

## Derbyshire County Council Equality Analysis



Department	Children's Services
Service Area	Targeted services - Aiming High Derbyshire Offer
Changes or proposals	Aiming High Derbyshire Offer
Chair of Analysis Team	Julie Harper
Date of Analysis	28.04.2016
Version	2.4

### 1. Prioritising what is being analysed

#### a Description of current service arrangements

Derbyshire County Council provides a 'menu' of short break provision for disabled children/young people and their families at differing levels of need: the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer currently forms one strand of the wider short breaks offer. In 2015/16 the allocated budget for Aiming High activities and support was in the region of £1 million.

Following consultation and Cabinet agreement a reduced Aiming High Offer was implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. The annual budget required to deliver the reduced offer in 2016/17 is £606,982. The authority has subsequently consulted on proposals that, if agreed, would cease the Aiming High Offer from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016, allocations have therefore been pro-rated and the budget for six month of delivery of the reduced offer is £303,491. If the proposal to no longer provide the Aiming High Offer is not implemented then the remainder of the provision or monies would be available in the second part of the year.

Short breaks for carers of disabled children and young people are different from child care, education or universal provision, which anyone in the community can access, e.g. local leisure centres. Short break services are a range of services that support disabled children and their families and are intended to give:

- disabled children and young people enjoyable experiences away from their primary carers, thereby contributing to their personal and social development and reducing social isolation
- Parents and families a necessary and valuable break from caring responsibilities.

The current Aiming High Derbyshire Offer includes:

- Group activities for disabled children/young people: This is in the form of funding for two organisations per district to provide groups for disabled children that otherwise would experience difficulties accessing a short break activity. There are no criteria or assessments applied: providers determine the level of provision each child/young person can have based on their needs and the providers available capacity.
- Flexible one-to-one support: eligible disabled children/young people have one or more of the following:
  - an autistic spectrum condition, most likely with other impairments such as a severe learning disability or challenging behaviour
  - complex health needs
  - moving and handling needs that require equipment and adaptations
  - challenging behaviour linked to other impairments, such as a severe learning disability.
  - and not be in receipt of any other services from social care.

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, those meeting the criteria can access up to 40 hours of flexible one-to-one support per year. One-to-one support is provided through 3 organisations in each district, giving families a choice of provider, subject to availability.

- Short break grant. Families have the option of choosing a short break grant as an alternative to the offer of flexible one-to-one support; from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 this is a cash grant of up to £400 per year to be used towards providing short breaks. Families do not have an option to use the grant to fund family holidays.

An assessment identifying the nature and level of needs is not a requirement in order to access group activities, flexible one-to-one support or the grant. Providers determine access to group activities and a lead professional confirms that the child or young person meets the eligibility criteria for flexible one-to-one or grant support. Lead professionals should confirm that the disabled child or young person is not able to access group activities without one-to-one support and that they are not in receipt of other social care provision.

In addition the Aiming High Offer includes:

- Aiming High activity weekends: these are occasional weekend activity breaks for older children and young people with more complex needs. Access to activity weekends is based on an assessment of need and is approved by a Social Care Panel.

As the Council planned to consult on proposals that, if implemented, would cease the Aiming High Offer from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 the maximum amounts of flexible one-to-one support and grant and budgets for group activities were pro-rated to reflect delivery over a six month period; April 2016 to September 2016. During this six month period the maximum amount of flexible one-to-one support is 20 hours and the maximum grant is £200.

The table below illustrates the short break offer in Derbyshire. The services shaded in grey are those that would be affected by the proposals.

<b>Universal</b> <i>Available to all children and young people</i>	Inclusive Local Clubs and activities (for example, Children's Centre groups, Derbyshire Youth Service universal services, after school clubs etc.)
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<b>Targeted</b> <i>Can access without a formal assessment</i>	Specialist DCC youth service disability groups
	Aiming High group activities – open to any child or young person with a disability aged 5-17
	Aiming High flexible one-to-one support or a short break grant – open to children/young people aged 5-17 who meet the eligibility criteria
<b>Social Care &amp; Specialist</b> short break services <i>Access identified through formal assessment</i>	Aiming High activity weekends – provided by the voluntary sector.
	Disabled Children's Core Services: Fostering, Residential, Outreach and Family Support Services

**Universal** services/activities: are available to all children and young people and have no eligibility criteria. Families, children and young people tell us they want to be able to use local universal services and settings. The Disability Inclusion Team can provide support to universal settings to help them meet the needs of disabled children and young people.

**Targeted** services/activities include: specialist Youth Service Disability Groups which provide a programme of recreational and sporting activities for young people aged 11+. There are no eligibility criteria, however, some groups do have a specialist focus such as the groups for Deaf and hearing impaired young people.

Aiming High group activities: Derbyshire County Council currently contracts with voluntary sector organisations to offer group activities for disabled children and young people aged 5 – 17 years. Participants self-refer, however providers should be initially approached in order to discuss levels of need and to determine any additional support that may be required.

Aiming High flexible one-to-one support or short break grant or a combination of the two are for children/young people who cannot access any group activities due to the nature and/or severity of their needs. There are eligibility criteria and applications need to include evidence of the young person's disability and be signed by a lead professional, such as a school Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, nurse, Multi-Agency Team Worker etc. Children and young people must not be receiving any other short breaks or similar support.

The Aiming High flexible one-to-one support and group activities are provided by 7 voluntary sector organisations; they are currently contracted with Derbyshire County Council to provide these services until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

Aiming High activity weekends are accessed following consideration and approval at a social care panel.

**Specialist** short break provision is provided following assessment by the Disabled Children's Team. Social Care and specialist short breaks services provide essential support to families who without this support would not be able to look after their disabled child due to the high levels of need identified through a statutory assessment. These services include Fostering, Residential, Outreach and Family Support Services such as Direct Payments or Personal Budgets.

## **b Details of proposals or changes**

On the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Cabinet agreed proposals to reduce the Aiming High flexible one-to-one support, grant and the budget for group activities by 50%: this was implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. It was also agreed that a further consultation should take place between 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and 29<sup>th</sup> March 2016 on the following proposals:

- Cease the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer, associated branding and criteria. Aiming High group activities, flexible one-to-one support and/or grant would no longer be available.
- No longer provide a budget for the delivery of Aiming High group activities.
- No longer commission Aiming High activity weekends
- Offer a formal assessment to those families with disabled children and young people who are unable to access universal services without short break services/support.
- Short break services would only be provided after the completion of a formal assessment carried out by Derbyshire Children's Services.

Implementation of these proposals, if agreed, would be from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

**Background:**

Consultations on proposed changes to the Aiming High Offer were carried out in 2014 and 2015, in addition to the most recent consultation in 2016.

Following the consultation conducted in 2014 the Aiming High Offer remained unchanged in 2015-16; the consultation identified that there was significant opposition to cuts to provision for disabled children and that access to support and the grant without the need for an assessment was valued. In response to this feedback, and in light of ongoing budgetary pressures, a further consultation took place in 2015 on proposals to retain the Aiming High criteria and to limit the amount of support available without the need for an assessment:

- I. Access to Aiming High flexible one-to-one support, without the need for an assessment, would be reduced from 80 to 40 per year;
- II. The option of choosing a short break grant as an alternative would remain but with the maximum amount of grant reduced from £800 to £400 per year. In addition, there would no longer be an option for families to use the grant to fund family holidays.
- III. The budget for Aiming High group activities would reduce from £300,000 to £150,000 for the full year.

The consultation carried out in 2015 identified that there was significant opposition to any proposal that would reduce, or make it more difficult to access, support for disabled children and their families. In addition concern was expressed regarding the cost of any additional assessments resulting from families' needs not being met by the reduced offer, the capacity of services to respond to requests for assessment and the potential for increased demands on other Council budgets. Many respondents expressed a view that limited resources should be focussed on supporting those with greatest need and that there should be greater accountability, in particular for how the grant is used.

The Council appreciates that families have benefitted from the provision made available through the Aiming High Offer and it is with reluctance that further consideration is given to the provision of services to disabled children and young people and their families for whom there has not been a formal assessment that identifies the nature and level of need.

As a result of the pressing financial situation, a further consultation took place between 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and 29<sup>th</sup> March 2016 on proposals to cease the Aiming High Offer and to only provide short break services following a formal assessment that identifies that additional support is necessary.

