

SHORT BREAKS ENGAGEMENT EVENT
THURSDAY 12TH MAY 2016

NOTES FROM TABLE DISCUSSIONS AND QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Do we have the correct model – mixture of commissioned services and direct payments?

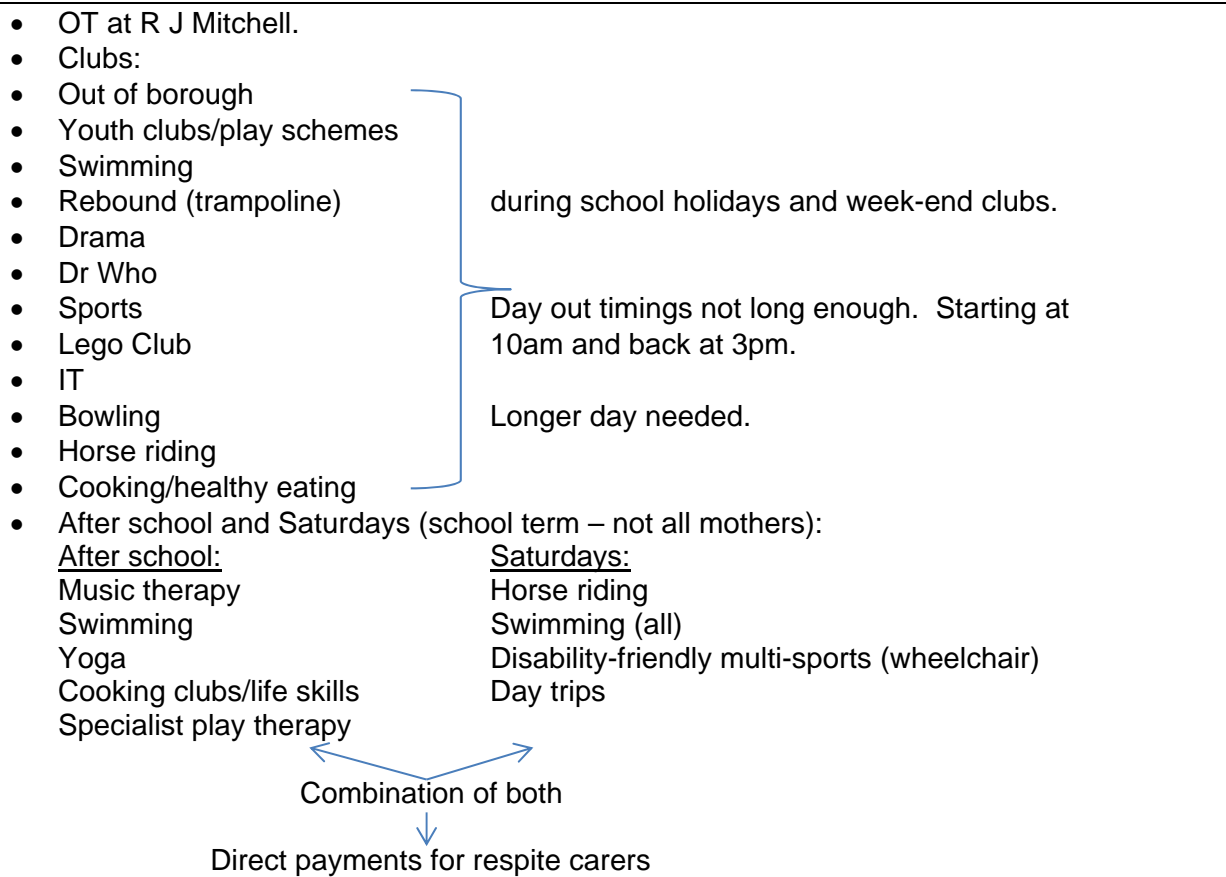
- No
- Commissioned Services: FIG. Feedback – like mixtures, mix provides back-up
- Direct payments:
 - Looking into DP for respite important.
 - “I would like a mixture of commissioned services and direct payments”.
 - Direct payments to be kept so we can employ.
 - FIG to be kept and accept direct payments.
- Happy with combination of both direct payments and commissioned services (propriety being keeping the system the same).
- Direct payments.
- Choosing our own provider – giving consistency to young person and peace of mind to parent/carer.
- No. Lack of services – not enough on offer (clubs, summer play schemes etc.).

If not, what do you think would work better?

