

Aiming High for Disabled Children in Nottingham City **Newsletter**

Issue – November 2009

Dear Reader

Welcome to the November 2009 Aiming High (AH) newsletter, the following briefs you on our current progress.

Infrastructure

All current reports to address staffing and infrastructure developments have been sent to our Departmental Management Team (DMT) for approval.

Parents on interview Panels

We have a list of parents and carers keen to attend task groups, meetings and offer their experience and knowledge to inform service delivery and commissioning developments.

Home From Home Post

The Home From Home Team Manager Post – has been temporarily filled by Mike Cutler from the Leaving Care Team. This post will be advertised to secure a permanent manager.

Commissioning Manager Post

The Commissioning Managers post was advertised but unfortunately we had no applicants. This post is now in the process of being re advertised on the Guardian, Jobs Go Public and Carers for Leaders websites.

The Direct Payments Officer post

The Direct Payments Officer post has been appointed to Neil Brettele as the preferred candidate. He will join us as soon as his CRB form is complete and relevant notice is given.

The Asian Short Break Pilot Project Post.

The Asian Short Break Pilot Project Post has been short listed, we have had a large number

of applications and have shortlisted 8. Interviews will be held on 26th November.

Team Manager Disabled Children's Team

The Team Manger post within the Disabled Childrens Team is being temporarily filled by Cath Hatton who is the Senior Practitioner in the team. Cath will act up in this post until further notice.

Individual budgets Pilot

A report on the need for a Project Manager for the Individual Budgets Pilot has been submitted. Funding is secured for this post through Aiming High and the Transitions developments. If agreed this post will also be advertised and we will update you on the progress of the project plans and any scope. Nottingham Young Select Committee and the Council considered this report in October 2009 and have made several significant recommendations for the LA to consider in this scope.

Commissioning

The Commissioning intentions document and a short breaks service specification have been approved by DMT. Thank you to the professionals and parents who commented on the document. The documents are now being presented to the Childrens Partnership Board.

We will be giving the required notice to current services soon and be looking to retender 4 lots as detailed in the specification. There will then be a further providers briefing and Parents will be included in the future commissioning / interview panels.

Workforce

The task group for our Disabled Childrens Workforce met again on the 10th November. Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire Local authorities support the NHS in both the City and County plans to fund a joint clinical skills audit of

relevant training. Nottinghamshire LA are looking to undertake a skills audit of training in integrated childrens services.

Once the workforce champion has been identified in the City a proposal will be made for a Workforce Officer to look at the training being undertaken in all of our city integrated childrens services.

Together Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire will then review this training with the NHS and look to develop an agreed joint framework of suitable training.

Eligibility & Care pathways

Jane Shepherd, the consultant from Maddocks, has begun her work on reviewing this eligibility and care pathways document. There has been some new guidance released from the TDC that has led to amendments to the current document and we are now expecting further amendments when Jane's work is finished. Jane has met with several professionals and parents already and plans are in place to put this document into a parent friendly version. This will then be written in a suitable format. A visual PATH was drawn up on the 13th October at the Early Support meeting and we have now set up a task and finish group with Jo Rooney being identified as the Chair person for the "Integrated Care Pathways Task Group". Thanks Jo.

This work will be supported by relevant key professionals and we plan to deliver a simple visual path so that parents and carers can be clear about the assessment routes that their child takes.

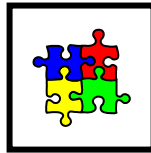
Core Offer

The Core Offer group has completed the draft Core offer and this has been sent to the parent's forum for their consultation, along with some suggested signs and symbols to identify levels of support, advice and information available from the services on offer. These symbols are in draft:



Induction T loop

This symbol is used to indicate to the deaf community that an induction loop system is available. It is well known to them.



ASD Aware

This could be used to signal that staff are aware of the diverse needs of children (and adults) with Autism and will be supportive



First Aid available.

This could be qualified with a phrase to acknowledge that staff with advanced first aid training are available on site



BSL Signer if required.

A phone number to request this could be provided on the webpage. Again this is well known already to the deaf community



Disabled/physical Access

Placed on the website it would show good physical access for the event venue, in terms of the building (doors and lifts/ramps); placed on a toilet door with WC added it becomes an accessible toilet. The venue would already have this on appropriate facilities.



The One World Flag is an international symbol of diversity, tolerance, uniqueness, self-esteem, and cooperation which has been endorsed by a growing number of individuals, groups, educational, spiritual and diplomatic leaders for its mission statement, and purpose. *"Diversity, Uniqueness, Tolerance, and Cooperation spoken here"* You could consider this one to use for "tolerance" as we discussed at your meeting.



Two recognisable symbols for "question" and for "information". It has been created with word-art, so easily changed in terms of colours and fonts. The phrase *"ask for more information"* could appear under the logo with an appropriate link to phone/contact information.



This symbol is for visual impairment and could be used to signal that facilities for the blind / VI population were available (and a number to ask for more information?)

Data / Reporting

The Together for Disabled Children (TDC) Local Area Implementation Programme (LAIMP) report was submitted on October 31st 2009. Copies of this are available if you wish to see this. Whilst it has still been a challenge to ensure accurate data is being recorded and submitted to TDC, you will be pleased to hear we are on target and have been identified as needing only low levels of support.

You may already be aware of the Tracker tool used by LAs to record their progress in meeting the Full Service Offer for Short Breaks. As we move towards the core offer, it is vital that we can evidence how parents have been able to participate, how well local areas are working with parents and the influence parents have had on service development.