### **c Rationale for proposed changes**

The existing short breaks offer was developed as a result of increased funding that was made available to Local Authorities to extend access to short breaks for disabled children and their families. In 2010-11, Derbyshire County Council received a Government grant of £2.37 million for this purpose. The grant was used to increase the range of short break services, including “Aiming High” and a number of Social Care services for families with the highest levels of assessed need. Whilst this has been extremely positive, this funding stream is no longer ring-fenced. Funding was initially subsumed into the Early Intervention Grant (EIG) and subsequently into the main Council funding.

Over the same period spending on short breaks has increased year on year. In 2015-16 the budget for short breaks for disabled children and young people was £3.9 million, well in excess of the 2010-11 Government grant. The 2016/17 budget for services provided as a result of an assessment conducted by social care is in the region of £3.6 million. The limitations of the Children’s Services budget are such that priority must be given to ensuring that these resources can continue to provide support to those families with the most significant need.

In the last five years the Council has had to face unprecedented reductions in its finances. The Council needs to make further cuts and the Children’s Services budget could ultimately reduce to circa £70m, around half of the 2010-11 budget. Consequently, there is no alternative but to consider implementing savings in key service areas.

Starting Point has been introduced to provide a single point of access for referrals into Children's Services. It would therefore be appropriate and consistent for requests for support to be triaged through Starting Point; this will assist in achieving consistency, efficiency and ensuring that families are directed to the appropriate service.

## 2. The team carrying out the analysis

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Area of expertise/ role</i></b>
Julie Harper	Commissioning Manager Additional Needs And Disabilities, Children's Services
Linda Dale	Head Of Commissioning & Partnerships, Children's Services
Bev Milway	Head of Service - Provider Services Disabled Children
Denise Hudson	Commissioning and Contract Support Officer, Children's Services
Wesley Downes	DCC Policy

## 3. Existing information and consultation based feedback

### Sources of data and reason for using



<b>Source</b>	<b>Reason for using</b>
<b>Aiming High Consultations: Consultations took place in 2014, 2015 and 2016</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information obtained from: families, children and young people using the service, providers and other interested parties in the form of an online questionnaire</li> <li>• Information obtained from: families, children and young people using the service, providers and other interested parties in the form of a paper questionnaire, made available on request.</li> <li>• Information obtained directly from groups of disabled young people during the consultation in 2014 and the consultation held between August to November 2015. The Disability Inclusions team supported the 2014 consultations and independent advocates supported the consultations in 2015.</li> </ul>
<b>Aiming High contract monitoring information</b>	Provides service user volume, satisfaction data and outlines performance
<b>Aiming High service user satisfaction surveys</b>	Provides service user experience and satisfaction data
<b>Aiming High Provider Annual Report</b>	Provides service user experience, satisfaction and provider performance data
<b>Consultation on Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Reforms and the Local Offer</b>	Information gained from families, children and young people in the form of a questionnaire that formed part of the consultation on the implementation of the SEND Reforms in 2014.
<b>Special Educational Need and Disability Code of Practice and associated regulations</b>	Contains provisions to reform the current system and drive the changes that will deliver co-ordinated assessments and support and greater personalisation
<b>Derbyshire Short Breaks Statement</b>	Currently under review: sets out the detail and range of short breaks services and eligibility criteria
<b>Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children March 2011.</b>	Departmental advice to local authorities

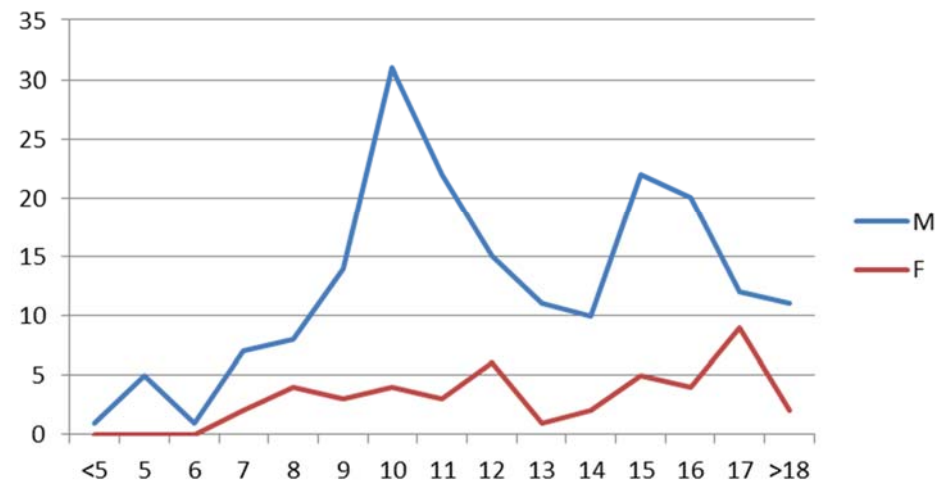
<b>0-25 SEND in Derbyshire Interim Needs Assessment April 2016</b>	Provides information on the number of children and young people in Derbyshire with special educational needs and/or disabilities from school census, DCC Tribal and Profile systems
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#### 4. Known impact on different protected characteristic groups and any mitigation

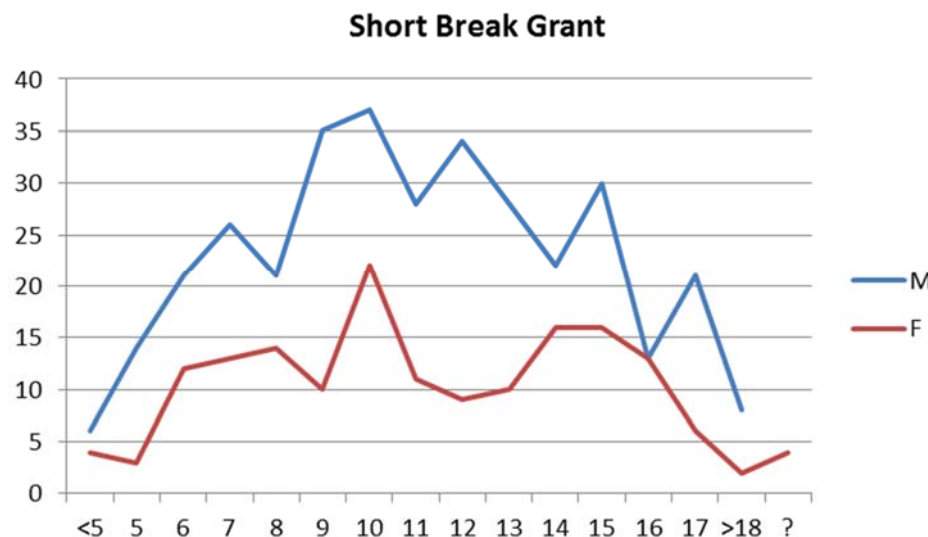
##### Statutory

<p><b><i>Protected Group</i></b></p> <p><b>Age including children and families, older people</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>Current users and their families are most likely to be adversely affected by the proposals. The Aiming High Derbyshire Offer is targeted at disabled children/young people aged between 5-17 years. Those accessing flexible one-to-one support, short break grant or a combination of both are required to meet relevant eligibility criteria. Access to Aiming High activity weekends is approved by a social care panel. There are no criteria or assessments applied to group activities: providers determine eligibility.</p> <p><b>Flexible one-to-one support:</b> The highest proportion; 26%, of young people accessing flexible one-to-one support are aged between 10 and 11 years. 22% of all children and young people accessing flexible one-to-one support are age between 15 and 16 years. A significantly higher number of males access one-to-one support; the chart below shows the use of flexible one-to-one support by age and gender.</p>
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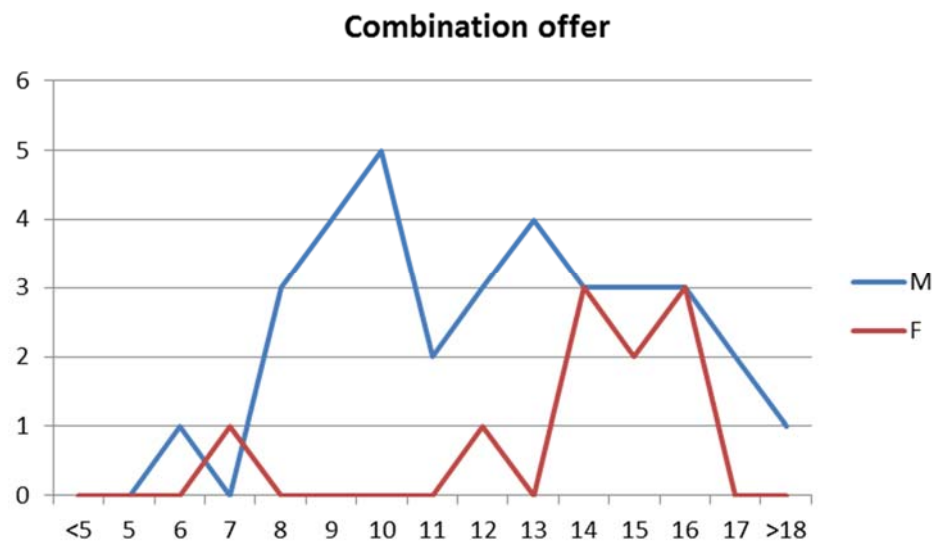
**Flexible one-to-one support**



