

Brighton & Hove City Council have been working closely with PaCC and the SEND Us a Break Campaign Group over the last year to develop the short break offer in Brighton & Hove.

Through the process of monthly meetings with PaCC and parent carers we have understood the key areas for development as we move forward into the 2025/26 financial year. These include provision for longer days, a wider age range and more availability.

As part of the commissioning process, we have approached our existing providers to ask for their proposals in meeting the current and identified additional needs. Where it hasn't been possible to enhance the offer, we have sought additional providers to work with us to try to address the shortfall as much as possible.

The short breaks budget has been maintained for the next financial year and has not been subject to efficiencies seen in other areas. We are at the early stages of the review and consultation and as part of our commitment to parent carers to review the short break service we have been exploring a suggestion that families may be willing to pay more for the short break service which would in turn increase the availability of places. To gain maximum feedback to this proposal a survey has been posted on the Amaze website so that we can gain the views of the wider community than just those attending the monthly meetings.

We recognise the value of holiday respite to parent carers, and we are committed to ensuring that as many children and young people can benefit from the service as possible.

Anna Gianfrancesco Director Commissioning and Communities. Families, Children and Wellbeing <u>anna.gianfrancesco@brighton-hove.gov.uk</u>