

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Decision Report**

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	6 April 2011
<b>Title:</b>	Short breaks for disabled children and their carers
<b>Reference:</b>	2589
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

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## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to confirm the framework for providing short breaks for disabled children and their carers following publication of The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulation 2010.
- 1.2. This paper sets out the implications of the Regulation, summarises progress made in developing short breaks for disabled children within the former Aiming High for Disabled Children programme and confirms service delivery arrangements within a budget of £3.25m in 2011/12.
- 1.3. The report seeks the authority of the Executive Lead Member to a number of Grants to Voluntary Sector Organisations to sustain and develop services previously secured through contracts.
- 1.4. The report confirms that, based upon a total budget of £3.25m, the level of service available in 2011/12 will be similar to, and potentially greater than, that accessed by the 60% of the target group who took up services in 2010/11.
- 1.5. The report confirms work to integrate short break services delivered in special schools and in local universal services, though engagement with Local Children's Partnerships, to ensure equity of access to local services and enhance choice.
- 1.6. The report also summarises consultation with parents and stakeholders and confirms arrangements to publish a service statement by October 2011 as required with The Regulation.

## **2. Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulation 2010**

- 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 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 ”.
- 2.3. The Regulations also define short breaks with the caveat that provision shall be made, in so far as is reasonable practicable, for a range of services which is 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. Contextual information**

- 3.1. Short breaks for disabled children, and their carers, are provided to two groups of children and young people.

### **Children with complex needs**

- 3.2. Short breaks and other services are provided to those children and young people with complex needs who access services following a needs assessment, often jointly with health services. In the order of 900 children and young people access these services, which are funded from the Children's Services core budgets at an annual cost in the order of £11m. Services include a range of overnight short breaks, help within family homes, access to family link schemes and local care services at weekends and in holiday periods. Some of these services can be accessed by taking a Direct Payment should families wish to make their own arrangements.

- 3.3. The eligibility criteria for access to these specialist services for children with complex needs were reviewed in 2009, approved by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and published in April 2010. The criteria are repeated below:

**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

### **Targeted short breaks**

- 3.4 Short breaks developed within the (former) Aiming High for Disabled Children programme are targeted to those attending a special school or eligible to claim higher rate Disabled Living Allowances. There are a total of 3600 children within this target group and no assessment of need is required.
- 3.5 In the order of 2,300 children accessed a range of after school, week end and school holiday short break schemes in 2010/11. The Aiming High revenue Grant in 2010/11 was £4.5m and these services are provided by some special schools directly, through contracts with voluntary sector organisations to deliver services in special schools and by funding the cost of additional care needs in universal services such as children's centres and sport and leisure centres. Additionally a number of themed events have been available. E.g. through the Calshot Activity Centre, local outdoor activity centres and local art and drama venues.

3.6 The aiming High Grant ended in March 2011 and from 2011/12 funding is assumed within the Early Intervention Grant. A budget of £3.25m has been confirmed to sustain these targeted services in 2011/12.

#### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1. Funded from the former Aiming High Grant, consultation and engagement arrangements have been developed by Parent Voice and more recently a Parent Forum has been established. These arrangements have been successful in bringing parents and other stakeholders together and in providing a better range of information and support to parents.
- 4.2. Parent Voice is hosted, under a contract with the County Council, by the Rose Road Association and Barnardos and Parent Forum is developing to provide better opportunities for parents to influence the way services are provided locally.
- 4.3. The contract for Parent Voice ends in June 2011 and it is intended to explore ways to continue the arrangement through the grant processes.
- 4.4. These continuing arrangements will support the need to consult and publish a short break service statement by October 2011 as required within the Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulation.
- 4.5. Parent Voice and Parent Forum have been consulted on the progress in developing targeted short breaks and upon future direction and their views have assisted in shaping the proposed delivery arrangements for 2011/12.
- 4.6. In general terms both organisations support continuing with a targeted short break service and draw attention to a number of key issues which will be addressed as the service develops further. These are summarised below:
  - Maintaining a network of after school, weekend and school holiday activities and addressing current differences in availability across Hampshire to ensure greater equity of opportunity locally
  - Providing better information about local service opportunities
  - Developing more integrated local services, with delivery arrangements in special schools and in local universal services merged to provide for more local choice. This might include schemes run within special schools being available to other local children within the target group and children in special schools having a choice of local services, other than within their school
  - Provision of some specialist schemes to support children and young people with complex needs
  - Development of buddy schemes to assist, particularly older, young people in accessing local universal services: such as sport, leisure, music, art and drama
  - To develop links between Parent Voice and local parent groups and the work of Local Children's Partnerships in order that all partners appreciate