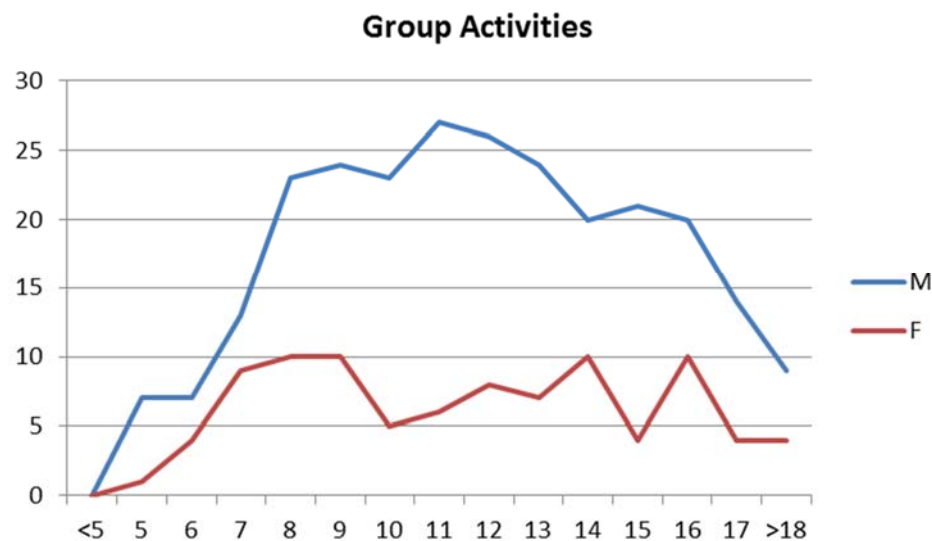
**Short Break Grant:** access to the grant is relatively consistent across all ages. A significantly higher number of males access the grant: the chart below shows use of the Aiming High grant by age and gender.



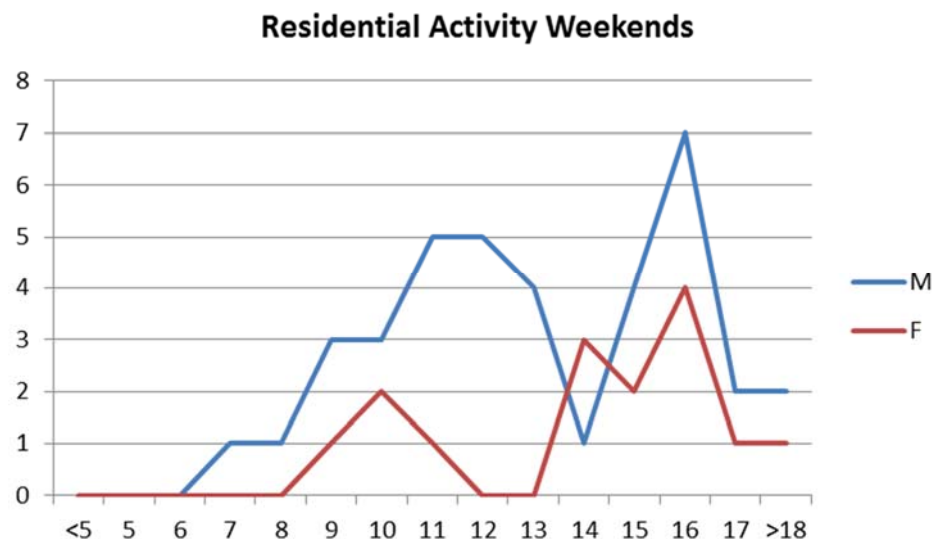
**Combination Offer:** a smaller number of users access a combination of flexible one-to-one support and a short break grant. The highest proportion; 39%, of young people accessing a combination of flexible one-to-one support and short break grant are aged between 14 and 16 years. The highest numbers of males accessing the combination offer are aged 10 at 11%, the highest numbers of females are aged 14 and 16 years. Significantly more males use the combination offer: the chart below shows use of the combination offer by age and gender.



**Aiming High Group Activities:** The highest proportion; 20%, of young people accessing Aiming High group provision are aged 9 and 12 years. The highest numbers of males accessing group activities are aged 11 and 12, the highest numbers of females are aged 8, 9, 14 and 16 years. Significantly more males use Aiming High group activities: the chart below shows use of Aiming High group activities by age and gender.



**Aiming High Activity Weekends:** fewer young people access Aiming High activity weekends, these are occasional short break weekends approved via a Social Care panel. The highest number of both males and females is aged 16. The number of males accessing the activity weekends is significantly higher than females: the chart below shows use of the Aiming High activity weekends by age and gender.



1056 children/young people have accessed Aiming High activity weekends, group activities, one-to-one flexible support and/or the grant provided through the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer during 2015/16; some children/young have accessed more than one provision therefore the total numbers of users per activity will be higher.

In summary the above data identifies that users of Aiming High Activity weekends, Aiming High group activities, 1:1 flexible support and grant have a mean age of 12 years, however the most prevalent age of the users is between 9 to 12 and 15 years and this is the age group who would, with their families be most affected by any change.

Data gained from the consultations in 2014, 2015 and 2016 suggests the mean age of parent / carers of children and young people accessing aiming high support is 43.2, 42.4 and 42.6 respectively. It is not demonstrated that elderly people are directly adversely affected by the proposals; however there may be individual arrangements where grandparents provide support/care and the demand on elderly relatives to help with support could increase.

