

**Warwickshire
Integrated Disability Service
Consultation**



*Working for
Warwickshire*

Proposed Future Service

Warwickshire County Council must make unprecedented savings of nearly £70 million across all of its services by 2014.

To do this, major reform of all of our services is necessary.

The Integrated Disability Service (IDS) currently works with approximately 2,300 disabled children and their families. Services are delivered both by the local authority directly and by other providers who are funded by the local authority or by families themselves.

The proposed changes in this consultation document are to modernise the service and to achieve proposed savings of £1.7m. The proposals only affect particular parts of the service provided by IDS. These are:

- Short breaks service (including overnight short breaks)
- The Family Key Worker role
- Social care service

IDS Teaching and Learning services and NHS funded services are **not** affected by these proposals (e.g. Child Development Service, Autism (Teaching and Learning), Occupational Therapy). The Young Carers service also does not form part of this consultation.

Proposed savings of approximately £0.9m have been identified within IDS that in our view will not affect the level of service provided to families. This includes proposed changes in current management and staffing structures (which are subject to staff consultation), the integration of back office functions and the possible re-negotiation of contracts.

The proposals put forward in this consultation are to modernise the service and to achieve further savings of approximately £0.8m.

As such we are proposing a new Local Offer. The proposed Local Offer sets out what support families can expect to receive dependent on their circumstances. We are proposing altered criteria for what level of support will be offered based on assessed need. As a result of these proposals some families will receive different or reduced services and some families with lower level needs will no longer receive direct support services. We have used 'average packages' to help people understand the impact although actual service provision will depend on assessed need.

We would like to hear your views on our proposed changes to the Integrated Disability Service (IDS) as set out in this consultation so that your views can be considered before any final decisions are made.

The Council is confident that the proposed Local Offer is the way to get the best outcomes for disabled children and their families and get the most from resources available.

A factsheet entitled 'IDS - Facing the Challenge' has been produced setting out the reasons for changes to IDS. This is available at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/consultation or from your library.

Your Views

We are conducting a 12 week public consultation on the proposed IDS changes so that your views can be considered before any final decisions are made. The consultation will run from **Wednesday 15 May 2013 to Thursday 8 August 2013 at 5pm.**

You can respond to the consultation in a number of different ways:

- Online at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/consultation
- By email to idsconsultation@warwickshire.gov.uk
- By post to IDS Consultation, Warwickshire County Council, Saltisford Office Park, Ansell Way, Warwick, CV34 4UL

By attending one of the public consultation events (see below). The following public consultation meetings have been scheduled.

Venue	Date	Time
Woodlands School, Packington Lane, Coleshill, B46 3JE	3 June 2013	6.30pm – 8pm
Brooke School, Overslade Lane, Rugby, CV22 6DY	6 June 2013	6.30pm – 8pm
Round Oak School, Brittain Lane, Warwick, CV34 6DX	11 June 2013	6.30pm – 8pm
Oak Wood School, Morris Drive, Nuneaton CV11 4QH	25 June 2013	1pm – 2.30pm
Welcombe Hills School, Blue Cap Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6TQ	27 June 2013	2pm – 3.30pm

In addition, consultation meetings will take place with the IDS Parent and Carers Forum, IDS Parent and Carers Steering Group, the Wacky Forum, short breaks providers, WCC staff and WCC Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Focus groups for young people aged 0-19 and their families will also take place.

After the consultation finishes

All the responses we receive by the closing date of **8th August 2013** will be used to inform the final report and recommendations to Council Members in September 2013 who will then decide what proposals will be taken forward.

The information we collect will be collated and analysed to inform this final report. Individuals will not be identified.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these proposals and providing feedback.

If you have any queries on the consultation please email idsconsultation@warwickshire.gov.uk or phone Jayne Mumford on 01926 742480.

The New Local Offer for IDS Short Breaks and Social Care

The new Local Offer for IDS short breaks and social care is set out below. In developing the Local Offer we have taken account of expectations set out in the Children and Families Bill, as well as ensuring that we get the most from resources available. The description of the Local Offer is followed by a number of questions asking for your views on specific changes within the Local Offer that may affect you.

Eligibility Criteria

Currently IDS services can be accessed by all children and young people who fit the following eligibility criteria:

- The child or young person is aged between 0-19 years
- The family are resident in Warwickshire
- The child or young person is identified as having a disability
- The child or young person has a significant delay in more than one area of development and or need
- There is a need to enhance the quality of life for the child, young person and their family/carer

We propose that the above minimum eligibility criteria to access services will remain unchanged.

