

Southampton Short Breaks Market Statement

July 2013

1 Introduction & Background

Introduction: who is this document for?

This document is aimed at existing and potential providers of children's short breaks (also known as respite) support. It presents initial ideas around the future development of short breaks and represents the continuation of a dialogue, between the council, children, young people, families, providers and others. We are committed to developing a diverse, active market where innovation is encouraged and rewarded and where poor practice is actively discouraged.

Providers of short breaks can learn about the Council's intentions as a purchaser of services, and its vision for how services might respond to current and future challenges. Voluntary and community organisations can learn about future opportunities and what part they can play in developing new activities and services.

People interested in developing new businesses and social enterprise can read about new opportunities in the market and tell us what would help them to come into the market and offer innovative services.

Short breaks providers and organisations not currently active in the area can find opportunities to use their skills and expertise to benefit local services and develop their organisation.

A procurement process will be commencing in July 2013. There is more detail on the timeline in section 6.

Background

The council has a number of contracts to provide a variety of short breaks for children and young people with disabilities, including overnights, outreach, support in the home, playschemes and support to access universal services. These contracts end in March 2014, therefore a commissioning process has begun to determine what the short break needs are in Southampton and how best to meet them with the funding available.

Currently the provision of short breaks is made in two ways:

1. Following a social care assessment of need, resulting in a short breaks allocation to meet the identified needs – this is done via the Jigsaw service (the integrated children's health and social care team). These are known as specialist short breaks.
2. A more open access route for a wider range of children and young people who can sign up to the 'Buzz Network' and receive information, advice and access to short breaks. These are known as targeted and universal short breaks.

Through joint working with Southampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and adult social care services in the city, the intention is to improve the current short break offer for children and families by focussing on:

- Supporting families to use community resources as much as possible
- Improving parental confidence in support worker training
- A greater emphasis on personalisation to give more choice and control to families

2 Key Messages

The key messages to be taken from this market statement are:

- The demand for short breaks services is increasing but this will not be matched by government funding so a new approach is needed to how short break support is commissioned and delivered with innovative solutions being developed and implemented.
- The local authority and clinical commissioning group want to maximise the funding available to obtain better value for money and also support more children with a wider range of short break options.
- The number of children with disabilities is increasing and their needs are becoming more complex. There are more children who are technology dependent and more with unpredictable health conditions such as epilepsy. We are looking to develop a more diverse short break market that is competent and confident in meeting the needs of these children. We want to see short break providers working more closely with health providers to develop their staff's understanding and ability to care for children with more complex needs. The CCG has set up a nursing team to work with non health providers and support them in meeting the needs of children with complex health conditions, by providing a source of training and support to staff. We want providers to be taking advantage of this expertise, establishing links with this team and other local health provision.
- Personalisation and the uptake of direct payments will increasingly allow children, young people and their families to choose from a wider and more varied range of short break options in order to meet their needs. Demand for traditional models of service with large block contracts is expected to decrease and families will have more of the buying power.
- We want short breaks in Southampton to be not just about a break for carers but also about providing new and exciting opportunities for the disabled children who use them where they can make new friends and try out new activities. Short breaks should be exciting and fun. Children and young people with disabilities should be able to access mainstream and universal activities. Barriers to access such as the need for staff training or equipment can be overcome.
- With the reforms to the Special Educational Needs system to create more holistic support across education, health and social care agencies, short breaks also need to be holistic and take account of wider needs which a family may have. The social value of short breaks to communities is important in terms of supporting children to be involved in activities near where they live.

3**Business Opportunities**

The list below outlines some of the business opportunities which may be available in development of short break services in Southampton:

- Community activities which offer recreational, educational, social or leisure activities in the local community.
- School holiday and weekend playschemes with activities which are fun, varied and make best use of community resources.
- Activities which can be accessed by all members of a family at the same time.
- Innovative approaches to transport to and from the short break.
- Creative and person centred overnight short break services for teenagers which are outcomes focused and support continued development of independence skills.
- Family based overnight short break services for younger children (aged 2-8 years)
- Creative and person centred outreach support for children and young people which is personalised and supports continued development of independence skills.
- Consistent and high quality support in the home (domiciliary care) with identified teams of support workers to provide ongoing support without unplanned breaks in continuity.
- Development of a greater range of short break options tailored for children with complex health needs.
- Brokerage and advocacy to offer a wider range of support to help people find the help they need, arrange their support and express their views
- Training programmes for staff employed via direct payments or agencies with particular focus on meeting the needs of those with complex health or challenging behaviour.