	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p>Aiming High is for disabled children and young people, those most affected will be current users and their families. The proposal will have an adverse effect on families currently accessing Aiming High: some families will no longer be eligible for short break services and will need to be signposted to other provision or sources of information.</p> <p>As access to Aiming High does not require an assessment of need, the nature and level of support required by those using Aiming High has not been determined in detail, however, it is possible that some families with higher levels of need could find that, following assessment, the support identified is better tailored to meet individual needs and families' circumstances.</p> <p><b>2014 Consultation:</b> Of the 227 responses to the online consultation 34 of these were from young people with an age range of 10 to 23 years. 39 respondents chose not to answer this question. A total of 67 young people attended face to face group consultation, however not all young people were able, or wished, to complete a formal consultation paper and views were collated by the Disability Inclusion Team. 26 individual responses were documented; the age of the youngest person taking part was 11 years.</p> <p><b>2015 Consultation:</b> Out of 103 respondents to the online consultation 6 of the responses were from young people below the age of 24. A total of 64 young people took part in the targeted youth consultation sessions.</p> <p><b>2016 Consultation:</b> Out of 64 respondents to the online consultation less than 5% of the responses were from young people below the age of 25 years.</p>
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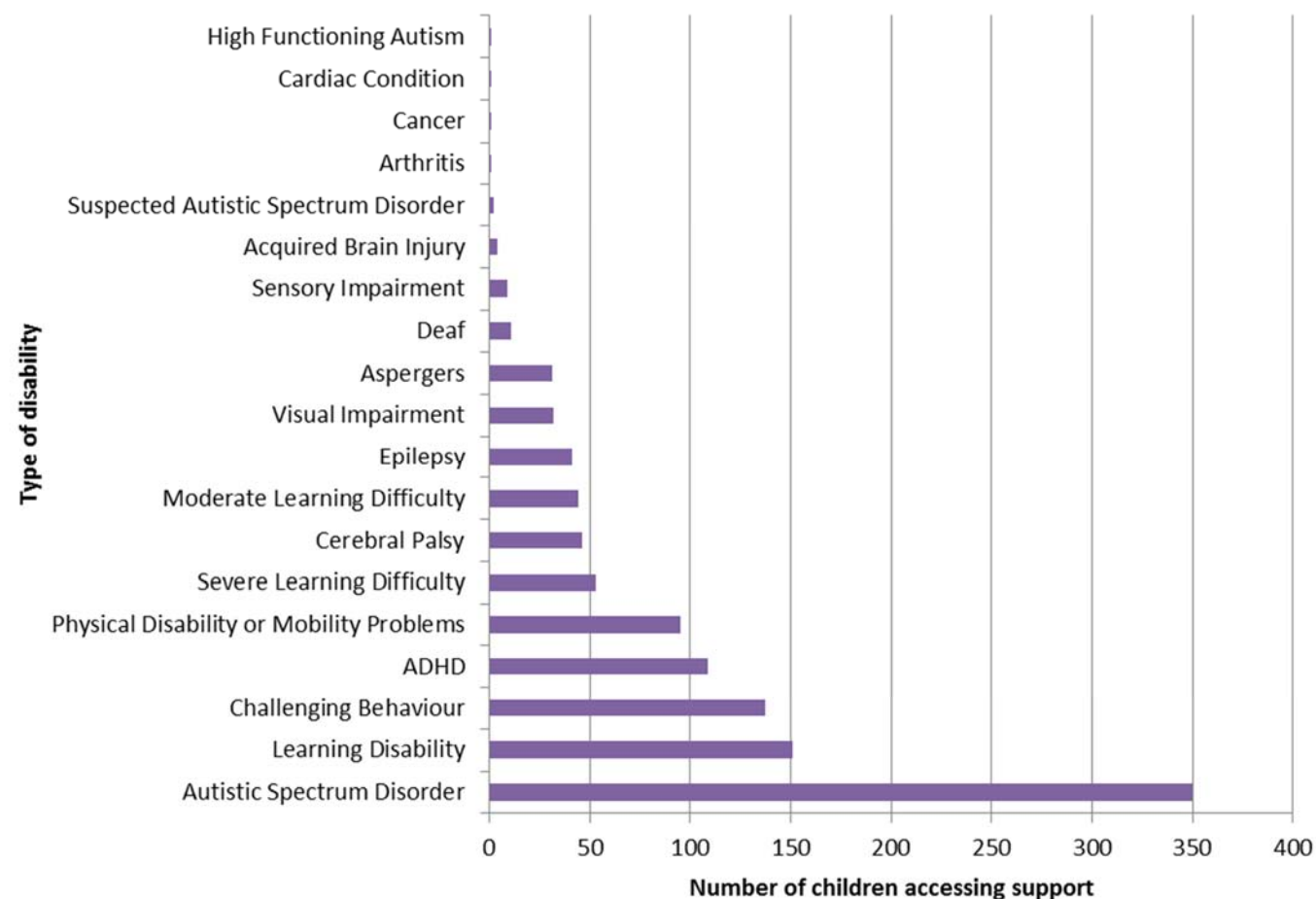


	<p>Aiming High is aimed at children/young people aged 5-17 years; there is not considered to be a disproportionate impact for under-fives. The parents of children aged under 5 years have access to other services, although access to Aiming High is possible in exceptional circumstances; current data shows that 2% of children under the age of 5 have access the grant provision from a total of 509 individuals.</p> <p>Young people taking part in the group consultations anticipated feeling sad if they had fewer groups or activities to access in the future. They were concerned about not seeing friends as they had few opportunities outside of school to meet up and needed help to organise and fund activities and trips.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Whilst not alleviating the full impact of the proposals for all families, support can requested via Starting Point. For those with higher levels of need, a formal assessment would better ensure that any resulting support was tailored to meet individual needs and circumstances and young people would be directed to age appropriate services.</p> <p>Whilst families value the support of Aiming High, a detailed analysis of the outcomes and benefits to young people and their families is limited by the current process which does not require a formal assessment of need and systematic review of the impact of the support.</p> <p>Families who have a budget to purchase additional support and services (this might be a Direct payment, Personal Budget or the family's own budget) can access a Derbyshire County Council Framework of Providers. These providers are quality assured to promote choice, quality and value for money and to deliver specialised services for disabled children and young people. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families.</p>

	<p>Derbyshire County Council currently provides a range of targeted youth groups located throughout the county aimed at disabled young people from age 11 years upwards. An initial review has identified capacity in those groups to support young people who may not in the future be able to access Aiming High: approximately 92 young people attend and 35% are aged over 19 years. These groups could be better promoted and a detailed review would address any barriers to further access to these groups and aim to ensure that that full use is made of these opportunities for non-assessed short breaks.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a wide range of specialist groups and activities delivered by VCI providers, such as Fairplay and Umbrella, across the county.</p> <p>The SEND Reforms require that there is a greater focus on preparing young people with special educational needs and disabilities for adult life. It is expected that planning for individual young people will address some of the concerns raised during consultation: specifically how young people with special educational needs and disabilities can develop and be supported to socialise, access their local communities, engage in ordinary activities and become more independent.</p>
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<p><b><i>Protected Group</i></b></p> <p><b>Disabled people including mobility, sensory, learning, mental health, HIV,</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>In 2015/16 1,056 children/young people accessed Aiming High group activities, one-to-one support and/or grant and Aiming High activity weekends. Aiming High is aimed at disabled children and young people, therefore ceasing Aiming High will have an adverse effect on disabled children and young people and their families.</p>
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<b>and also include carers and relatives</b>	<p>Research from the Council for Disabled Children (CDC) suggests that around 7% of children are likely to be disabled, and that approximately 1.2% would be severely disabled.</p> <p>Is it therefore estimated that around 7,854 children aged 5-17 have disabilities in Derbyshire. A proportion of those would have needs that require specialist support based on a formal assessment and would be supported by and open to social care services. The majority of disabled children/young people are able to access universal and targeted group activities without the need of one-to-one support.</p> <p>Aiming High is aimed at disabled children and young people who experience difficulty accessing other universal and targeted activities. Aiming High was set up to enable ease of access to a limited amount of support without the need for further formal assessments. As a result, records detailing the nature and severity of disability experienced by the child/young person using Aiming High are not recorded in detail. Individual client records have, in many instances, been created specifically to record that an application for Aiming High has been received and the outcome of the request.</p> <p>Where information about an individuals' disability has been recorded using the Framework-i disability categories; the highest proportion of individuals accessing Aiming High in 2015/16 are identified as having autistic spectrum disorder.</p>
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During the 2015-16 financial year, a maximum of 80 hours of flexible one-to-one support could be provided through the Aiming High offer. Dependant on when support has been applied for will result in varying hours being approved.