The proposed Local Offer

The proposed Local Offer will have four levels of support. The amount of support available will increase as families' needs increase.

It is proposed that thresholds to access the different levels of support are changed to target those most in need. Overall the main change is that short breaks, family key working and social work will only be available as part of the Targeted Offer and Specialist Offer. We anticipate that as a result of our proposals approximately 500 families will receive the Targeted Offer and Specialist Offer. Currently, approximately 660 families receive these services.

In addition to the proposed changes to thresholds, it is also proposed that average package of support available as part of the Targeted and Specialist Offers will be applied more stringently. Actual packages of support will still depend on assessed needs. However, due to less resources being available, we propose not to continue to offer the enhanced packages of support that we have offered in the past.

The following paragraphs describe the support available at each level and how this has changed. In addition, a summary is provided in the table below.

The Minimum Offer

What is it?

- The Minimum Offer will provide information to families so that they know what support is available to them and how they can access that support. The Minimum Offer is available to all those who meet the minimum eligibility criteria (above). We will provide information and advice to families through a dedicated website (www.myfamilyvoicemyfamilychoice.co.uk) and via the Family Information Service (08450 908044; fis@warwickshire.gov.uk). We will also signpost to activities and events run by community organisations for the benefit of families with disabled children.

How has this changed?

- The main change to current arrangements is the increased use of the website and the Family Information Service to inform families of the support available to them.

The Early Help Offer

What is it?

- The Early Help Offer will be available to families that require additional support. We propose to use the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) to support families with disabled children with lower level needs. The CAF brings together the family and professionals in one meeting to focus on what is important to the family and what they want to change. CAF can provide support around all sorts of issues, including: parenting support, money, health, education, crime, housing and bereavement. More information about the CAF is in Appendix 1.

How has this changed?

- The main change to the Early Help Offer is that short breaks support, group activities and family key working will not be available at this level and will now form part of the Targeted Offer (see below). We believe those no longer receiving this support will be able to manage their child's needs with support through the CAF.
- We are proposing that parent and carers should normally be expected to provide transport to and from meetings with practitioners. Where this is not possible, consideration can be given to providing help with transport.

The Targeted Offer

What is it?

- The Targeted Offer will be available to families assessed as experiencing 'unacceptable pressure' (Appendix 1). This assessment is carried out either face-to-face or online and is overseen by a social worker.
- It is anticipated that the Targeted Offer will be available to approximately 300 families.
- Short breaks services (including group activities) and family key working will be part of the Targeted Offer. Families will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, receiving an allocation of hours of short breaks support based upon their needs.

- On average, 48 hours per year of short breaks support will be available as part of the Targeted Offer, although actual hours will depend on assessed need.
- Personal budgets and direct payments will also only be available as part of the Targeted Offer.

How has this changed?

- The main change here is that it is likely that fewer families will receive a short break service. It is estimated that approximately 20% of families that currently receive short breaks will not meet the threshold for the Targeted Offer.
- An average of 48 hours short breaks support per year will be a continuation of existing arrangements for approximately 180 families that receive short breaks services, but there will be a reduction for approximately 75 families.
- Those families receiving direct payments assessed as experiencing 'unacceptable pressure' (rather than unacceptable risk) will see a reduction in their funding allocation.
- Changes to the threshold for family key working will lead to this service supporting families with higher needs than current arrangements. It is anticipated that this will result in a 25% reduction of families currently receiving this service. These families will now receive support via the CAF.
- The number of group activities and play schemes available will also reduce from current levels.
- We are proposing that parent and carers should normally be expected to provide transport to and from short breaks. Where this is not possible, consideration can be given to providing help with transport.

The Specialist Offer

What is it?

- The Specialist Offer will be available to families assessed as experiencing 'unacceptable risk' (see Appendix 1). This assessment is carried out either face-to-face or online and is overseen by a social worker. Families receiving the Specialist Offer will also have access to all that is available as part of the Targeted Offer.
- It is anticipated that the Specialist Offer will be available to approximately 200 families.
- Families receiving the Specialist Offer will also be eligible for overnight short breaks, appropriate to their needs. It is anticipated that the same number of families will continue to access overnight short breaks (65).
- An average of 96 hours support per year will be a continuation of existing arrangements for the vast majority of families currently supported by a social worker. Actual hours of support will depend on assessed need.

How has this changed?

- The main change is that the average allocation of overnight short breaks in residential settings may reduce from 40 nights per year to 35 nights per year, although actual hours will depend on assessed need.

