampshire Riding Therapy Centre	County-wide	Weekend Club	July 2011.	£	2,175.00
Hampshire Riding Therapy Centre	County-wide	Ponies Educating Diabetics and Siblings (PEDS) for younger group	August 2011 - March 2012	£	2,845.26
Hampshire Riding Therapy Centre	County-wide	Ponies Educating Diabetics and Siblings (PEDS)	August 2011 - February 2012	£	2,923.96
Hart Neighbourhood Centre	North Hampshire	Get With Assisted Places Buddy Programme 2011	August 2011.	£	2,650.00
Jiggy Wrigglers	Eastleigh & Surrounding areas	Music and movement sessions	July 2011 - Feb 2012; school holidays plus Weekends	£	1,466.00
KIDS	Havant	HYPP Holiday Fun - (Havant Young Peoples Project)	August 2011 - February 2012	£	5,000.00
KIDS	Fareham & Gosport	Youth 2 Gosport Holiday Fun!	August 2011 - February 2012	£	5,000.00

Kings' School Wheelchair Basketball Club	Winchester & Surrounding area	Wheelchair Basketball	Wednesdays 7 September 2011 - 28 March 2012.	£	1,200.00
Lions Funfest Group	North Hampshire	Lions Funfest	Sunday 26 June 2011	£	1,000.00
Little Funky Art	Winchester & Surrounding area	Art workshop	August - January 2012	£	4,300.00
Milestones Museum	Basingstoke.	My Place, My Space AND Access and Inclusion	December 2011 & March 2012	£	3,660.00
NAS Hart and Rushmoor Branch	Hart & Rushmoor	ASD Family Fun Sessions	June 2011 - March 2012	£	5,000.00
NAS Hart and Rushmoor Branch	Hart & Rushmoor	Special Children's Day at London Zoo	Saturday 10 September 2011	£	1,602.50
New Horizons	New Forest	EAQ Pony Fun day	Weekly - Summer Holidays 2011	£	2,920.00
North Hampshire Deaf Children's Society and Sonus (working name of Hampshire Deaf Association)	North & East Hampshire	Summer BBQ and Fun Day	Saturday 6 August 2011	£	741.80
Parent Action Group	Hart & Rushmoor	Drama Class	April 2011 - March 2012	£	5,000.00
Parent Link	New Forest	Family Fun Club	July 2011 - March 2012	£	4,680.00
Pavilion on the Park	County-wide	Learning Through Sport	July 2011 - March 2012.	£	3,826.00
Peace of Mind Care	Basingstoke	MADD Club (Music, Arts, Dance and Drama)	August - September 2011	£	4,466.00
Peace of Mind Care	Basingstoke	Theatre School and Musicals	Weekends June - July 2911	£	2,562.00
Perins School	Winchester & Surrounding area	Perins Fun Camp	School Holidays 2011-12	£	1,476.00
QE2 Activity Centre	County-wide	Garden Party	Wednesday 10 August 2011	£	460.00
QE2 Activity Centre	County-wide	Family Activity Days	Aug-11	£	2,000.00
Romsey School	Test Valley	Sport 4 Youth	Monday 22 August 2011	£	1,400.00
SenseCere	Fareham & Gosport	Sensory Library Activity Day	Saturday 9 July 2011	£	1,958.10
SenseCere	East Hampshire	Petersfield Sensory Library Activity Days	6 August 2011 and 3 September 2011	£	4,064.30
Starlight ASD Support	South-East Hampshire	Fun Youth Group	September - December	£	4,986.00

			2011	
Starlight ASD Support	Basingstoke & South-East Hampshire	Teenager Youth Group	September - December 2011	£ 4,810.00
Stars in the Sky - Friendship Project for People with Learning Difficulties	County-wide	Drama Workshops	Spring 2012	£ 1,500.00
Sunrise Bushcraft Ltd.	New Forest	Visually impaired sports	August 2011 - March 2012.	£ 4,900.00
The Hampshire Technology Centre Trust (operating charity of INTECH Science Centre & Planetarium)	County-wide	Experience the "science of sport"	26 March 2011	£ 2,225.00
The Rainbow Centre	County-wide	Summer School	1st August - 26th August 2011	£ 2,340.00
Totally Tennis	North & East Hampshire	Tennis Coaching	July 2011 - 25 March 2012.	£ 2,426.00
Tower House Horses	North & East Hampshire	EAO Pony Fun day	Weekly - Summer Holidays 2011	£ 2,920.00
UK Youth	County-wide	Outdoor Activity Experience	4 - 5 August 2011	£ 4,500.00
West End Centre	Rushmoor	Pottery workshop	Summer - Autumn 2011 & Spring 2012.	£ 3,780.68
Yateley School	Hart.	Drama at the Olympics	Sept 2011 - March 2012	£ 1,235.00
Youth In Romsey - Allsorts Special Needs Youth Group	Test Valley	Indoor sports	September 2011 - March 2012	£ 1,374.00

