

# Short breaks services

## Consultation document

**Date of issue:** 08 July 2016

**Action required:** Responses by 15 August 2016

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## Overview

This consultation is to invite views on the proposal to review short breaks services held at Baker's Way in Sarn, Bridgend for children and young people with disabilities.

## How to respond

This consultation period will begin on the **08 July 2016** and close the **15 August 2016**.

You can respond or ask further questions in the following ways;

**Tel:** (01656) 643 643

**Email:**

Andrew.Harris@bridgend.gov.uk

**Online:** [Click here](#) or visit:

[www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation)

**Post:** Communications, Marketing and Engagement, Wing 3, Ravens Court, Brewery Lane, Bridgend, CF31 4AP.

Alternative formats are also available upon request.

## Data protection

How we use the views and information you share with us

All responses received by Bridgend County Borough Council will be seen in full by its staff members involved in the consultation process. The information may also be seen by other departments within the council or local service board members to help improve upon the services provided.

The council may also use the information gathered to publish subsequent documents both directly and indirectly linked to this consultation, however the Council will never disclose any personal information such as names or addresses that could identify an individual.

If you do not wish for your opinions to be publicised, please state so in your response.

## Related documents

For more information on consultations in Bridgend County Borough or how to join our Citizens' Panel.

**Visit:**

[www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation)

## The proposal

After early engagement and consultation with staff, parents/families, children & young people who use the service, and interested residents of the county borough, it is proposed to amend the current overnight short breaks service provided at Baker's Way, Sarn in order to deliver a more appropriate service which is based on needs, and to make better use of the resources available.

It is proposed to continue to deliver the service from Baker's Way as a five bed home open from Tuesday to Saturday, with no overnight short breaks on Wednesdays. The amendment would have no reduction to the number of nights an individual is able to stay at the property, which is based on their care & support plan. During the holiday periods, the drop-off time will be 2.30pm, and the pick-up time will be 11.00am. Should the proposal be introduced, it is expected that social interaction between users will improve as the property is used more efficiently and effectively. An outreach (evening) service would be offered every Wednesday to ages 11+.

## Why has this proposal been brought forward?

Under the current model the property is underutilised with occupancy levels only at circa 65% in 2015/16. This underutilisation adds additional costs to the service whilst also impacting negatively on the children and young people's experience of social interaction when using the service, which is a key part of their care & support plans when using Baker's Way.

After an initial consultation with users, parents, staff and interested residents of the borough 97 per cent were supportive of a remodelling of the service.

## What are the advantages if the proposal goes ahead?

If the proposal were to be accepted the following benefits would be realised:

- ▶ Proposal is a direct response to the feedback from staff, parents, and children & young people who use the service i.e. Remodelling Baker's Way and extending outreach were all suggested as part of the initial consultation.

- ▶ An increased social interaction between the children and young people using Baker's Way – which is a key element on care & support plans.
- ▶ A substantial saving whilst continuing the same number of overnight stays allowed for any existing individuals.
- ▶ An extended weekly outreach service to cover ages 11+, which is currently only offered every other week to cover ages 14+ only.
- ▶ More appropriate pick-up (11am) and drop-off times (2.30pm) during holidays, meaning days can be better utilised for activities.
- ▶ No home closure.

## What are the potential risks if the proposal goes ahead?

If the proposal were to be introduced the following risks would be realised:

- ▶ Sunday, Monday and Wednesday would no longer be an option for overnight Short Breaks at Baker's Way. Although short breaks on Wednesday evenings for those aged 11+ would be covered by extended outreach.
- ▶ 90 minute reduction (equating to 7%) in the duration of an overnight stay over the holiday periods, due to the change in pick-up time from 1.30pm to 11am, and the change in drop-off time from 3.30pm to 2.30pm.

## Impact Assessments

### Equality Impact Assessment

As part of the overall process, the council has a duty to consider the implications of any proposal on all members of the local community who may be affected unfairly as a result of the proposal being carried out. An initial screening has been made of the potential for inequality of opportunity arising from these proposals and it indicates that a full equalities impact assessment will be required in due course. If you have any views on the potential of this proposal to affect any groups or individuals either

positively or adversely, then we would welcome your comments as part of this consultation.

## Land and buildings

Baker's Way would continue to be used as the venue for the short break service.

## Other considerations

As part of the initial consultation, respondents were given three indicative options regarding the future of the service:

- ▶ Stop providing overnight short breaks  
i.e. We stop providing the overnight element and provide evening only
- ▶ Commission the service from another provider  
i.e. BCBC pay another provider to do it for us
- ▶ Remodel overnight short breaks  
i.e. BCBC continue to provide the service, but change how we do it

Respondents were then asked two key questions:

- ▶ Which of these indicative options would be **most** favourable to you?
- ▶ Which of these indicative options would be **least** favourable to you?

		Most favourable	Least favourable
Stop providing overnight short breaks	%	3.0	84.8
Commission the service from another provider	%	0.0	6.1
Remodel overnight short breaks	%	97.0	9.1

Respondents were most supportive of remodelling overnight short breaks (97%), but were keen to ensure this did not stop overnight short breaks (85%).

As a result of these findings, and following further benchmarking and analysis undertaken, the options to 'stop providing overnight short breaks' and 'commission the service from another provider' were discounted.

### 'Remodel overnight short breaks' options

Before developing the proposal identified above, other 'remodelled overnight short breaks' options were also considered, discounted alternatives included:

## Family link model

The proposal to stop providing a communal overnight short break service and utilise Family Link instead. As there is no capacity within Family Link and the model would not meet the social interaction element on individual's care & support plans, the model has been discounted.

## Relocate to alternative building

The proposal to relocate the service from Baker's Way to an alternative building in order to reduce costs was not possible, as there are no buildings with five beds available for a year round short breaks provision.

## Finance

This proposal will help us meet service delivery requirements after acknowledging the requirements of families, whilst also remaining in line with the Council's financial strategy.

## The consultation and statutory process

The consultation process will be completed by **15 August 2016** and the outcomes, which will be incorporated into the proposal where possible, will be reported to a Cabinet meeting.

The provisional timetable and procedure are as follows:

Activity	Date
Consultation period where we welcome your views and observations on the proposal*.	08 July 2016 – 15 August 2016
Consultation Report to Cabinet on the outcomes of the consultation.	September 2016
Publish Consultation Report on BCBC website, hard copies available on request.	September 2016
Potential implementation.	January 2017

## How do you make your views known?

If you have any further questions regarding this proposal, wish to put your views in writing, suggest alternative proposals or request a copy of the consultation report when published, please contact (using the attached pro forma):

**Post:** Communications, Marketing and  
Engagement  
Wing 3, Ravens Court  
Brewery Lane  
Bridgend  
CF31 4AP

**Email:** [Consultation@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:Consultation@bridgend.gov.uk)

**Online:** [Click here](#)

**Tel:** (01656) 643 664

Alternative formats are also available upon request.

All views must be received by no later than **15 August 2016**