4 Key Citywide Statistics

Population

The 2011 census recorded the resident population of Southampton as 236,900 people an increase of 8.9% from the 2001 census.

Age

There are around 56,600 people aged under 20 in Southampton, however the profile of the city's population differs from the national average because of a large number of students (there are an estimated 43,400 students in Southampton). The table below breaks the population into age groups.

Southampton 2011 population (0-19 years) by age group

Age Group	No. people	% of all 0-19 year olds
0-4 years	15,400	27.2%
5-9 years	11,800	20.8%
10-14 years	11,500	20.3%
15-19 years	17,900	31.6%
Total (0-19 years)	56,600	

It is projected that the number of 0-19 year olds will increase by 6% over the next ten years with significant growth in the 5-9 and 10-14 age groups.

Ethnicity

77.7% of Southampton residents were recorded as 'White British' in the 2011 census down from 88.7% in 2001. The biggest change has been in the 'Other White' category which has more than tripled in the last ten years.

Within Southampton there is large variation in diversity; in Bevois ward over half of residents (55.4%) are from an ethnic group other than White British compared to 7.6% in Sholing ward. The annual school census in the city in 2012 found that 29.4% of pupils were from an ethnic group other than White British.

Deprivation

Southampton is ranked as the 5th most deprived local authority in the South East and 81st out of the 326 local authorities in England according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010.

A more detailed profile of the city is available on the council website at:

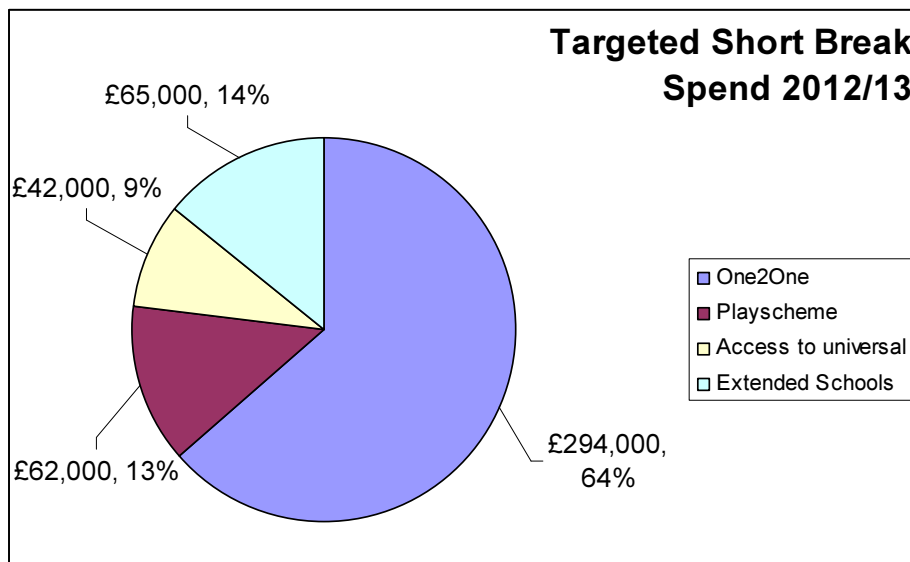
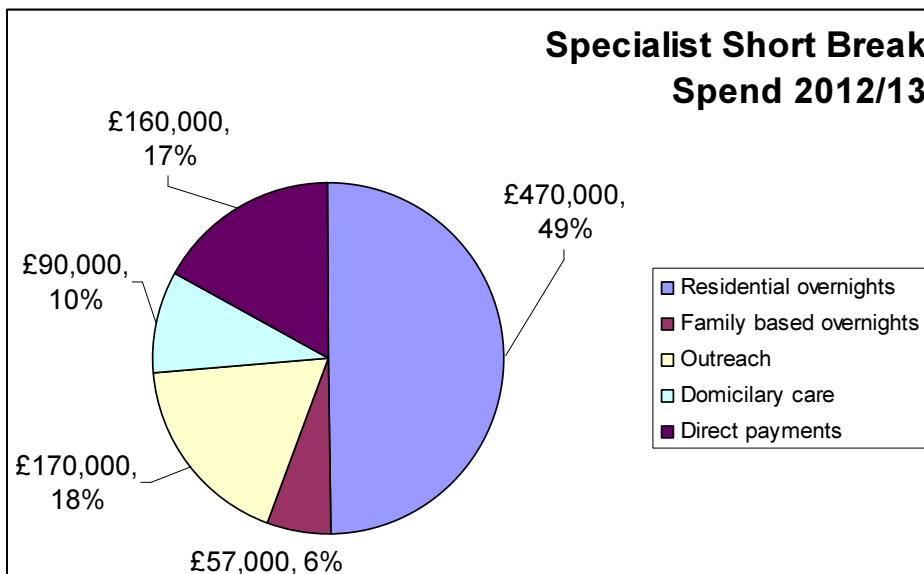
<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/living/statsresearch/>