	<p>In 2015-16, 257 individuals were allocated flexible one-to-one support of varying hours throughout the year; 26% of these utilised their full allocation, 20% of these utilised less than half their full allocation. The average uptake of the allocated one-to-one hours across all service users is in the region of 74%. The impact, therefore, would be felt differently by families, in some instances, families' report that unused hours do not always arise because of family choice but because of issues with providers being able to deliver appropriate or timely support.</p> <p>Whilst ceasing the Aiming High provision would have a disproportionate impact on disabled children/young people and carers of disabled children/young people; some families with children/young people with higher levels of need may gain from the proposals, as a formal assessment of their needs could result in a higher level of support than that available through Aiming High.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p>Feedback identified that the proposals would have significant impact on disabled children/young people who are currently accessing the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer.</p> <p>The proposal to cease the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer, associated branding and criteria, would result in Aiming High activity weekends, Aiming High group activities, flexible one-to-one support and/or grant no longer being available.</p> <p>The ceasing of Aiming High group activities would result in fewer opportunities for some young people to socialise and develop friendships. Some providers are already planning how they would be able to fund alternative activities if funding from Aiming High is not available in the future.</p>

	<p>Annual Aiming High Parent/Carer Feedback Reports for 2014/15 identify high rates of parent/care satisfaction: 86% of parent/carers providing feedback on group activities stated that their child's confidence had improved and 81% stated an increase in the child's independence. It is not reported whether, as a result of these improvements, children/young people go on to access other group activities.</p> <p>88% of parents/carers providing feedback on flexible one-to-one support said it reduced family stress; 77% stated their child had learned and 72% had increased independence. It is not reported whether, as a result of these improvements young people were able to access other universal and targeted activities without the need for one-to-one support.</p> <p>Consultation feedback can be summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) There was significant opposition to ceasing any support for disabled children and their families as this could escalate family stress and, in some cases, lead to an increased demand on other Council budgets.</li> <li>b) Concerns were raised that ceasing support will result in reduced opportunities for disabled children to experience friendship and other social groups and an increase of social isolation.</li> <li>c) Many respondents expressed a view that savings could be found in other Council budgets instead of services for disabled children. The Council should consider alternative ways of working to ensure efficiency.</li> <li>d) Suggestions included; simplifying activities offering a more cost effective service and consider alternatively means to funding services including charging and means testing.</li> </ul> <p>Some young people may find that a wider choice of provision is available if they are supported to fully explore the full range of possibilities: including specialist youth groups, VCI groups etc.</p>
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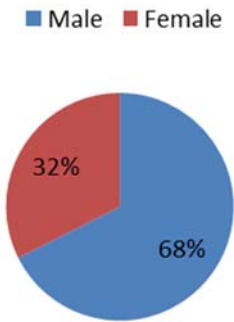
	<p>Eligible families may find that following assessment support can be better tailored to meet individual needs. Some families with higher levels of need may gain from the proposals as a formal assessment of their needs could result in the need for a higher level of support being identified and subsequently accessed.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>a) Whilst not all families will be eligible for services, families would be able to request a formal assessment that would better ensure that any support was tailored to meet the level of need for each individual. Some families with higher levels of need may gain from the proposals as a formal assessment of their needs could result in the need for a higher level of support being identified and subsequently accessed. An assessment would also ensure that the council's limited budget would focus support on those with identified needs.</p> <p>b) Some young people may find that a choice of provision is available if they are supported to fully explore the full range of possibilities: including specialist youth groups, VCI groups etc.</p> <p>Young people who are the subject of an Education Health and Care Plan will have the development of social skills and access to their local community considered as part of the planning and review process. The SEND Reforms require that there is a greater focus on preparing young people with special educational needs and disabilities for adult life. It is expected that planning for individual young people will make use of the Local Offer and address some of the concerns raised during consultation: specifically how young people with special educational needs and disabilities can develop and be supported to socialise, access their local communities, engage in ordinary activities and become more independent.</p> <p>Derbyshire County Council provides a range of targeted youth groups located throughout the county aimed at disabled young people. An initial review has identified capacity in</p>

	<p>those groups to support young people who may not in the future be able to access Aiming High.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a wide range of specialist groups and activities delivered by VCI providers, such as Fairplay and Umbrella, across the county.</p> <p>c) The council has, and continues, to consider all means by which savings can be made without reducing valued services. It is with reluctance that consideration is given to provision of services to disabled children and young people and their families for whom there has not been a formal identification of the level of need.</p> <p>d) Disabled children young people and their families will continue to have the option of purchasing services, if they have the financial means to do so, through a Framework of Providers. These providers are quality assured by DCC to promote choice, quality and value for money and deliver specialist services for disabled children and young people. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p>
<p><b><i>Protected Group</i></b></p> <p><b>Gender (Sex) including men and women, boys and girls</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>Gender is not a key factor affecting the delivery of the Aiming High provision; however, more males than females access Aiming High support, reflecting the higher proportions of males with identified disabilities. Flexible one-to-one, short break grant or a combination of these, are accessible to those that meet the eligibility criteria; gender is not a factor in this. There are no</p>



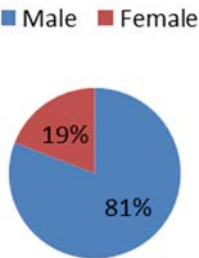
criteria or assessments applied to group activities: providers determine eligibility and do not take into consideration the gender of the individual as part of those criteria. 68% of children/young people accessing Aiming High support are male. The below pie chart shows the prevalence by gender that have accessed Aiming High support. There will be some instances where a child or young person has accessed more than one type of support or provision, therefore, this figure does not represent the actual number of individuals accessing Aiming High.

**Aiming High Support by Gender**

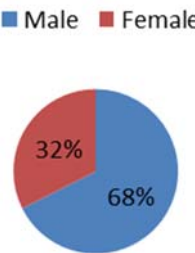


The following pie charts represents the gender split per support type

**Flexible one-to-one**



**Short Break Grant**

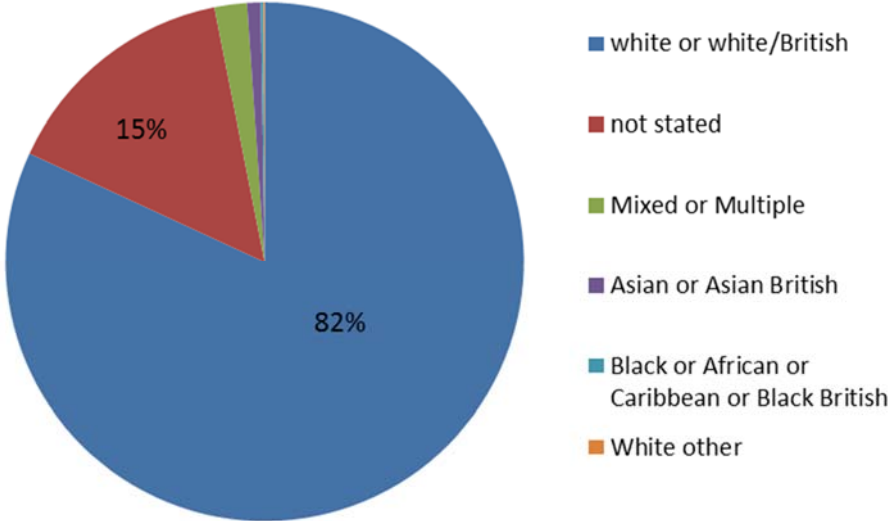


	<div data-bbox="647 461 949 499"> <p><b>Combination offer</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="692 539 916 566"> <p>■ Male ■ Female</p> </div> <div data-bbox="712 628 887 802"> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gender</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>77%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>23%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div data-bbox="1151 453 1426 494"> <p><b>Group Activities</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="1173 531 1411 560"> <p>■ Male ■ Female</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1196 624 1370 798"> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gender</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>74%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>26%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div data-bbox="1585 456 2036 494"> <p><b>Residential Activity Weekends</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="1709 525 1919 552"> <p>■ Male ■ Female</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1715 608 1890 783"> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gender</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>72%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>28%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <p>The proportions of male/female users of Aiming High support are broadly consistent with figures identifying special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). National figures indicate that male pupils are 2.5 times more likely in primary school, and 3 times more likely in secondary school, to have SEND than female pupils.</p>	Gender	Percentage	Male	77%	Female	23%	Gender	Percentage	Male	74%	Female	26%	Gender	Percentage	Male	72%	Female	28%
Gender	Percentage																		
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	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>2014 Consultation:</b> 78% of those who responded to the online consultation were female whilst 22% were male. 11% did not answer this question</p>																		

	<p><b>2015 Consultation:</b> 83% of those who responded to the online consultation were female whilst 17% were male.</p> <p>The gender split of the total numbers attending the targeted youth consultation sessions was 56% male and 44% female; however, there were approximately 2.6 times as many males as females accessing Aiming High support during the 2014/15.</p> <p><b>2016 Consultation:</b> 64% of those who responded to the online consultation were female whilst 22% were male. 14% did not answer this question.</p> <p>It may be that the higher proportion of females responding to the consultation reflects the likelihood of a female being the main carer.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Gender is not a key factor affecting the delivery of the Aiming High provision; however, the majority of users are male.</p> <p>A formal assessment, where appropriate, would better ensure support was tailored to meet the identified needs and would take account of gender. Whilst not all families will be eligible for services, families would be able to request a formal assessment that would better ensure that any support was tailored to meet the level of need for each individual. Some families with higher levels of need may gain as a formal assessment of their needs could result in the need for a higher level of support being identified and subsequently accessed</p> <p>Some young people may find that a wider choice of provision is available if they are supported to fully explore the full range of possibilities: including specialist youth groups, VCI groups etc.</p>