In order to do this TDC in agreement with DCSF, have developed a simple 'progression framework' to capture the current position and to track progress. The progression framework has been added to the existing Tracker tool that records progress towards the full service offer for short breaks.

This then requires whoever completes the Tracker tool (me) to complete a further section on behalf of the Local Area specifically about parent participation across all of the Aiming High Programme - not just short breaks.

Progress on parent participation will now be recorded on the Tracker tool under the following three aspects:

.Information - how you provide information to families of disabled children about specialist health, education and social care services; about their entitlements to receive services as well as details of other organisations that can be of help.

Consultations - How you consult with parents to find out about their support needs, their experience of services and how they could be improved.

Participation - How you involve parents in making decisions and shaping the way services are provided.

For each aspect, there are three stages within the progression framework: 'at the first stage', 'in development' and 'well developed'.

Your area is **well developed** if you are able to agree with **all** the descriptors in that section. Your area is **at first stage** if you agree with **any** of the descriptors in that section. The tool should be updated as soon as criteria have been met to ensure that all data and information reviewed reflect the current situation within each local area.

Other Creative Opportunities

IBK initiatives consultation work is now published on the internet and has been sent to the steering group for comment. This was a joint piece of consultation with Nottinghamshire County Council and the NHS. This gathered the views of the children attending this residential overnight short break service at the Childrens Development Centre. The outcomes of this report are being discussed with this service.

Latest News

New Vehicle

We have finally purchased a red wheelchair vehicle which should be with us shortly.

Wheelchair Swing

The wheel chair swing is ready to go into place and the old swing was placed in the rear garden at Crocus Fields.

Computers

Accessible computers and software for Crocus Fields have arrived. We are waiting to put the internet lines in place.

Bicycles

The bicycles have been purchased and we have enabled some children attending short breaks to go on bike rides. This is something that some children have never had the opportunity to do.

Aiming High One Year on Event

Could you all please put 17th March ²⁰¹⁰ in your diary for the Aiming High One Year On event. Details will follow ASAP.

Overview of the Project Income & Proposed Expenditure following the last AH steering group planning meeting.

Capital and Revenue Finances

Our Capital and Revenue Quick wins are now advertised and a panel of professionals, parents and young people is being planned to identify the successful applications.

Revenue Income

	2009/10	2010/11
AH-	£334.9K-	£1084.4K-
NHS-	£150K	£150K

Capital Income

2009/10	2010/11
£169,100	£394,500

Breakdown Summary of LA Revenue Spend 2009/10 (to date allocated)

1	Asian Short Breaks 6 month Pilot	£15,000
2	Developments Social Care service	£45,000
3	Developments Home From Home service	£45,000
4	Developments Direct Payments service	£27,000
5	Aiming High Developments	£45,000
6	Administration	£11,000
7	Fun and Play Days	£20,000
8	Consultation and support for the Parents forum and Special Peoples group	£17,000
9	Direct Payments provision	£31,000
10	Vehicle Running Costs	£2,250
11	Individual Budget Pilot / other projects –	£66,650
12	Set up costs	£10,000
Total		£334,900.00

Summary of LA Capital spend 2009/10 (to date / allocated)

1	Contract Carers House adaption's	£85,000
2	Vehicle with wheelchair access	£15,000
3	Computers and software for children	£2,500
4	Equipment Grant Pool of funds for Bids	£30,000
5	Other projects Adaption's 2nd Family Homes	£23,000
6	Play equipment swing trampoline etc	£4,276
7	Wheelchair Bike, trike and Bicycles	£7,000
8	Specialist Bed	£2,324
Total		£169,100.00

Summary of proposed NHS Revenue expenditure (estimated draft) 2009/10

1	The main focus will be developing a training package which will ensure all children can access short breaks.	£
2	Service delivery and developments	£50k
3	The projected short break element is dependant on commissioning intentions; a percentage of the funding may be allocated to delivering the other elements of the Aiming High agenda.	£
Total		£200k

Summary of proposed LA Revenue expenditure (estimated draft) 2010/11

1	Inclusive Family Holidays	£100,000
2	Service delivery and developments	£204,000

3	New, tendered Services	£190,900
4	LA Linking Services	£35,000
5	Individual Budgets	£100,000
6	Fun Days from AH	£50,000
7	Transport costs	£8,000
8	Vehicle Running	£4,000
9	Groups / Pilots / Asian Short Breaks & Outreach	£135,000
10	Direct Payments	£100,000
11	100 Hrs scheme & Other Projects Workforce Training	£157,500
Total		£1,08400.00

Summary of proposed NHS Revenue expenditure
(estimated draft) 2010/11

1	The main focus will be developing a training package which will ensure all children can access short breaks.	£
2	Service delivery and developments	£
3	The projected short break element is dependant on commissioning intentions, a percentage of the funding may be allocated to delivering the other elements of the Aiming High agenda.	£
Total		£150k

Summary of proposed Capital expenditure
(estimated draft) 2010/11

1	Contract Carers House adaption's	£200,000
2	Vehicle with wheelchair access	£15,000
3	Equipment Grant Pool of funds for Bids	£70,000
4	Equipment Grant access or Toilet	£109,500
Total		£394,500.00

Thank you all for your continued support.

Toby Beck

Useful contacts

Aiming High Short Breaks
Toby Beck, Project Manager
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City Parents Forum
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Edwina Cosgrove at Parent Partnership
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Aiming High 'Special People' Group
Cara Holland at Barnardos Sherwood project
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