5 Current expenditure, market share and needs

Expenditure

In the financial year April 2012 – March 2013, around £1.4 million was spent on short breaks in Southampton. Included in this amount is around £125,000 of funding from the CCG to support access to short breaks for children with complex health needs. In addition the CCG will be transferring funding to meet the short break needs of a group of children who have previously accessed short breaks via a health setting but who will be transferring to local authority contracted providers.

The pie charts below show how much funding went to each short break activity type. The figures are for illustrative purposes and may not be at the same amount or in the same proportion for any new contracts as budgets for 2014/15 have not been confirmed yet.



Over the coming commissioning cycle, we predict the following changes to the current spending split:

- A large amount of money will continue to be spent on overnight short breaks but families will be given more choice about the type of overnights they access., Therefore

there could be an increase in the family based nights and a resultant reduction in residential overnights.

- The need for outreach and/or domiciliary care will continue and is likely to increase. However the way in which this need is met could be via contracted services or direct payments. The predicted increase in direct payment take-up may mean that less is commissioned by the local authority.
- 11% of the current spend on short breaks is via direct payments (up from 6% in 2010). It is expected that this will continue to increase over the next few years and therefore presents both challenges and opportunities for organisations to prepare for fewer block contracts from the council and an increase in 'micro-commissioning' done via individual families with direct payments.
- Families have expressed strong preferences for more community based activities which are near where they live. The reliance on the One2One service will reduce and this funding will be used to fund more community based activities.
- The playschemes will continue at similar levels as most children who access them need the higher level of support which specialist providers can offer.

Market share

The table below shows the number of providers for each of the commissioned services.

Commissioned Service	Number of providers
Residential overnights	1 main provider
Family based overnights	1 main provider
Specialist outreach	3 main providers, 1 smaller provider
One2One	3 main providers, 2 smaller providers
Playschemes	2 main providers, 1 smaller provider

We are looking to increase the number of providers for all of the commissioned services so that there is more choice for families and also to ensure that there is sufficient capacity and provider expertise to meet the level and complexity of demand for services.

The significant majority of current short break spend is within the voluntary sector as these are the organisations which successfully tendered for the contracts in 2009/10. There is a small amount of spend with private sector organisations and also in the public sector through schools. The current spend is almost entirely with organisations that specialise in supporting children with disabilities. The main advantage of this is that they have the expertise and skills to support children and young people with disabilities however one disadvantage is that community resources or mainstream activities are not always used as much as they could be.

As part of the commissioning process, funding requests/tenders from mainstream organisations who wish to become more inclusive will be encouraged as well as collaborative approaches between specialist and mainstream activities.

The relationship between the individual service user, the provider and the commissioner needs to change so that there is more control for service users. The future short break marketplace will need to be more person centred so that support can be better tailored to the individual needs of children and their families.

Current numbers and needs

There are currently around 600 children and young people with disabilities accessing short breaks in Southampton; this could be one or more of:

- Overnight short breaks
- Outreach or support in the home
- Direct payments
- Playschemes
- Supported access to mainstream activities
- Extended school activities

In addition children and young people access opportunity groups and leisure activities which are not currently funded by the short break budgets and mainstream activities such as Surestart centres should be accessible to all families.

Children and young people of all ages can benefit from access to short breaks; however the most appropriate type of short break often differs for different ages. For example childminding may be more appropriate for younger children, whilst teenagers may prefer activities with their friends and where they can choose what to do on the short break.

