

Bridgend Disabled Children and Young People’s Strategy

The following questions are provided to help structure your response to this strategy, but please feel free to comment more widely or in a different format.

<p>The vision</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A part of society not apart from it</p> <p>Bridgend’s vision for all its children and young people is that they will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thrive and make the best of their talents; • live healthy and safe lives; • be confident and caring individuals throughout their lives; • know and receive their rights. <p>Our disabled children and young people are included in that vision, and in the commitment of all partners to fulfil the objectives of the Children and Young People’s Plan.</p>		
	Yes	No
Do you agree with this vision?		
Any comments or amendments?		
<p>This approach is based on “inclusion where possible”. Such an approach may:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have great benefits for equality and associated programmes; • be much more cost effective; • have further potential benefits for anti-bullying and other anti-discriminatory practice. <p>However, specialist services will remain for those children and young people with more complex and critical needs.</p>		
	Yes	No
Do you agree with this approach?		
If not, what approach should there be?		

Priorities

The Children and Young People's Plan has identified that the following priorities will better support disabled children and young people and their families:

- a family support service
- an effective register of disabled children and young people
- integrated multi-agency working
- key working i.e. one point of contact for families
- early identification of disabilities and special needs
- early support
- participation of disabled children and young people and parents/carers in planning
- inclusion in core and mainstream activities as the preferred approach

	Yes	No
Are they the right priorities?		
Any missing?		
If yes, please provide details		

Managing Change

Support for disabled children and their families needs to begin for some at a very early point in the disabled child's life, sometimes before birth. Some services are in place but they do not totally meet either need or demand. To meet complex needs, support may need to continue throughout life, and be more robust at times of big changes in child/young person's life. We aim to meet national and local standards, where available, and set new standards where these would be helpful.

The transition points we highlighted are:

- emerging diagnosis
- point of diagnosis
- starting school
- changes in school placements
- transition into adulthood
- changes in or deterioration of health at any age
- end of life care

	Yes	No
Are these the right transition points?		
Anything missing or needing to be changed?		

Participation and Inclusion

The priorities below are a result of a series of audits, consultations and workshops, some of which were specific to disabled children and young people and their families, and others to wider activities and public consultations on the CYP Plan as a whole.

The Inclusion Programme has prioritised the need to:

- build staff confidence, capacity and expertise in schools
- extend an inclusive throughout schools and services
- reconfigure existing patterns of provision
- review the contribution to the 2 special schools and the PRU
- reorganise the way additional learning needs funding is distributed
- develop and implement a framework for monitoring and evaluating the impact of investment
- extend local control of resources by groups of schools and reduce bureaucracy
- improve communication between schools, parents, pupils and the Authority and increase the level of stakeholder engagement.

	Yes	No
Are these the right priorities?		
Anything missing or needing to be changed?		

Access to services

Consultations have told us that priorities for both disabled children and young people and their families are:

- developing and delivering additional (including specialised or targeted) services to meet identified needs;
- improving access to existing services through re-location, extension of availability, increased provision, or any similar means;
- making core and mainstream services available to disabled children and young people through enhanced facilities or additional training for deliverers of services

The services currently prioritised for development are:

- play, sports, leisure and recreation - all year provision, integrated opportunities, in holiday periods and a range to meet different levels of need
- nursing and therapy services
- transition to adult services
- a Disability Register
- short breaks and respite care
- childcare
- staff trained to support disabled children/young people.

	Yes	No
Are these the right priorities?		
Is there anything missing?		
<p>Our model approach – implementing the strategy</p> <p>Our model is based on integrated working. This is already happening but there is room for more commitment including that of resources – for services, training, participation, key working and many other activities.</p> <p>The diagram on page 15 represents what an integrated team might look like, making links between community based preventative services and those providing more specialised restorative services. We propose to use a four tier model for identifying children and young people’s needs, within five dimensions of need. This diagram will provide the basis of a Commissioning Plan for services for disabled children and young people.</p>		
	Yes	No
Is the approach proposed the most appropriate and realistic?		
Any further comments on the model?		

Please add any additional comments you may have.

Thank you for completing the form. Please tell us who you are by completing the table below.

Please tick

I am a disabled child or young person	
I am the parent/carer of a disabled child/young person	
I work with disabled children/young people	

If you are replying on behalf of a service, a parents' group or an organisation, please tell us which one:

If you would like a copy of the approved strategy, following consultations, please provide a contact address or e-mail address below:

Please complete the form and return it **by 12 March 2010** to Jean Gregson by email Jean.Gregson@bridgend.gov.uk or by post to:

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Mae'r cyhoeddiad hwn ar gael mewn iethiedd neu fformatau eraill ar gais.*