IDS Short Breaks and Social Care – Proposed Local Offer Framework

	Level 1- Minimum Offer	Level 2- Early Help Offer	Level 3-Targeted Offer	Level 4-Specialist Offer
Threshold <i>(see Appendix 1 for further information)</i>	For all children with a disability	For all children requiring additional support	For children for whom, without intervention, there is unacceptable pressure placed on the family	For children for whom, without intervention, there is unacceptable risk placed on the family
Assessment needed to access services	No assessment required in order to access services	Assessment through a Common Assessment Framework (CAF)	Social Care Assessment (Self-assessment)	Social Care Assessment
Local Offer- Menu of Opportunities	<p><i>Promoting and signposting to activities and groups in school, children’s centres and the community</i></p> <p>Online information – www.myfamilyvoicemyfamilychoice.co.uk</p> <p>Family Information Service</p>	<p><i>Support as Minimum Offer plus:</i></p> <p>Parenting programmes (e.g. Triple P, Autism Parent Training)</p> <p>Volunteer support – access to community activities</p> <p>Other opportunities and help as identified through the CAF such as support services for health, education, money, crime, housing and bereavement</p>	<p><i>Support as Early Help Offer plus:</i></p> <p>Personal budgets and direct payments</p> <p>Short breaks (average 48 hours)</p> <p>Family Key Working</p> <p>Group activities (e.g. school clubs, sports and leisure opportunities)</p> <p>Domiciliary / Home Care</p> <p>Volunteer support – home support</p>	<p><i>Support as Targeted Offer plus:</i></p> <p>Short breaks (average 96 hours)</p> <p>Social Care support-Social Worker</p> <p>Overnight Short Breaks</p>

Consultation Questionnaire

SECTION 1

About You

1. What is the main way you are involved with the Integrated Disability Service?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Carer/Relative | <input type="checkbox"/> Child or young person | <input type="checkbox"/> Warwickshire County Council Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School staff | <input type="checkbox"/> NHS staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Provider |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below) | | |

If you do not have children that use, or have used IDS services in the past, or are likely to use IDS services in the future, please continue to Question 7, Section 2.

2. Below is a list of services provided as part of IDS short breaks and social care. Please tick any services that your child has used. Please tick all that apply.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Play schemes, activity days and events (eg. ILEAP, Kids) | <input type="checkbox"/> WCC Short Breaks Sitting Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Take-a-Break |
| <input type="checkbox"/> www.myfamilyvoice myfamilychoice.co.uk | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Information Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Key Workers | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Worker (including Autism Team) | <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight short breaks – Fostering (eg. Family Link) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight short breaks – Residential (eg. John Waterhouse Project) | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal budgets | <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Payments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domiciliary/Home Care | | |

3. Below is a list of services also provided as part of IDS, but are **not** affected by this consultation. Please tick any services that your child has used. Please tick all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Child Development Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Birth to 3 Portage	<input type="checkbox"/> IDS Pre-School
<input type="checkbox"/> Autism (Teaching and Learning)	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disability (Teaching and Learning)	<input type="checkbox"/> Complex Needs (Teaching and Learning)
<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Impairment Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual Impairment Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Language Team
<input type="checkbox"/> Child attends a speech and language base	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupational therapy	<input type="checkbox"/> Gramer House / Bradbury House / The Birches

4. If you have a child that currently uses the above services, what is their age? If you have more than one child accessing services, please put the number of children in the box that applies.

<input type="checkbox"/> 0-5 years old	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-11 years old	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-16 years old
<input type="checkbox"/> 17-19 years old	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	

5. If your child is of school age, what type of school do they attend?

<input type="checkbox"/> Mainstream school	<input type="checkbox"/> Special school	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential school
<input type="checkbox"/> Independent special school	<input type="checkbox"/> Home educated	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable

6. Which area of the County do you live in?

<input type="checkbox"/> North Warwickshire Borough	<input type="checkbox"/> Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough	<input type="checkbox"/> Rugby Borough
<input type="checkbox"/> Stratford-on-Avon District	<input type="checkbox"/> Warwick District	<input type="checkbox"/> I live outside Warwickshire

SECTION 2

The Minimum Offer

7. The 'Minimum Offer' describes how we would like to provide help and support about what information and services are available for all families with disabled children. This will be delivered by the Family Information Service and online at www.myfamilyvoicemyfamilychoice.co.uk . We would like your ideas about how we can improve the information provided to families. How would you prefer to access information?

By phone

Online

Peer Support

What type of information would you like or do you need?

