



Have your say on the provision of overnight short breaks for disabled children

Short breaks give children with disabilities experiences that help their personal and social development. They also give parents, carers and families a break from caring. More information on our short breaks service, including information on eligibility, and the sort of breaks we offer for disabled children, can be found on our website here: www.leicestershire.gov.uk/short-breaks-for-disabled-children

What is the overnight short breaks service for disabled children in Leicestershire County Council?

We commission the provision of residential overnight short breaks for disabled young people through specialist Foster Carers and in a residential setting from PRAXIS.

We currently commission eight beds per night at PRAXIS, four for young people with challenging behaviour and four for young people with health needs. PRAXIS are providing this service to 50 young people between the ages of 6 -18.

The current contract with PRAXIS has been in place for six years and was due to end in June 2018; an extension has been approved to December 2019. In total, PRAXIS has provided the residential short breaks service in Leicestershire for sixteen years.

It is a legal requirement that the Council reviews all of its' contracts on a regular basis and this includes our contract for residential overnight short breaks for disabled children. We are planning to maintain the current level of service and want to ensure that the service we offer young people is the best it can be.

What are we aiming to do?

We would especially like to work with the children and young people who use or have used the service, their parents and carers and the Leicestershire Parent Carer Forum to look at what works well and how, if at all, the service might be improved from 1st January 2020.

We want to find out about the things that are working well in the residential overnight short breaks service, find out about things that could be done differently and plan together for a future service model.

There will be three events where you can come and share your ideas:

20th March 2019, 3.30pm – 8pm

26th March 2019, 10am – 11.30am

All meetings will be held at:

**Leicestershire County Council,
County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RF**

What happens next?

We will provide further feedback throughout the process as options are identified and decisions made about future plans for the residential overnight short breaks for disabled children in Leicestershire.