the role they can play in ensuring disabled children and young people can access local services and to ensure equity of access

- Develop some form of voucher scheme to further enhance local choice.

## 5. Budget and delivery arrangements in 2011/12

5.1. The former Aiming High for Disabled Children Grant was £4.5m in 2010/11 and included over £3m allocated to special schools, contracts with independent sector organisations and funding arrangements to universal services to meet the needs of the target group.

5.2. The total budget available in 2011/12 is £3.25m<sup>1</sup> and the spending plan summarised below includes in the order of £2.87m of direct service funding (see paragraph 5.6).

5.3. This level of funding will sustain, and potentially increase, the level of service to the target group.

5.4. Schools and other service providers and universal services will be encouraged to maximise use of the available budget by providing the maximum number of activity sessions affordable within the budget over the year and the level of service available to individuals within the target group will to some extent be dependent upon take up locally.

5.5. Within the Aiming High programme the service level was defined as ‘an offer of 117 hours of activity a year’ – the equivalent of 19 or 20 days. It is not proposed to express the available service as a defined offer in 2011/12 and the following table shows the maximum level of service that would be possible dependant upon the level of take up. It is proposed to distribute the available budget assuming a maximum take up of 75% in 2011/12.

	60% take up achieved in 2010/11	<b>75% take up - the basis for budget allocation in 2011/12</b>	100% take up
Children and young people accessing short breaks	2,200	2,700	3,600
Maximum level of service per person	24 days or 144 hours a year	20 days or 120 hours a year	15 days or 90 hours a year

<sup>1</sup> The total budget of £3.25m includes an additional £1m of funding agreed by County Council on 24 February 2011 and as set out in a previous report to the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services dated 9 March 2011 (Children’s Services Department 2010/11 Revenue Budget Monitoring – Period 10 (end of January 2011) - paragraph 8.1.

5.6. The summary spending plan below identifies the key budget allocations and includes over £2.8m of direct service costs to support the development of equity of opportunity across Hampshire:

### Summary spending plan

	<b>£000</b>
<b><i>Direct Services:</i></b>	
Allocation to some special schools delivering their own service and to independent sector organisations managing services for 2,400 children in special schools	1,560
Allocation to support 1,200 children and young people accessing local universal services	765
Support to local integration of services through Local Children's Partnerships, to develop buddy schemes, voucher system trial and other local events through Parent voice and Parent Forum	400
Develop alternatives to overnight short breaks for those with complex needs	150
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,875</b>
<b><i>Other Services/support:</i></b>	
Grant to Parent Voice and to develop Parent Forum	250
HCC support to special schools, universal sector, independent sector organisations, consultation and monitoring	125
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>375</b>
<b>Total spending plan proposals</b>	<b>3,250</b>

## 6. Grants to independent sector organisations

6.1. Contracts, for the provision of short break services, with a number of independent sector organisations ended in March 2011 and advice was offered to all organisations in December 2010 to consider making a grant application to sustain services.

- 6.2. Those grants have now been evaluated and in order to sustain service opportunities during the first quarter of 2011/12 a number of interim grant decisions have been made.
- 6.3. The following schedules identify those interim grants for information and also larger grants for the Executive Member to consider.