APPENDIX B

The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children regulation 2010

Service statement October 2011

Hampshire County Council and NHS Hampshire

Introduction

1. The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2010 requires local authorities to provide services to assist individuals who provide care for disabled children to continue to do so, or to do so more effectively, by giving them breaks from caring.
2. The regulation define a disabled child as “a child is disabled if he is blind, deaf or dumb or suffers from mental disorder of any kind or is substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity or such other disability as may be prescribed”.
3. The regulations also define short breaks as a range of services which are sufficient to assist carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively. In particular, the local authority must provide, as appropriate, a range of
 - (a) day-time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere,
 - (b) overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere,
 - (c) educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes,
 - (d) services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.
4. Under the Regulations Local Authorities must also consult with parents, carers and others and publish by October 2011 a short break service statement addressing the following issues. The statement must be reviewed and updated.
 - (a) the range of services provided
 - (b) any criteria by which eligibility for those services will be assessed, and
 - (c) how the range of services is designed to meet the needs of carers in their area.

Consultation

5. In order to assist the County Council and NHS Hampshire in developing services for disabled children and their carers a service agreement has been established with Barnardos and The Rose Road Association to work in partnership to develop a Parent Voice and a Parent Forum.
6. Between 2009 and 2011 consultation has been undertaken with existing service users, a broad range of stakeholders and through the emerging Parent Voice and Parent Forum, with a particular focus upon the following areas.

- Development of short break services within the former Aiming High for Disabled Children programme, and for the continuation of services from 2011/12 when the former grant ended
 - Eligibility criteria for services to those with complex needs
7. Work is also underway to develop Local Children's Partnership to provide greater engagement with schools and other agencies on a local basis and Parent Voice and Parent Forum representatives will be included as the Partnerships develop. Overtime these Partnerships will monitor and coordinate how local services are meeting need and could undertake local commissioning of services.

Service Statement

8. Services to support carers of disabled children are provided in three key areas.
- a) to those children with complex needs following an interagency needs assessment.
 - b) to children who are likely to attend a special school or who are eligible to claim higher rate Disabled Living Allowances. These services are provided without a needs assessment.
 - c) Support for any child or young person who has a disability or needs support to access a broad range of community services in leisure and recreation activities through a 'Gateway Card'. This support is provided without a needs assessment.

Services to those disabled children with complex needs

9. Services to children with complex needs are offered following a needs assessment, jointly undertaken with Health and other agencies as necessary to ensure continuity in meeting social care and health care needs.
10. The criteria for undertaking a needs assessment and for making service decisions were reviewed following consultation in 2010 and the revised eligibility statement was agreed by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services in March 2010. Guidance has been made available to local managers to ensure equity of approach. The criteria and a flow chart showing the process of assessment are attached to this service statement.
11. In the order of 900 children and young people are accessing services following a needs assessment and the application of the eligibility criteria. These services include the full range of provision referred to in the Regulation, in particular:-
- Overnight short breaks in a residential setting, in some cases provided jointly with NHS Hampshire where health care needs exist
 - Sitting services in the home, including during evenings

- Access to family link carers for overnight and day breaks away from the family home
- A range of local leisure and educational activities and after school and week end clubs
- Day care, including in children's centres and with registered childminders
- Direct payments for parents who wish to make their own arrangements for services

12. In addition to these services, specifically for those with complex needs, many of these children will be eligible to additionally access targeted short break services developed within the former Aiming High for disabled children programme.

