

Now tell us what you think

We want to know what services and support you would like to be available to families with disabled children and young people. Please take the time to fill in our questionnaire.

To give your views you can:

- Give your views online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/shortbreaks
- Write to Aiming High Consultation, Derbyshire County Council, FREEPOST, BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE DY76, County Hall, Matlock DE4 3AG
- Ring our contact centre Call Derbyshire on 01629 533365 where an operator can fill out the questionnaire on your behalf or send you a paper copy of the questionnaire

Our consultation will run until 6 November 2015 so please get your views to us by then.

Further information is available in the report to Cabinet at www.derbyshire.gov.uk - look under Your Council or see a list of FAQs at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/shortbreaks

Putting our own house in order

We're saving money by:

- Making sure every penny is spent where it's needed most
- Reducing senior management
- Selling off redundant land and buildings.

Written and produced by Communications, Derbyshire County Council, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG. August 2015.

The Derbyshire Challenge

Making difficult decisions together



Have your say on revised proposals to change the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer

How we deliver Aiming High Short Breaks for families with disabled children is under review as part of Derbyshire County Council's proposals to save £157million.

Aiming High is one element of a wider short break offer for families with disabled children and following a recent consultation on proposed changes we've revised our plans.

Having listened carefully to the views of families we're now consulting on new proposals.

We want to know what you think of them to help us decide the best way forward.

The current situation

Reductions in government grants, inflation and greater demands on areas of the budget means the authority must make £157m budget cuts by 2018 – based on 2013 figures. More cuts are expected to follow up to 2020 and possibly beyond.

We provide short breaks for disabled children and young people and their families in a variety of ways, including Aiming High.

Short breaks are intended to give disabled children and young people an enjoyable experience away from their primary carers and to give parents and families a break from caring responsibilities.

To keep within our budget and ensure the scheme is sustainable, we need to look at how we provide these breaks.



Proposals

During the previous consultation, families told us how much the short break grant meant to them. They also told us how important flexible one-to-one support was, so we're proposing to continue offering both options to families.

Our new proposals include:

- Continuing to offer flexible one-to-one support for families without the need for a formal assessment but reducing the maximum number of hours provided from 80 to 40 a year.
- Continuing to give families a short break grant instead of one-to-one support up to a limit of £400 instead of £800 a year. The grant couldn't be used to fund family holidays.
- Implementing changes (a) for all families from 1 April 2016 or (b) implementing them for new applicants from 1 April 2016, and allowing existing service users to step down to a maximum of 60 hours/£600 in April 2016 and 40 hours/£400 in April 2017.
Families who need additional support, beyond the maximum of 40 hours or £400, could request an assessment from Multi-Agency Teams (MATs) or Social Care.

The revised proposals will not affect vital services the council must legally provide to give essential support to families of disabled children and young people with the highest levels of need to enable them to care for their child at home. Other specialist groups and activities outside the Aiming High offer are also not included in these proposals.

In addition, subject to considering any additional views expressed during this consultation, we would implement the previous proposals to:

- Reduce funding available for Aiming High group activities – other specialist groups and activities would not be affected by the proposals.
- Ending one-off funding for summer play schemes for disabled children – other summer play schemes not funded by Aiming High have been available in the past and are also not affected by these proposals.