**Interim grants to sustain services in the first quarter of 2011/12**

6.4. The following grants have been confirmed within the Chief Officer's delegated powers of up to £5,000

- Andover and District Mencap  
Easter SEN provision offering two week full day sessions during the Easter school holidays. Grant amount agreed: £4,500
  
- Wolverdene Special School  
Easter SEN provision offering 5 hour sessions during one week of the Easter school holidays, delivered at Wolverdene School . Grant amount agreed £2,327
  
- Dove House School – Basingstoke  
Easter SEN provision offering thirty 3 hour sessions during one week of the Easter school holidays, delivered at Dove House School. Grant amount agreed: £4,450
  
- Basingstoke Play Council - Limington House Special School  
Easter SEN provision offer twenty four 3 hour sessions for one week of the Easter school holiday break, delivered at Limington House School. Grant amount agreed £4,020
  
- Basingstoke Play Council - Maple Ridge Special School  
Easter SEN provision offer twenty four 3 hour sessions for one week of the Easter school holiday break, delivered at Maple Ridge School. Grant amount agreed £2,000
  
- Basingstoke Play Council – Saxon Wood Special School  
Easter SEN provision offer to run for one day for 6 hours during one of the weeks of the Easter school holiday break, delivered at Saxon Wood School. Grant amount agreed £2,000

- Sonus

Holiday SEN provision offer via Park View Infant School in Basingstoke for two days during Easter. Grant amount agreed £993

- Kids – Heathfield Special School

Offer of six hour four day SEN Easter provision across the Easter school holiday period, delivered at Heathfield School, Fareham. Grant amount agreed £4,200

- LUPS – St Francis Special School

Holiday SEN provision at St Francis school, Fareham offering five hours each day for one week during the Easter school holiday period. Grant amount agreed £4,500

- Rose Road – Baycroft Secondary School

Offer of SEN provision for three days during the Easter school holiday period, delivered at Baycroft School, Fareham. Grant amount agreed £2,000

- Kids – Rachel Maddocks Special School

Five days 6 hour SEN session provision offered during the Easter school holiday period, delivered at Rachel Maddocks School, Waterlooville. Grant amount agreed £3,500

- Kids – Forest Park Special School

Five days 6 hour SEN session provision offered during the Easter school holiday period. Provision delivered at Forest Park School, Totton. Grant amount agreed £4,320

- Disability Challenges – Henry Tyndale Special School

SEN Easter holiday provision based at Farnham Play and Youth Centre, delivered throughout the Easter holiday period. Grant amount agreed £2,000

- Disability Challenges – Holly Water Special School

SEN Easter holiday provision based at Farnham Play and Youth Centre, delivered throughout the Easter holiday period. Grant amount agreed £2,000

- Disability Challenges – Samuel Cody Special School

SEN Easter holiday provision based at Farnham Play and Youth Centre, delivered throughout the Easter holiday period. Grant amount agreed £2,000

#### The Oaks play-scheme

SEN Holiday playscheme at Froxfield Village hall (Petersfield) for primary and secondary age children, four days Easter nine days during Summer holidays. Ten out of seventeen children attend Special Schools, remaining funding to be awarded from Children's Services Integrated Grant.

Grant amount agreed £4,500

- Kids – Shepherds Down Special School

Five days 6 hour SEN session provision offered during the Easter school holiday period, delivered at Shepherd Down School, Winchester. Grant amount agreed £4,400

- Kids Osborne Special School

Five days 6 hour SEN session provision offered during the Easter school holiday period, delivered at Osborne School, Winchester. Grant amount agreed £5,000

- Sonus

SEN Easter provision offered for two full days of the Easter school holiday period, delivered at Park View Infant School, Basingstoke. Grant amount agreed £1,500

#### Larger scale grants

6.5. The following schedule of grants are recommended to the Executive Member to determine

##### **Andover and Test Valley**

- Andover and District Mencap

After School, Saturday and School holiday (Christmas, Summer and half term) provision for children and young people aged 2-19 from Icknield, Mark Way and Norman Gate Special Schools in Andover, Provision delivered from the schools and Mencap centre in Andover, and outings into

the Community at weekends and during school holidays. Previously funded through Aiming High, successful and wide uptake.