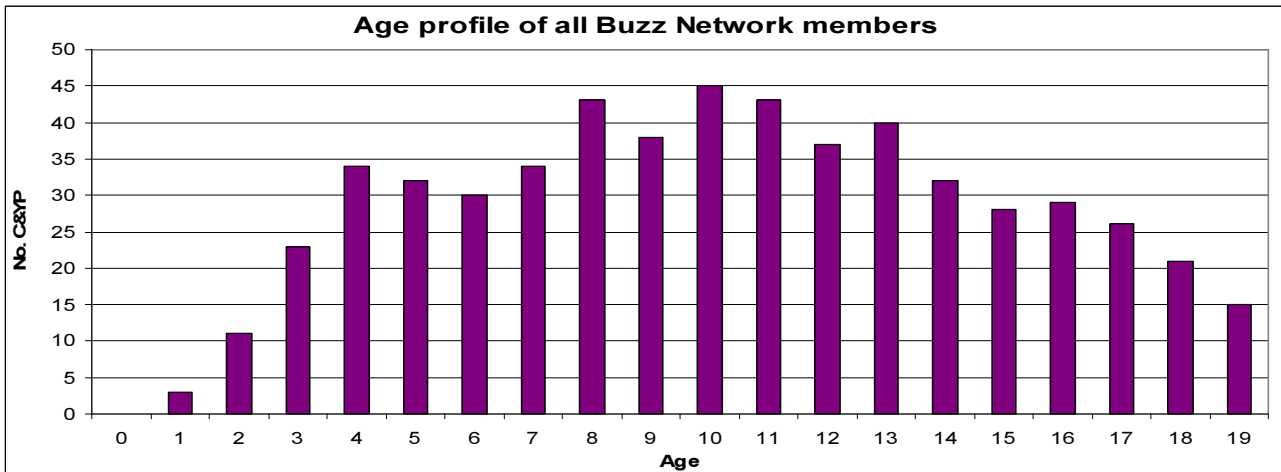
One of the key messages taken from consultation with families is that they want short breaks to be local to where they live and easily accessible. Whilst Southampton is relatively small and does not have the scale of transport issues in a large county, getting across the city can be difficult therefore smaller groups based in community venues could be developed. Alternatively, innovative transport arrangements could be developed so that children and young people can get to their short break venue quickly and easily.

Children have a large range of disabilities and needs, which could include learning disabilities, autistic spectrum conditions, physical disabilities, complex health needs, sensory impairments and behaviour which can be challenging. Many children have multiple disabilities. Groups to support children with particular disabilities (e.g. sensory impairments) bring specialist expertise and allow children to interact with peers who may have similar needs. Being able to respond not just to a child's disability but to their individual needs which arise from the disability is vitally important to ensure they are kept safe, their development is supported and that they enjoy their short break.

The table below shows the number of children and young people who accessed each of the different short break types in 2012/13. Some children access more than one type of short break so the totals have been adjusted to account for double counting errors.

	Type	No. C&YP accessing
Specialist	Residential overnights	50
	Family based overnights	12
	Outreach or support in the home	54
	Direct payments	35
	Total Specialist	110
Targeted	One2One service	273
	Playschemes	77
	Access to universal activities	22
	Extended school activities	335
	Total targeted	588
Overall Total accessing short breaks		618

The graph below shows the age profile for all children on the Buzz network



A recent needs analysis found that approximately 72% of children with disabilities were male and 28% were female. This ratio varies for different disabilities from 87% male, 13% female for children with autism to around 50% male, 50% female for children with sensory impairments.

The ethnicity profile of children with disabilities closely matches the overall citywide profile.

The area of the city in which children live also closely matches the overall citywide profile.

6 Next Steps

The council intends to recommission all short break contracts between now and December 2013 with new contracts to start in April 2014.

The recommissioning may take the form of block contracts, framework agreements, a grants process or a mixture of these. Decisions have not yet been made on this yet.

The intention is for any contract/grants process to take place from July to November 2013; this will be done according to the council's own processes and advertised widely to ensure that all organisations who may be interested are aware of the opportunity.

A provider event will be held in June or July 2013 prior to the formal contract/grant process so that potential providers know what the process will be and have an understanding of the contracts we wish to commission and/or the outcomes we wish to achieve through grants.

We welcome enquiries from any interested organisations; if you have any questions please contact:

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