- Communication is paramount.
- FIG - Not enough time at activity: 10am–3pm e.g. Leave 11am arrive 12pm, lunch 1pm, activity/travel back 2pm, finishes 3pm. Maybe different tiers of times that children can manage – shorter or longer days.
- Not always about giving child to someone else. Where can young person go where you don't have to book etc (general access).
- RAGS example (but had to be am).
- More provision for 18-25 year olds.
- More wheelchair friendly day breaks/clubs.
- List of services that we can access with direct payments.
- Lack of information regarding direct payments – limit of money held in account etc.
- Make all commissioned services accessible for children with all disabilities no matter how severe (multiple and profound).
- Monthly Social - our children are approaching transition stage – location within borough.
- Some parents do not know what they can tap into.
- We would be prepared to make small financial contribution.
- Clear guidelines on direct payments – i.e. banking hours.
- Weekday whole day provision for older children 16 and 17 – commission because lack of availability. If a young person is at Quarles for say 3-4 days what provision is there for the other two days?
- More notice given of allocated holiday placements to be able to book leave at work.

If yes, what would you like us to commission?

- Mixture of both.
- Day trips in school holidays for all holidays, all summer.
- Dedicated centre.
- Sensory integration – HUGE NEED – which impacts on access to other things (CCG).



- Six Weeks holidays:
- Holiday provisions.
- Days out.
- Holiday provision, overnight stays to learn and experience being away from parents – independence skills.
- Holiday provision – whole day, transport where essential.
- Sporting outdoor activity e.g. Football.
- Food for Thought programme – picking fruit, making jam, bringing jam home.
- Facilities i.e. washing, peg raining, 24 hour monitoring.
- Days out not long enough.
- Loves Stubbers, swimming, youth clubs.

What would you like us to develop to support the use of direct payments?

- After school clubs, social activities ie. swimming, cooking, day trips, seaside, theme parks.
- Supervised day trips so parents/siblings get respite.
- Day trips in school holidays and half terms. Longer day trips.
- Weekend club mornings and school holiday clubs in mornings.
- ELHAP (sensory playground in LBBD. Many parents interested. Can Havering look into residents accessing this?)
- Family days out with siblings in an environment that understands and meets their needs.
- Commissioned sensory based activities. Trampoline (Recoil/Jump giants). Kidspace being accessed anyway). Many places offering sensory but at awkward times and open sessions to general public.
- Trust that services are aware of the child's individual needs.
- To think about impact on access to activities has on wider family, relationships etc

- Simpler model
- Simplify direct payments (what can we pay with it? Clubs etc.).
- Creating an up-to-date directory of all commissioned services and agencies.
- More choice of clubs:
- Saturday (all year).
- Summer.
- Activity specific ie. swimming, horse riding.
- Can you use direct payments to access the same summer play schemes that have been directly commissioned? (Commissioned services).

Is there anything else you want to tell us?

- Provider form on LO please – up to date.
- Parents would consider contribution to activities.
- Ambition/dream: If there were not money discussions/barriers there should be a centre with everything in so we don't have to:-
- Travel too far.
- Fill in forms.
- Book – can just walk in.
- Join parents' group.
- 0-25
- Accessible.
- After school clubs waste of time. Children too tired. Only school holidays and weekend clubs.
- No facilities for wheelchair bound children. No changing areas, no sports equipment etc.
- Use direct payments to buy clubs' services.
- Want a list PA's to take children out.
- Local offer not working: Same as Essex – brochure with everything on offer.
- By funding a buddy/befriender, could they accompany child to club? A child to be buddy at clubs ie. Lego club?
- Skilled, good quality staff.
- Dedicated centres – see Spinney (Peterborough), The Yard (Scotland) – see DIY SOS The Big Build.
- Six weeks holidays.
- More specialist training for profound disabilities with access needs.
- Researching into what parents actually need with regard to commissioned services eg. swimming, horse riding, music therapy, specialist play therapy etc.
- More age appropriate groups(5+).
- Start at a younger age.
- Carers Trust – Saturday youth club (3 hours, bi-monthly) – really miss this
- My son needs 1-1 so cannot access this.
- Been told not eligible for overnight as receive direct payment.
- Told on many occasions that clubs are not suitable – offer nothing in place.
- What is on offer seems to be the same or very similar across providers.

Top three themes:

- Mixture of both (direct payments and commissioned services)
- Day trips/school holidays for all holidays and all summer
- Dedicated centre
- Clubs during school holidays and weekends

- More wheelchair friendly activities
- Lack of information regarding direct payments – limit of money held in account.

- More specialist training for profound disabilities with access needs
- Provision for the whole of the six weeks holiday
- Make all services accessible for children with disabilities, no matter how severe (multiple and profound).

- Whole day holiday provision with transport where appropriate
- Overnight stays to learn independence
- Weekend whole day provision for older children (16-17)

- Saturday Club all year round
- Summer activities
- Activity specific clubs ie. swimming/horse riding.