	<p>Young people who are the subject of an Education Health and Care Plan will have the development of social skills and access to their local community considered as part of the planning and review process and it is expected planning for individual young people with SEND will address some of the concerns raised during consultation: specifically how young people with special educational needs and disabilities can develop and be supported to socialise, access their local communities, engage in ordinary activities and become more independent. More males than females are identified as having special educational needs and disabilities.</p> <p>Derbyshire County Council provides a range of targeted youth groups located throughout the county aimed at disabled young people. An initial review has identified capacity in those groups to support young people who may not in the future be able to access Aiming High. In addition the Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a wide range of specialist groups and activities delivered by VCI providers, such as Fairplay and Umbrella, across the county.</p> <p>Disabled children young people and their families will continue to have the option of purchasing services, if they have the financial means to do so, through a Framework of Providers. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p>
<p><b>Protected Group</b></p> <p><b>Gender re-assignment – including impact, if any, on transgender people</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>The data is not currently collected and would not be relevant to this analysis as gender re-assignment is not a key factor affecting the delivery of this service</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p>

	<p>There is no feedback or impact reported on individuals that have under gone gender reassignment. There is no reason to suggest this group would either gain or be adversely affected</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Gender re-assignment is not a key factor affecting the delivery of the Aiming High provision; however formal assessment would better ensure support was tailored to meet the need for each individual and their family.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be directed without the need for an assessment.</p> <p>Disabled children, young people and their families are able to purchase additional services through a Framework of Providers. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p>
<p><b>Protected Group</b></p> <p><b>Race – including all racial groups, including impact, if any, on Gypsies and Travellers</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>This service is not delivered on the basis of race. However, the January 2011 census indicates that 96% of residents in Derbyshire identify as White British. The chart below indicates the proportion of ethnic groups accessing Aiming High provision during 2015-16 which appears to be broadly consistent with local population statistics</p>

	 <p>Flexible one-to-one support, short break grant or a combination of both are accessible to those that meet eligibility criteria and ethnicity is not a relevant factor. There are no criteria or assessments applied to group activities: providers determine eligibility and race of the individual is not part of this.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>2014 Consultation:</b>          Out of the 227 responses to the consultation 97% identified as White British which reflects the ethnicity of the highest number of users.          2% identified as Asian/ British Asian 0.54% identified as ‘Mixed’ and 0.54% as ‘Other’ (Polish)</p> <p><b>2015 Consultation:</b></p>

	<p>Out of the 103 responses to the consultation 98% identified as White British which represents the ethnicity of the highest number of users. 1% was of 'Mixed' but did not state the nature of the mix and 1% stated 'other' and described their race as 'English'. 4 responses did not answer this question.</p> <p><b>2016 Consultation:</b>  Out of the 64 responses to the consultation 78% identified as White British which represents the ethnicity of the highest number of users. 6% was of 'other ethnic groups' but did not state the nature of the mix and 16% of the responses did not answer this question.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be differing impacts on different races using Aiming High; the themes identified in the responses were common across the race demographic represented in the consultation.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Race is not a key factor affecting the delivery of the Aiming High provision; however formal assessment would better ensure support was tailored to meet the need for each individual.</p> <p>Disabled children, young people and their families are able to purchase additional services through a Framework of Providers. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be directed without the need for an assessment.</p>

	All providers would be expected to take account of any cultural factors or religious beliefs that might affect how a service is delivered or received.
<b>Protected Group</b>  <b>Religion and belief including non-belief, including religious minority communities, Humanists</b>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>This service is not accessed or delivered on the basis of religion. Flexible one-to-one, short break grant or a combination of both is accessible to those that meet the criteria; religion or beliefs are not part of the criteria.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p>There is no feedback or impact reported on individual religion or beliefs. Religious beliefs are not a factor affecting access to Aiming High. There is no reason to suggest this group would either gain or be adversely affected.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Religion or beliefs are not a key factor affecting the delivery of the Aiming High provision; however formal assessment would better ensure support was tailored to meet the need for each individual and take account of any religious or cultural factors.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be directed without the need for an assessment.</p> <p>Disabled children, young people and their families are able to purchase additional services through a Framework of Providers. The list of Framework providers is made available to</p>



	<p>schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p> <p>All providers would be expected to take account of any cultural factors or religious beliefs that might affect how a service is delivered or received.</p>
<p><b>Protected Group</b></p> <p><b>Sexual orientation – including the impact, if any, on any lesbian, gay and bisexual people</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>Sexual orientation of parents or service users is not a key factor affecting the delivery of this service. All families with disabled children who meet the eligibility criteria can access the service irrespective of sexual orientation.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p>There is no feedback or impact reported on individual sexual orientation of parents or service users. There is no reason to suggest this group would either gain or be adversely affected</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Sexual orientation of parents or services users is not a key factor affecting the delivery of the Aiming High provision. A formal assessment would better ensure support was tailored to meet the need for each individual.</p>

	<p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be directed without the need for an assessment.</p> <p>Disabled children, young people and their families are able to purchase additional services through a Framework of Providers. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p>
<b>Protected Group</b>  <b>Pregnancy and maternity – including new mothers/ parents</b>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>The data is not currently collected and would not be relevant to this analysis as pregnancy and maternity is not a key factor affecting access to and delivery of this service.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p>There is no feedback or impact reported on pregnancy / maternity; however it can be assumed that this would be an additional pressure if also caring for a disabled child or young person.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Where required, a formal assessment would take account of individual family circumstance, including pregnancy and therefore better ensure that support was tailored to meet the whole family's needs and changing circumstance.</p>

	<p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be signposted without the need for an assessment.</p> <p>Disabled children, young people and their families are able to purchase additional services through a Framework of Providers. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p>
<p><b>Protected Group</b></p> <p><b>Marriage and civil partnership – also include impacts on lone parents and unmarried couples</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>The service is not delivered on the basis of marital status. However it could be assumed that a greater impact may be felt by lone parents/carers. Those requesting Aiming High are not required to provide this detail and individual family circumstances have not been formally assessed when requesting Aiming High support.</p> <p>Whilst this data is not currently collected for families benefitting from Aiming High, national data indicates that 12.3% of adults in Derbyshire County are separated or divorced (2011 Population Census) which is higher than the England average.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p>Feedback received during consultation identified that lone parents with a disabled child/young person that have limited or no support structure may be more adversely affected by these proposals. Where required, an assessment would better take account of individual family's circumstance and support structures.</p>

	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Formal assessment would better take account of individual family's circumstance and levels of resilience and ensure support was tailored to meet individual needs.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be signposted without the need for an assessment.</p> <p>Disabled children, young people and their families are able to purchase additional services through a Framework of Providers. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families. Families who wish to may buy services with their own money, with Direct Payments or with Personal Budgets.</p>

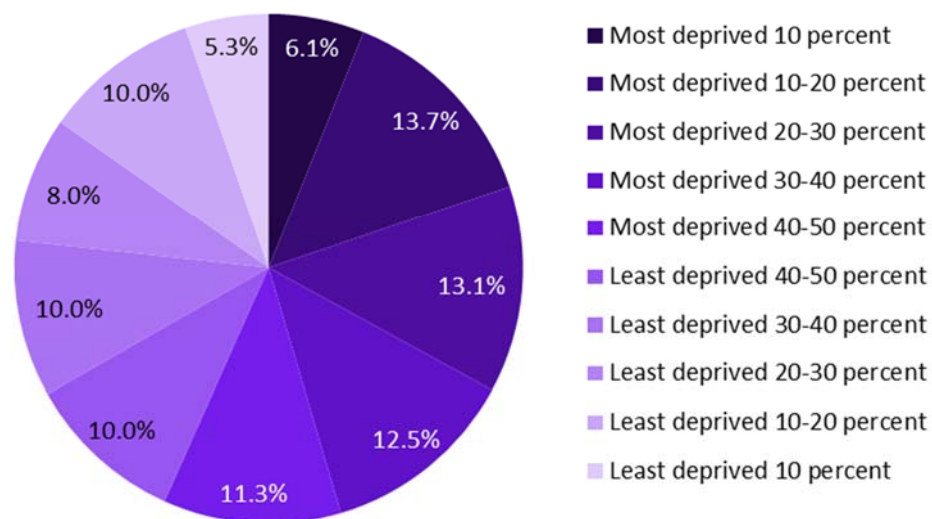
## Non statutory

<p><b>Poorer and disadvantaged communities and groups, including people who experience financial exclusion</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>The service is not delivered on the basis of financial status. However it is relevant to note that some parents/carers with disabled children do not work, or cease to work in order to become full-time carers for the child/young person: however data on family income of the children and young people receiving Aiming High services is not available as access to the service does not take account of financial circumstances.</p>
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It should be noted, however, that those from poorer disadvantaged groups may potentially experience a greater impact as a result of some of the proposals. Families with higher incomes may be able to mitigate any loss in services or grant by purchasing activities and/or support, an option less likely to be available to those on lower incomes.