Comments:

The Early Help Offer

8. The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is the way that families with lower level needs access additional support. We believe that the opportunities available via the CAF should be extended to families with disabled children. We propose to develop these opportunities further as part of the Early Help Offer. Would you support this proposal?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

The Targeted Offer

9. We propose that the short breaks and sitting services will only be available as part of our 'Targeted Offer' to families who are assessed as being under unacceptable pressure. The average allocation of short breaks support will be 48 hours per year. Short breaks will no longer be available to families with lower level support needs, as is the current position. This will ensure that we can provide short breaks to the children and families who need this level of support most. Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

10. Short breaks will be available through the Targeted and Specialist Offer. Please indicate up to three types of short breaks that are most important to you, to help us plan future provision.

Group activity-
after-school clubs

Group activity-
weekend clubs

Group activity –
play schemes

Group activity –
preparation for
adulthood

1-to-1 sitting service
(in family home)

1-to-1 community
activity

Overnight short
breaks

Mobile homes

Personal budgets –
choice of support

11. As part of our 'Targeted Offer' we propose that the Family Key Workers will only be available to families assessed as being under unacceptable pressure. We believe those families no longer receiving support from a family key worker will be able to manage their child's needs with support through the CAF. Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

12. We propose that IDS funded play schemes and activity days should now only be available to those children who are assessed as being under unacceptable pressure. This will ensure that these opportunities are targeted at those families most in need. Do you agree?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

13. We want to make more use of Personal Budgets for families who are assessed as having the greatest level of need (Targeted Offer and Specialist Offer). A personal budget is an amount of money which is allocated to a family to spend on the services they want and need therefore allowing families more choice and control over the support they get. Personal budgets can be given to families or managed by the County Council on their behalf. Do you agree with the increased use of personal budgets in order to enable families to get the help they want?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

We are working with a number of organisations to increase the range of activities and opportunities available to families. If you or your family were entitled to a personal budget, do you know what type of things would you spend it on and who you could buy them from? What support would you need to manage a personal budget? Would a personal budget be better for you than simply getting services directly from IDS?

Comments:

The Specialist Offer

14. Overnight short breaks are provided to families as part of the Specialist Offer. Currently, Warwickshire provide two types of overnight short breaks: residential breaks at the John Waterhouse Project (Rouncil Lane) and fostering breaks through Family Link. The cost of fostering support is significantly less than residential support. We would propose more use of fostering breaks and less use of residential breaks. Do you agree?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

15. We propose reducing the average number of nights per year in overnight residential settings from 40 to 35. Do you agree?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

Transport

16. Currently, the County Council provides transport to a number of short break activity days and play schemes at significant cost. We propose that parents and carers should normally be expected to provide transport to and from short breaks. Where this is not possible, consideration can be given to providing help with transport. Do you agree?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

17. By offering office based appointments rather than home visits for the majority of appointments, we can reduce our staff transport costs and maximise investment in the Local Offer. Would you be prepared to visit local council offices and community venues in your district or borough for some family meetings?

Yes

No

Not applicable

Comments:

Please use this space, if you wish, to add any other comments. Please feel free to continue on a continuation sheet if you wish

Comments:

Thank you for completing the consultation.

Please return this questionnaire:

- by email to idsconsultation@warwickshire.gov.uk
- by post to IDS Consultation, Warwickshire County Council, Saltisford Office Park, Ansell Way, Warwick, CV34 4UL

If you would like this questionnaire in an alternative format, please email idsconsultation@warwickshire.gov.uk or phone Jayne Mumford on 01926 742480.

Appendix 1: Glossary of key terms

Short Breaks Service

Short breaks within Warwickshire are provided to children and young people with a disability through the Integrated Disability Service; our service brings together professionals from Education, Health and Social Care.

Short Breaks Services have been defined as services that give:

- Children and young people with disabilities enjoyable experiences away from their primary carers, thereby contributing to their personal and social development and reducing social isolation.
- Parents and families a necessary and valuable break from caring responsibilities

Short Breaks Services can include day-time or overnight care in the homes of children with disabilities or elsewhere, educational or leisure activities to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during school holidays.

Family Key Working

Family Key Workers provide families with a single point of contact, enabling them to have easy access to information, support and services to meet their needs by:

- Taking responsibility for working together with the family and with professionals from other services
- Ensuring delivery of an Inter-Agency Care Plan for the child, young person and family
- Acting as an advocate for the family
- Providing emotional and practical support
- Supporting the family with housing issues
- Supporting the family with transitions

Social Care Service

To receive support from a social worker, families must meet local social care criteria. Social workers provide and arrange:

- Social work advice and information
- Emotional support to children, young people and their carers
- Provision of short breaks, such as specialist day care and leisure activities
- Provision of support within the home

CAF

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is a key part of the strategy to improve outcomes for children and young people by ensuring that all of the agencies in local areas work together in an integrated way.