The panel would like to recommend a total of £119,650

- **Mountbatten Plus**

Weekly after school multi sports club offers and School holiday provision for primary and secondary age children and young people with Special needs, based at Mountbatten School in Romsey. Has received funding previously through Children's Services Integrated Grant though the children are all eligible for Short Break funds

The panel would like to recommend a total of £50,000

- **Wolverdene Special School**

Offer for one week of the holiday period and summer provision offer of one week. Delivered at Wolverdene in Andover with the opportunity for trips out into the community, for primary age children with behavioural and emotional and social difficulties. Previously funded via Aiming High.

The panel would like to offer a total of £5,570

## **Basingstoke**

- **Dove House School – Basingstoke**

Provision offer of multi sports clubs and activities for 11 – 15 year olds and similar scheme during two weeks of the summer holiday period, as well as ongoing After School provision. Previously funded via Aiming high funds for afterschool activities which had high take up. New provisions will be utilising the recently developed sports hall funded in part via Aiming High Capital funds.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £61,800

- **Basingstoke Play Council - Limington House Special School**

Delivered at Limington House to children with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Offering regular term time Saturday, Summer and Christmas provision.

Previously funded via Aiming High with high take up.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £59,606

- Basingstoke Play Council – Maple Ridge Special School  
Delivered at Limington House to children with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Offering regular term time Saturday, 2 weeks Summer and 2 day Christmas provision.  
Previously funded via Aiming High with high take up.  
The panel would like to recommend the total of £53,303
- Basingstoke Play Council – Saxon Wood Special School  
Delivered at Saxon Wood to children with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Offering regular term time Saturday, two weeks Summer and 2 day Christmas provision. Previously funded via Aiming High  
The panel would like to recommend the total of £32,388

- Sonus

Holiday provision offer via Park View Infant School in Basingstoke for two days in May and 5 days during the Summer holiday for children with disabilities, for primary and secondary aged children.  
The panel would like to recommend the total of £3,557

### **Eastleigh**

- Solent Youth Action – SLAMs

Two week Summer play-scheme and weekly evening group based at Hiltisbury Community centre for young people aged 13 – 19 with complex learning disabilities, all of whom attend Special Schools or Eastleigh College specialist learning programmes. Has received funding previously through Children’s Services Integrated Grant, well regarded by the local district panel and is well attended, however ‘Short Breaks Funds’ identified as a more appropriate funding avenue, all children and young people fit the criteria.  
The panel would like to recommend the total of £16,000

- Solent youth action – J’s

Two week Summer play-scheme and weekly evening group based at Hiltisbury Community centre for young people aged 13 – 19 with physical learning disabilities, all of whom attend Special Schools or Eastleigh College specialist learning programmes. Has received funding previously through Children’s Services Integrated Grant is well regarded by the local district panel and is well attended. however ‘Short Breaks Funds’ identified as a more appropriate funding avenue, all children and young people fit the criteria.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £16,000

## **Fareham and Gosport**

- Heathfield School After School Club

Well attended afterschool provision for children disabilities of primary aged, offer of three sessions per week during term time. Previously funded through Aiming High.

The panel would like to recommend a total of £3,500

- Kids – Heathfield Special School

Primary aged Saturday fun club provision every other week, four weeks summer provision, two days at Christmas, provision is delivered at Heathfield School, Fareham. Previously funded through Aiming High with good take-up.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £39,000

- Kids - St Francis Special School

Four after school sessions per week, every other Saturday, delivered at St Francis School, Fareham for Children with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. After school and Saturday provision previously supported by Aiming High. The panel would like to recommend the total of £53,000

- Kids - Fareham and Gosport Saturday Fun Club

Fortnightly Saturday provision offering activities for 6-11 and 12-16 year olds, based at St Vincents College, Gosport. Have previously received funding through Children's Services Integrated Grant but majority of children attending are eligible for Higher Rate DLA and/or attend special School, therefore the panel would like to recommend the total of £20,000

- LUPS – St Francis

Holiday provision at St Francis school, Fareham three weeks during the Summer holiday period for children with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Funded previously via Aiming High, with high take up.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £14,087

- Rose Road – Baycroft Secondary School

Saturday three hour sessions , two weeks during the summer holiday and ten days across other school holidays. Provision based at Baycroft School

in Fareham for children with disabilities 11 – 16 years. Previously funded provision via Aiming High.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £29,000

### **Havant and Waterlooville**

- Glenwood School

Summer provision offer for two weeks during the holiday period, two evenings a week term time for an afterschool hiking club 3.15 – 7pm.