Using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2015, 6.1% of children/young people accessing Aiming High during 2015/16 live in areas which are ranked in the most deprived 10% of the county. A total of 56.7% live in areas which are ranked in the most deprived 50% of the county.

**IMD Decile: Postcodes of Children / Young People accessing Aiming High in 2015-2016**



The chart below shows the proportion of children/young people accessing each type of Aiming High provision, giving a comparison of children/young people living in areas which are in the 50% most and 50% least deprived areas of the county.

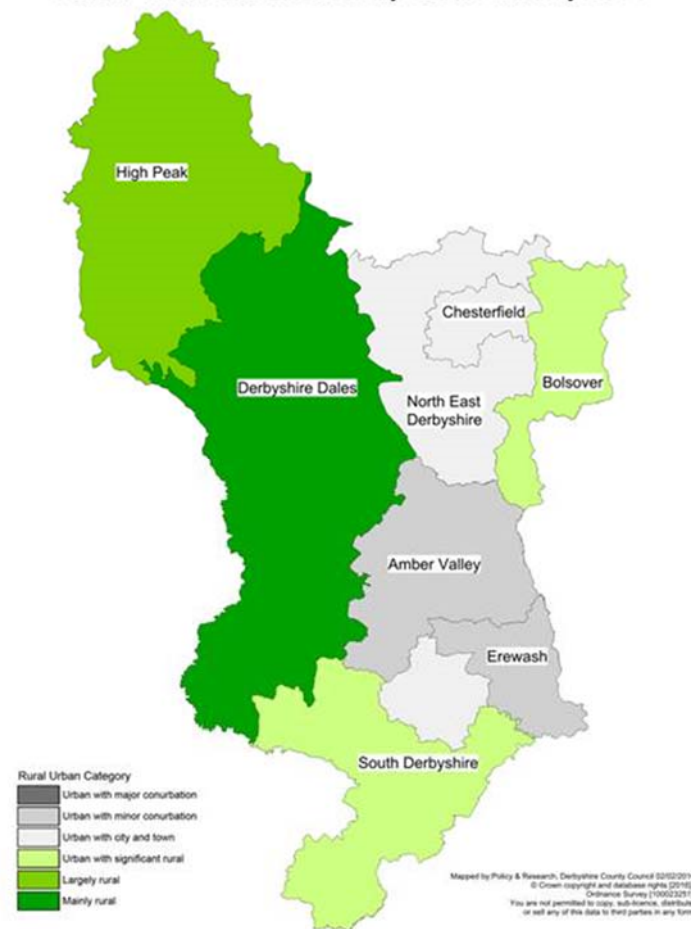
	<div><div><div><div><div><div><span></span></div><div><span></span></div></div></div><div><div><div><span></span></div><div><span></span></div></div></div></div><div><div>Least deprived 50%</div><div>Most deprived 50%</div></div></div><table><tr><td>Residential Activity Weekends</td><td>3.2%</td><td>5.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Group Activities</td><td>31.3%</td><td>27.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Combination Offer</td><td>3.2%</td><td>4.0%</td></tr><tr><td>Short Break Grant</td><td>43.7%</td><td>41.9%</td></tr><tr><td>Flexible One-to-One</td><td>18.6%</td><td>21.1%</td></tr></table><div>Proportion of children accessing support service</div><p>Data relating to individual family income or circumstance is not available, however, based on the postcodes of families using Aiming High; more families living in relatively deprived areas are likely to experience an impact from the proposals.</p></div>	Residential Activity Weekends	3.2%	5.5%	Group Activities	31.3%	27.5%	Combination Offer	3.2%	4.0%	Short Break Grant	43.7%	41.9%	Flexible One-to-One	18.6%	21.1%
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Combination Offer	3.2%	4.0%														
Short Break Grant	43.7%	41.9%														
Flexible One-to-One	18.6%	21.1%														
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p>From feedback received during the 2014, 2015 and 2016 consultations it has been identified that the loss of the short break grant provision will have the following impacts on people who are financially disadvantaged:</p>															

	<p><b>2014 Consultation:</b> Out of the 227 responses to the consultation, 23 stated that the proposal to cease the short break grant would impact on the opportunity to have a family holiday. 11 stated that the proposal would impact on opportunities to enjoy other short breaks and activities. 10 families identified there would be a reduction in choice of activity for the child/young person. 2 stated an impact on their ability to purchase specialist equipment.</p> <p><b>2015 Consultation:</b> Out of the 103 responses to the consultation, 22 stated that the proposal to reduce the short break grant and to no longer allow the grant to be used to help fund a family holiday would impact on them being able to provide a family holiday. 5 stated that the proposal would impact on them being able to provide other short breaks and enjoyable activities. 5 families identified there would be a reduction in choice of activity for the child/young person.</p> <p><b>2016 Consultation:</b> Out of the 64 responses to the consultation, 2 stated the proposal to cease the short break grant would impact on opportunities for short breaks away, whilst another response was concerned that support towards adaptations would not be available. 2 stated that access to support should be means tested and would impact those that are not able to afford support.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Financial status is not a key factor affecting the delivery of the Aiming High provision. A formal assessment of need would take account of individual circumstance, including a family's financial situation, where relevant.</p> <p>Families who have a budget to purchase additional support and services (this might be a Direct payment, Personal Budget or the family's own budget) can access a Derbyshire County Council</p>


	<p>Framework of Providers. These providers are quality assured to promote choice, quality and value for money and to deliver specialised services for disabled children and young people. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be directed without the need for an assessment.</p>
<p><b>Rural communities</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p>With the Peak District National Park covering more than a third of Derbyshire's total land area, and with only a few densely populated towns, the county may be described as largely rural. However, according to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) the population in England has increased and the spread of people has expanded or in some cases the population has become more dense. As a result, fewer people are defined as living in rural areas. As demonstrated in the map below High Peak, Derbyshire Dales, South Derbyshire and Bolsover are classified as rural with Erewash, Amber Valley, North East Derbyshire and Chesterfield classified as urban.</p>



Rural / Urban Classification by Local Authority 2011



The chart below shows the proportion of children/young people who live in the rural areas compared to urban areas that have accessed each type of provision in 2015/2016.

	 <p><b>Type of support accessed</b></p> <p>Urban Rural</p> <p>Residential Activity Weekends</p> <p>Group Activities</p> <p>Combination Offer</p> <p>Short Break Grant</p> <p>Flexible One-to-One</p> <p>0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70%</p> <p><b>Proportion of children accessing support</b></p> <p>Rurality impacts on ability to access services, in particular if transportation is restricted. Ceasing the funding for Aiming High could impact most on those accessing services in Derbyshire Dales, High Peak, Bolsover and South Derbyshire: which in 2015/16 equated to approximately 37% of those using Aiming High support.</p> <p>61% of children/young people access the Aiming High are from the urban areas of Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire, Amber Valley and Erewash.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p>

	Feedback has identified that service users in rural areas could be disadvantaged due to suitable provision being at a greater distance. Service users in more built up urban areas could be disadvantaged due to limited availability of suitable provision.
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p>Formal assessment would better take account of individual family's circumstance and needs, including locality and better ensure that any support was tailored to meet those individual needs and circumstance.</p> <p>Families who have a budget to purchase additional support and services (this might be a Direct payment, Personal Budget or the family's own budget) can access a Derbyshire County Council Framework of Providers. These providers are quality assured to promote choice, quality and value for money and to deliver specialised services for disabled children and young people. The list of Framework providers is made available to schools, Multi-Agency Teams, Social Care and other agencies within the Derbyshire Children's Trust who may use it to spot-purchase provision on behalf of young people or families.</p> <p>The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a range of short break opportunities to which a family can be directed without the need for an assessment.</p>

**5. Are there any *other* groups of people who may experience an adverse impact because of the proposals?**

The proposals may impact on financial viability for some of the voluntary sector currently delivering the service for Derbyshire County Council. This could lead to loss of other services that are delivered by these organisations to

Derbyshire families. However, if organisations are successful in identifying other sources of funding, the impact would be mitigated.