The intention is to ensure that any child or young person in Warwickshire with additional needs, which do not meet thresholds for intervention by statutory services, is provided with an opportunity through CAF at the earliest possible stage to have a holistic assessment of their needs undertaken by a practitioner who is already involved with them.

The CAF starts with what's important to the family – what they want to happen and/or change. It works best when the family take responsibility for making some changes as well.

The family just go to one meeting, instead of lots of meetings with different people. The CAF is informal and is a good way to get people together to talk.

People meet every 6 weeks to see what's working and not working . CAF offers support for the whole family, not just the child or young person. CAF can provide support around all sorts of issues, including: money, health, education, crime, housing, bereavement, parenting support.

For further information please visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/caf

Local Offer

Local authorities must publish, in one place, information about provision they expect to be available in their area for children and young people from 0 to 25 who have SEN.

The local offer must include both local provision and provision outside the local area that the local authority expects is likely to be used by children and young people with SEN for whom they are responsible, including relevant national specialist provision. For example, if an FE college in a neighbouring authority takes students from the “home” local authority then it should be included.

The local offer has two key purposes:

- To provide clear, comprehensive and accessible information about the support and opportunities that are available; and
- To make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving children and young people with SEN, parents and carers, and service providers in its development and review

Unacceptable Risk

Definition: Children for whom, without intervention considerable deterioration is inevitable which might result in unacceptable risk to the child / young person.

Aim of Response: To establish and maintain the most appropriate and safe care arrangements for the child or young person.

Typical Features:

- Imminent breakdown of carer support, particularly where the child has additional needs or a moderate - severe disability.
- Serious child care concerns including general neglect concerns from professionals or the general public that could have an impact on the child's health and welfare;
- Concerns that parental capacity is seriously adversely affected by drug / alcohol / mental health / domestic violence issues;
- Concerns where parents / carers are struggling to cope with the extreme behaviour of a child / young person.

Unacceptable Pressure

Definition: Children or young people who by reason of their needs, require social work services, the lack of which is likely to result in unacceptable pressure to the carer or to themselves.

Aim of Response: To prevent deterioration of a child's circumstances and to prevent the use of more intensive social work services.

Typical Features:

- Children who have received a universal or preventive service and are deemed to require a social work service to prevent moving into a higher category;
- Families / agencies requesting social work advice / support
- The child's disability is placing such significant pressure on the carers and / or the child is isolated by the effects of their disability.

Personal Budgets

A personal budget is an amount of money allocated by the County Council for your support needs following an assessment. If eligible, a personal budget can be received in one of two ways. Families can receive the money so that organise care and support themselves, or the County Council can organise and make payments on your behalf. You can choose to spend your personal budget on the type of care and support you think will work best for you. The increased use of personal budgets is a key part of the Children and Families Bill currently before Parliament.

Appendix 2: Short Breaks Local Authority Legal Responsibilities

1. The local authority has the following discretionary powers under the Children Act 1989.
 - a. Under Section 17 there is a power to provide services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children considered in need. Section 17 (10) (11) refers to disabled children as in need and provides a definition of disabled children for the purposes of the Act.
 - b. Under Section 20(4) the local authority has the power to provide accommodation if this safeguards or promotes a child's welfare.
2. Duties to provide services for disabled children include:
 - a. **Section 20(1) of the Children Act 1989** gives local authorities a duty to provide accommodation in situations where there is no-one else able to provide suitable accommodation or care.
 - b. **Section 6(2A) of the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000** gives local authorities a duty to assess the needs of carers taking into account their wish to undertake work, education, training or leisure opportunities.
 - c. **The Chronically Sick and Disabled Person's Act 1970** Section 2 which determines situations where all assessed needs must be met.
 - d. **Providing advice, information and guidance** meets duties outlined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 2, Children Act 1989 and section 12 of the Childcare Act 2006.
 - e. **The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations 2010 (enforced from April 2011)** outline a duty to provide a range of short break services. Local authorities must have regard to the needs of carers unable to provide care unless breaks are provided or where breaks allow them to care for their disabled child more effectively.
 - f. **The Disability Discrimination Act Amendments 2005** require all public bodies to have due regard to encouraging the participation of disabled people in public life and to promote equality of opportunity.