Based at Glenwood Secondary school in Emsworth for secondary aged children and young people. Previously funded via Aiming High with good take up.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £7,968

- Havant and District Holiday Venture

Primary aged children Summer playscheme, delivered for two weeks at Prospect School, Havant.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £4,000

- Prospect School

Fortnightly Saturday term time club offer, Summer holiday period provision offer for two weeks during August for children aged 11 – 16 with behaviour, social and emotional difficulties. Previously funded via Aiming High with good take up.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £12,372

- Kids – Riverside Saturday Fun Club

Saturday Fun Club with age appropriate activities for ages 5-8 and 9-13 based at Riverside School and Youth Group for age 16 and over at South Downs College. High percentage of children and young people attend Special Schools or are eligible for Higher Rate DLA therefore fit the SB criteria. Funding will also be contributed by Children's Services Integrated Grant.

The panel recommend a contribution of £27500, (the remaining request of £5000 will be funded via CSI as already agreed).

- Kids – Rachel Maddocks

Saturday fun club provision, afterschool three days per week term time, 3 weeks during the Summer, 2 days Christmas provision and three days per half term holiday period. Offers delivered at Rachel Maddocks School, Waterlooville for children with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Previously funded provision via Aiming High.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £50,500

- Riverside Community Special School

After School and Summer holiday Provision offered for children with disabilities of early years and primary age, based at Riverside Community School in Waterlooville.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £7,425.41

- Waterloo School

Saturday club 27 sessions across the year, and two weeks during the summer holiday period for primary aged children and young people with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. Delivered at Waterloo School in Waterlooville with opportunities to have trips out into the community. Previously funded via Aiming High with a high take up.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £15,368

### **New Forest**

- Kids – Forest Park School

Offer Saturday fun club, afterschool three evenings per week term time, four weeks summer and two days Christmas provision. Provision delivered at Forest Park School, Totton for children with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Previously funded provision via Aiming High.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £66,980

- Oak Lodge School

Offering 3 sessions per week after school term time, film and music leisure and sport including trips into the community. Based at Oak lodge School, New Forest for Children and young people with disabilities, aged 11 – 16. Previously funded via Aiming High with a good take up.

The panel would like to recommend the total of £7,720

- Rose Road – Oak Lodge Secondary School

Offer of weekly or fortnightly Saturday provision to be confirmed depending on parental preference) and three weeks during the summer holiday, based at Oak Lodge Secondary School, New Forest including trips out to the community, for children with disabilities 11 – 16 years. Previously funded provision via Aiming High.

The panel would like to recommend a total of £31,000

### **Rushmoor/Hart/East Hants**

- Disability Challenges – Henry Tyndale School

Provision offers daily term- time afterschool, weekend and school holiday activities based at Farnham Play and Youth Centre for children and young people with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Children transported from Henry Tyndale School in Farnborough for the afterschool provision offer.

Previously funded via Aiming High with excellent take up.

The panel would like to offer a total of £73,000

- Kids – Henry Tyndale (Rushmoor Playscheme)

Two types of age defined provision offers based at Henry Tyndale School, Rushmoor for Children with disabilities aged 5 – 11 years, and 12 – 19 years. Provider offering three weeks during the summer holiday period. 50% of Children are eligible for Short Breaks funding the remaining 50% are eligible and supported via the Children's Integrated Grant for 2011/12, CSI funding agreed amount of £7,500.