Ceasing the Derbyshire Aiming High Offer would result in some disabled children and their families no longer receiving additional services, however, families seeking support would be able to request an assessment from Children's Services in order to determine the type and level of support that may be required.

## **6. Impact on employees of Derbyshire County Council or prospective employees**

Increases in requests for additional support are likely and this will impact on resources in Starting Point, Multi-Agency Teams and/or social care teams. The reduced Aiming High Offer, introduced from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, has not, to date, resulted in an increase in requests for assessments or additional support.

Families have previously expressed concern about the likely impact on MATs and social care resources. Staff would require adequate preparation in anticipation of any changes and the potential for any increase in assessments and services.

The ceasing of the Aiming High Offer would mean the function of processing applications is no longer required, resulting in staffing implications. It is envisaged that the Council's Redundancy, Redeployment, Protection of Earnings and Buy-out of Hours Policies will be adhered to and any displaced staff will be successfully redeployed.

## **7. Gaps in data**

What are your main gaps in information and understanding of the impact of your policy and services? Please indicate whether you have identified ways of filling these gaps.

Detail of the nature and level of disability is not available for all service users.	<p>Although the Council holds a wide range of data about the number of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Derbyshire and their needs, there is relatively little detailed information about the specific individual needs and circumstances of children and young people benefitting from Aiming High short breaks and their families. This is because access to Aiming High short breaks does not require a formal assessment of need: Aiming High was set up to enable ease of access to a limited amount of support without the need for formal assessment, as a result records detailing the nature and severity of disability are not consistently held.</p> <p>As a result of the current method of access, detail of individual's needs and difficulties are not consistently recorded in depth.</p>
Ethnicity – Not all service users have ethnicity recorded	More robust record keeping and housekeeping would be necessary to record ethnicity and other individual details.
Lone parents	Fuller assessment of need would identify if there is a lack of support structure for lone parents
Pregnancy/maternity	Fuller assessment of need would identify if there is a lack of support structure for new parents

## 8 Main Conclusions and Recommendations

### CONCLUSIONS

Based on the analysis the following is believed to be of importance and should be noted by decision-makers:

- Three consultations have taken place: in 2014 and more recently in 2015 and 2016 and have been successful in reaching the intended audience and generating a reasonable level of responses. There was a notable decline in the number of responses to the third consultation and this is believed to be because of the proximity of the consultations.
- The overall conclusion is that for a significant proportion of Aiming High users the frequency of opportunities and level of support to enable disabled children and young people to have enjoyable experiences away from their main carers will be reduced by the proposals and that carers will have fewer opportunities to have a break from caring responsibilities.

Whilst not all families will be eligible for services, families would be able to request a formal assessment that would better ensure that any support was tailored to meet the level of need for each individual. Some families with higher levels of need may gain from the proposals as a formal assessment of their needs could result in the need for a higher level of support being identified and subsequently accessed. The Aiming High Offer, whilst offering a limited choice of provider, provides eligible children/young people and their families with a similar level of support. The assessment would better enable progress to be monitored and for young people to, where appropriate, step down from higher levels of support when sufficient progress has been made.

- In performing the duty to make available sufficient short breaks provision the authority must have regard to the needs of those carers who would be able to provide care for their disabled child more effectively if breaks from caring were given to them; enabling them to undertake education, training, leisure activities, meet the needs of

other children in the family more effectively or carry out day to day tasks. In mitigation; families who require additional support would be able to request a formal assessment to identify if support was necessary and the type and level of support required.

- The authority must provide, as far as is reasonably practicable, a range of services sufficient to assist carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively.

A range of services will continue to be available including universal services, targeted services (albeit at a reduced level) and specialist services. The Derbyshire Local Offer provides information on a wide range of specialist groups and activities delivered by VCI providers and DCC youth services located throughout the county and aimed at disabled young people. The authority will want to ensure that DCC targeted youth groups are utilised as effectively as possible to meet the needs of disabled young people.

- The Framework of Providers is available for social care, other services and families to purchase support/provision.
- The SEND Reforms require that planning and review for young people with SEND has a greater focus on preparations for adult life, including the development of social skills and access to their local community.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the following proposals are implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016:

- Cease the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer, associated branding and criteria: Aiming High group activities, flexible one-to-one support and/or grant would no longer be available.
- No longer commission Aiming High activity weekends

- Provide short break services to eligible families, only after the completion of a formal assessment carried out by Derbyshire Children's Services that identifies that support is necessary and the nature and level of support required to meet identified needs.
- Review the specialist youth group provision in order to ensure best use of the provision.
- Review content of the Local Offer to ensure availability of information regarding short break activities and support that can be accessed without an assessment by Children's' services.



## 9. Action planning in response to the completed analysis

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Planned action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>How will this be monitored?</b>
<b>What you want to achieve</b>	<b>What you intend to do</b>	<b>Responsible person or department</b>	<b>Timing of action</b>	<b>Monitoring and review arrangements</b>
Inform all users of Aiming High of Cabinet's decision regarding the future of the Aiming High Offer.	Write to current users Write to providers Publicise changes on the Local offer and DCC website Alert schools and other services through electronic communications.	Commissioning and Partnership	June 2016	DCC Children's Services Commissioning Team, Disabled Children's Services, Locality Manager
Ensure families requiring a higher level of support to enable them to continue to care for their disabled child are able to request an assessment	Prepare services for anticipated additional requests and are able to signpost to information and support where appropriate.	Commissioning and Partnership	June/July 2016	DCC Children's Services Commissioning Team, Disabled Children's Services, Locality Manager
Confirm end of contracts with Aiming High providers.	Written communication with providers	Commissioning and Partnership	June 2016	Commissioning Team
Ensure information is available on the Local Offer regarding activities and breaks that can be accessed without the need for assessment	Review current content of Local offer website	Family Information Service	September 2016	DCC Children's Services Commissioning Team, Disabled Children's Services,
Monitor and review situation following implementation of proposals to determine impact on resources and identify future actions	Monitor number of referrals and new assessments and assess impact on resources	Disabled Children's Service and Locality teams	October-December 2016	DCC Children's Services: Disabled Children's Services, Commissioning Team, Locality Manager
Publish a revised Derbyshire Short Breaks Statement	Involve the Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice in reviewing the Derbyshire Short Breaks Statement	Disabled Children's Service/ Commissioning and Partnership	It had been intended to publish a revised statement by 1 <sup>st</sup>	Disabled Children's Service/Short breaks review group

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			April 2016. In light of further changes, an interim statement will be published by 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2016 with a further review and statement by 30th September 2016.	
Ensure that developments in EHC processes and structures including assessment/plan and reviews include considerations of young people' developing social needs and identify strategies or provision to meet those needs.	To be included in considerations at EHC improvement and QA group, Proposals to go the SEND Programme Board	SEND Project Manager/Commissioning	January 2017	SEND Reforms Programme Board
Ensure appropriate access to specialist youth groups	Examine current use of specialist youth groups and identify future actions	Services for Teenagers, Localities and Commissioning	September 2016	Services for Teenagers/Commissioning

## **10 Monitoring and review arrangements**

Please outline what steps will be taken to monitor and review the implementation of proposals if they are agreed here:

Monitoring and review will be overseen by the Aiming High/Short Breaks Review Group: which includes representation from Commissioning and Partnership, Disabled Children's Services and Localities.

Involvement of parents will be through the Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice