



Staffordshire Children's Trust
Working together to improve the lives of children and young people

Commissioning Areas and Process

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Funding Opportunities

- Revenue Funding – 800k approx
- Capital Funding – 200k approx

Commissioning Areas

- **Activities**
- **Support Services**
- **Workforce**
- **Participation**



Activities

By 31 March 2011 as a minimum an additional 1,200 disabled children and their families will be accessing short break opportunities.



- We are interested in commissioning a range of activities in school holidays, weekends, evenings and after school to enable disabled children and their families to have enjoyable experiences.
- Any services developed should be open access and genuinely accessible to disabled children and their families.
- Duration of these activities will be flexible and responsive to need and could last for a few hrs to a full day or more.
- Our consultation events with disabled children and parents, identified opportunities to participate in leisure, sports and art activities as key themes, in addition to family fun days, breaks together and separately, plus access to soft play, sensory environments, horse riding and venues appropriately resourced to hold birthday parties.



Activities cont.....



The outcomes we want to deliver include:-

- A broad range and choice of enjoyable experiences for disabled children and young people.
- A valuable break for parents and families and opportunities for families to do things together.
- Opportunities which will contribute to personal and social development.
- Voices of disabled children and their families embedded in design, delivery and monitoring of services.
- Reduction in the isolation of disabled children and their families.
- Access for those children most likely to be excluded from activities.
- **FUN!!!**



Support Services

By 31st March 2011 as a minimum an additional 1,200 disabled children and their families will be accessing short break opportunities.



- We are interested in commissioning a range of support services which will enable children and their families to have more independence and greater access to activities and other opportunities.
- We have identified gaps in domiciliary care provision, particularly in the east of the county (Uttoxeter, Burton area) and more widely in relation to children and young people with challenging behaviour and/or complex physical disabilities. We would be interested in commissioning high quality support which provides practical support and which also supports a child or young person's development.
- We also want to support children and young people to access services in the community wherever possible. We therefore would be interested to commission a range of support services such as befriending, peer mentoring to support young people to access activities and fun things to do. This may be as part of a programme ultimately building confidence in the young person and enabling them to access services independently or as part of an ongoing package of support.

Support Services cont...

- **The outcomes we want to deliver include:-**
- A broad range and choice of enjoyable experiences for disabled children and young people.
- A valuable break for parents and families.
- Opportunities which will contribute to independence.
- Voices of disabled children and their families
- embedded in design, delivery and monitoring
- of services.
- Reduction in the isolation of disabled children and their
- families
- Access for those children who are currently most likely to
- be excluded from activities.
- Access to **FUN!!!**



Workforce

By 31 March 2011 as a minimum an additional 1,200 additional disabled children and their families will be accessing short break opportunities.

- We are interested in commissioning organisations to provide elements of a workforce development programme to deliver Aiming High outcomes. This could include disability training for paid and unpaid workers in a range of settings including leisure, sport and the arts. This **would not** be basic disability awareness training but could include a range of development opportunities to build the confidence of workers in actively involving children and young people with disabilities.
- Components could include communication skills, in depth disability awareness training and training in specific behaviours or needs.
- We are interested in developing a similar range of opportunities for parents to enhance their confidence and practical skills, including sleep management, managing behaviour etc.

Workforce cont....

The outcomes we want to deliver include:-

- A safe and safe and skilled workforce in place with the capacity to deliver short breaks at all levels.
- Workers at all levels of short break service have the relevant level of understanding, knowledge and skills to support the needs of families with a child with a disability.
- Parents, children and young people who receive a short break service have confidence in the workers who provide or contribute to their short break service.
- Parent's have increased confidence to support their children.

Participation

We are interested in commissioning a range of opportunities to engage with parents of children and young people with disabilities including:

- A parent engagement service for parents and carers of children aged 0-18 with disabilities, the services main activities are likely to include developing and supporting an Aiming High Parent Board, developing a parent and carer E Forum and providing an element of co-ordination of engagement activity.
- We are also interested in commissioning participation activity with children and young people. And would welcome expressions of interest in a model for development of participation across Staffordshire. We are particularly interested in how to access the voice of children with disabilities who attend mainstream schools.



Participation cont....

The outcomes we want to deliver include:-

- Disabled children and young people and their parents have the information they need at the time that they need it and in a format that is appropriate to their needs.
- Disabled children and young people and their families are routinely involved, listened to and contributing to the shaping of services.

Key information

- Expressions of interest (EOI) to be returned by Monday 5 October 2009.
- Expression of Interest Forms are available in delegate packs and will also be downloadable from the Children Trust website.
- Detailed timescales and a pre qualification questionnaire (PQQ) will be sent w/c Monday 19 October 2009.

Draft Timescales

- Awarding of tenders in the final quarter of 09/10.
- Service delivery is anticipated to begin in the first quarter of 2010/2011.
- We will be working closely with colleagues in procurement and commissioning to develop a tender process and timescales which meet legal responsibilities but is also proportionate to tender size.



Capital Funding Opportunities

- Aimed at organisations where a small investment of capital funding will create additional opportunities for children and young people with disabilities.
- The capital grant must help achieve an expansion in short break provision – must be clear that it will make a difference to access or availability.
- Must NOT be used for organisations to meet their statutory responsibilities e.g. Disability Discrimination Act compliance.
- Must not be used for purposes other than short breaks.
- Applicants will need to have regard to sustainability and value for money.
- Detailed criteria are under development.
- Further information will be available on the Children Trust website and will be emailed to all delegates who have provided contact information and shared through the third sector network.