The panel would like to recommend the remaining 50% funding request of £7,500

- Disability Challenges – Holly Water

Provision offer daily term time afterschool, weekend and school holiday activities based at Farnham Play and Youth Centre for children and young people with disabilities, aged 2 – 19 years. Previously funded for Saturday and school holiday periods via Aiming High.

The panel would like to offer a total of £73,000

- Disability Challenges – Samuel Cody

Provision offer daily term time afterschool, weekend and school holiday activities based at Farnham Play and Youth Centre for children and young people with disabilities, aged 11 – 16 years. Children transported from Samuel Cody in Farnborough for the afterschool youth provision offer. Same offered provision previously funded via Aiming High. The panel would like to offer the total of £73,000

### **Winchester**

- Kids – Shepherds Down

Offer various provisions which have been previously funded via Aiming High with successful take up. Offer includes four day per week afterschool club term time only, every other Saturday sessions, four weeks summer provision and two days at Christmas. Provision is based at Shepherds Down School, Winchester for children with disabilities, aged 2- 19 years. The panel would like to recommend the total of £79,000

- Kids – Osborne School

Offer various provisions which have been previously funded via Aiming High with successful take up. Offer includes, three afterschool sessions term time only, every other Saturday, four week summer and two days at Christmas. Provision is based at Osborne Special School, Winchester for children with disabilities, of secondary aged years. The panel would like to recommend the total of £67,000

### **Multi-area**

- YMCA

Inclusive mainstream summer provision offer for children with disabilities aged 6 – 15 years, offering 24 places. Provision to be held at Fairthorne Manor day camps for 4 weeks during the summer holiday period. The panel would like to recommend the total of £92,000

- Parent Voice

Parent Voice is an information and advice and communication service, run jointly by Barnardos and Rose Road. Parent voice has proved highly successful with over one thousand parents and carers now signed up. Parent Voice has worked with the Council to ensure parents views influence service delivery and that their priorities are addressed.

The contract with both organisations will end as of 31st May 2011 and it is intended that the future Parent Voice funding will be made on a grants basis. The proposed grant of £250,000 will allow for Parent Voice to continue offering a similar service albeit with a greater emphasis on web based communication to reduce costs. In 2011/12 Parent Voice will also work with the Parent Forum to develop a local offer in each Local Children's Partnership area. This will assist in improving the range of local short breaks on offer to disabled children and their families.

## **7. Future direction for the targeted short break service**

- 7.1. It is proposed that the target group of those attending a special school and those eligible to claim higher rate Disabled Living Allowances is maintained as it supports access to services for those with significant needs without the need for an assessment and the application of eligibility criteria.
- 7.2. Similarly the arrangements for assessment of need and the application of eligibility criteria for those with complex needs will remain in place to ensure access to specialist support services, including overnight short breaks where necessary, for those with the greatest needs.
- 7.3. Work is in hand with Parent Voice and Parent Forum and other stakeholders to better ensure equity of access to a short break locally and steps will be taken in 2011/12 to merge existing delivery arrangements to ensure a more integrated local service framework over the year. It is intended that Local Children's Partnerships will overview the arrangements during the year and will take a more direct hand in confirming integrated delivery arrangements for 2012/13.
- 7.4. The available budget will support similar levels of service taken up in 2010/11 and the proposed grant funded delivery arrangements will support the development of a range of short breaks to ensure some degree of local choice. It is likely that short breaks for the target group will focus upon week end and school holiday activities as parents report that after school events pose difficulties with transport.
- 7.5. There is an existing network of management groups in special schools to review and influence local service patterns: and through the engagement of Parent Voice and Parent Forum and engagement with Local Children's Partnership it is intended to strengthen local influence and accountability in the way short breaks for the target group develop, taking account of local factors in ensuring equity and choice.

## **8. Recommendations**

- 8.1. That the Executive Member endorses the delivery plan
- 8.2. That the Executive Member agrees the proposed Grants to independent sector organisations set out in section 6
- 8.3. That the Executive Member receives a further report later in the year prior to publication of a short break service statement as required within the Regulations.

## CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	no
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	no

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u> none	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u> Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulation 2010		<u>Date</u> <b>December 2010</b>

**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