

Brighton & Hove City Council and Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group are keen to explore potential interest from suitably experienced and capable suppliers for our short breaks and respite services for our Children & Young People and their families. We would like to engage with providers to understand the potential market for provision in this area.

These valuable services have been reported as being very beneficial to the children, young people, and their families in the city, has enabled continuity of care and much needed breaks for those helping to look after young vulnerable people. Some of the aims and objectives we are looking to achieve through the services are as follows:

1. A service that will work closely with our Specialist Community Disability Service (SCDS), to provide and maximise family-based care for all disabled children and young people needing shared care or full-time placements, overnight short breaks or day support hours. Where appropriate, work with the council to identify either short term and long-term placements for the child or young person. A service that would recruit and support people in the community who can offer good quality personal and social care to children in need of an ordinary home environment, so they can share in the family lives of the carers.
2. A service that will help to maintain children and young people with SEN and disabilities in their own homes and communities in the same way as other children, by providing substitute family care for those children whose home situation is under stress, or who are at risk of family breakdown. A service for overnight short breaks for service users who are identified as meeting the target group (Autism and/or require additional extra support to cope or complex health/medical needs). A service that will create the opportunity for disabled children to enjoy time away from home, to experience new friendships and enrichment to their lives and to enhance a sense of wider inclusion in the community, which will enable parents of disabled children to have regular breaks, by providing a support and befriending service in the child's home or local community delivered by Home Support Workers.
3. A service that will provide inclusive clubs for children and young people with SEN and disabilities in the form of:
 - a) all year after school clubs for ages 4 – 16 years, and
 - b) holiday play schemes for ages 4 – 11 years for 6 weeks, and.
 - c) holiday youth schemes for ages 11 – 19 years for 9 weeks per year to include all school holidays except Christmas.

The after-school clubs and holiday play schemes must promote safe, stimulating, and inclusive out of school activities for children with a range of special needs and for “mainstream” children. They must provide a recreational forum for children and young people to socialize with their peers, whilst getting appropriate support and supervision, along with a range of experiences in line with their age, developmental needs, and personal preferences.

The Youth schemes must promote safe, stimulating, and inclusive holiday activities for young people with additional needs to provide parent/carers with a break in care and offer disabled young people an opportunity to socialize with their peers, engage in positive activities to promote their social, emotional, cognitive, and physical skills.

4. A service that will support the transition needs of disabled children and young people with additional needs into adulthood (16 - 25 years), which will cater for their physical, social, emotional, mental health, personal, experience of friendships and enrichment of their lives, to enhance wider inclusion in the community and development of life skills which will enhance their settling into and success in adulthood.

We would like to know if there are organisations who would be interested and would like to work and partner with us to deliver these vital services in the city, we will deliver the recommissioning of these services through a rigorous, effective and co-production approach, so that future delivery will be based on local needs identified with effective resource management.

To respond to this engagement notice, please reply to procurement@brighton-hove.gov.uk **ASAP but before MIDDAY ON 7th January 2022**, setting out the details of your organisation (name, address, contact point), your relevant experience of providing any of the above services and any further comment you have on their future provision.

Please note this notice is not a formal Contract Notice nor commencement of a procurement procedure. Information on the current and potential provider market will be used in the planning and design of future commissioning and procurement exercises.