Targeted short break services for those children likely to attend a special school or are eligible to claim higher rate disabled living allowances

13. A range of targeted short break services are available for all children who are likely to attend a special school or are eligible to claim higher rate DLA. These services are available without a needs assessment and are provided directly by some schools and independent sector organisations supported by grants and contracts. Many of the services are provided within local sport, arts and leisure services.
14. These services are targeted to over 3600 children and young people in Hampshire and during 2010/11 over 2300 children made use of these services. It is anticipated access will increase to 75% of the target group during 2011/12. (in the order of 2700 children and young people)
15. Hampshire County Council has identified a budget of £3.25m for these services in 2011/12, which includes an additional £1m in 2011/12.
16. Services provided in special schools are directed by engagement with parents and it is intended that Local Children's Partnerships will develop, during 2011/12, a greater engagement with parents to ensure an integrated local service opportunity.
17. These targeted services include:-
- A broad range of local after school, week end and school holiday activities
 - Special activity schemes for children with complex needs where integration within local day care, sport and leisure services may not be possible
 - A buddy scheme developing in 2011/12 to support older disabled children accessing local services
 - Provision of individual care support to facilitate access to local services where necessary
 - A number of special theme days during school holidays – sports taster days and art, drama and music events
 - A pilot to consider if some form of voucher scheme could be made available, including perhaps by extending the existing Direct Payment scheme

Gateway Card

18. Following consultation with parents a Gateway Card has been introduced to encourage any child or young person to access a broad range of short break activities.
19. The approach encourages families to register their needs and interests in order that when they approach service providers duplication of information gathering can be reduced.
20. Once a family approach a service, support will be offered to the service to meet the additional needs of children and young people in order that they may have access to a wide range of local leisure, sport, music, art and drama activities.
21. Within this arrangement families would pay for access to the service in the usual way and any additional support needs will be funded from the short break budget.

Resources

22. Hampshire County Council and NHS Hampshire work in close partnership to assess the needs of disabled children and their carers and also to commission and provide some joint services.
23. Considerable consultation has been undertaken with existing service users and a broad range of stakeholders to review the eligibility criteria for access to services for those with complex needs and also to develop a broad range of short break services within the former Aiming High for Disabled Children programme. This work has assisted the County Council in addressing equity of opportunity at a local level and in identifying resources to support the intended target population expressed within the eligibility criteria and targeted service options for disabled children and their carers.
24. The following sets out some key facts regarding resources and service targeting:-
 - Over 900 children and young people access services for those with complex needs following a needs assessment.
 - Over 350 children and young people used a residential overnight short break service in 2010/11, for on average 27 nights a year
 - The overall service provision budget for those with complex needs was £11m in 2010/11
 - Over 2300 children and young people accessed the short break service targeted to those attending a special school or eligible to claim higher rate DLA
 - The budget for the targeted short break services is £3.25m in 2011/12

Consultation and review of the service statement

25. Local Children's Partnership are developing, which will support better opportunities for engagement with parents of disabled children. This work is supported by Parent Voice and the emerging Parent Forum and will provide a local means to ensure monitoring of services and to review future needs and service requirements.
26. The Gateway card will provides further information to support service review and planning.
27. It is intended that the position is reviewed by each Local Children's Partnership by 2012 in order that any necessary service re-design can be considered as the budget for 2012/13 is confirmed.
28. Subject to guidance, it is intended to review, undertake the necessary consultation and to publish a service statement before April 2013.
29. This review and consultation process is likely to focus upon the following key issues
 - Take up and equity of opportunity for those interested in the short break service targeted to those likely to attend a special school or eligible to claim higher rate DLA
 - The pattern of targeted short break services available including the balance of opportunity in school holidays and during term time evenings and weekends
 - For those with complex needs, to consider the pattern of overnight residential short break service in relation to more local alternative overnight short breaks provided by family link carers and sitting services. In particular to consider equity of opportunity and the need to develop a greater choice of an overnight short break
 - The development of the existing Direct Payment scheme towards personalised budgets to support greater choice of a local service

APPENDIX C

Eligibility Criteria for accessing services for those with complex needs

In order to achieve outcomes appropriate to their potential, and as a result of their disability, the child requires total or substantial support, appropriate to their age, from another person, which is not available within the family network

For example

- Child uses specialist equipment for mobility
- Child requires support for all basic self care functions when no longer age appropriate.
- Child needs constant supervision throughout the day and for prolonged periods at night when no longer age appropriate
- Child has behaviour as a result of disability that is a serious risk to self and or others, including self harm.
- Child has communication needs which without support severely affects personal safety. i.e. deaf, blind, without speech.
- Child has been assessed as having Profound and Multiple Learning Disability, Severe Learning Disability, or Autism with challenging behaviour, which results in a significant risk of self harm or harm to others

Eligibility Criteria – process flow chart

