

Aiming High for Disabled Children in Surrey

Newsletter Autumn 2009

Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) is the Government's transformation programme for disabled children's services in England.

"The vision behind Aiming High for Disabled Children is for all families with disabled children to have the support they need to live ordinary family lives, as a matter of course."

In Surrey, AHDC is a programme funded jointly by Surrey County Council and NHS Surrey working together in partnership under the Surrey Alliance, previously known as The Children & Young People's Partnership. The Surrey Alliance logo will be found on all AHDC documentation across the county.



What AHDC has done so far in Surrey

Parent/ Carer and Stakeholder Conference 2009

In March 2009 AHDC Surrey held a Parent and Stakeholder conference. The keynote speaker was Christine Lenehan, Director, National Council for Disabled Children.

The day was very productive with parents and stakeholders conveying their experiences and outlining their priorities in terms of services they would like to see in Surrey. The resulting tabletop discussions informed the first round of the commissioning process for the year 2009/10.

Many parents and carers acknowledged that services available in Surrey such as the Partnership with Parents helpline and home to school transport are good but there is a need for considerable improvement.

The main needs identified by parents and carers were the need for:

- **An increase in services from current providers:** *AHDC funds have been used to increase services from current providers, particularly Disability Challengers*
- **A review of the access to the Surrey Children's Disability Register:** *The criteria for registration on this register have been widened, see page 4 for further information*
- **Provision for children and young people on the Autistic spectrum:** *This was one of the priority areas identified for commissioning. All services commissioned will support children on the Autistic Spectrum. The National Autistic Society (NAS) has successfully bid for funding. Children and young people with ASD will continue to be a priority area of AHDC.*
- **Increased short break provision for all:** *AHDC has commissioned a wide range of new services, see information on pages two and three for details on what has been commissioned.*
- **Improved support at transition:** *This work is currently underway.*

The feedback from conference participants was extremely positive and a similar event will be repeated in March 2010



How are we spending Surrey's AHDC funding allocation?

A Sustainable Commissioning Model was used for the first year of AHDC commissioning. This commissioning model gives organisations the opportunity to offer creative solutions to work towards meeting the short break and leisure activity needs of disabled children and young people in Surrey.

A total of 28 applications for AHDC funding were received from a wide range of statutory and voluntary organisations, some well known and some new to Surrey. Bids were discussed by a range of health and social care professionals and parents at a series of decision-making panels. They were assessed against a range of criteria including target groups, quality of service, Every Child Matters outcomes, sustainability and value for money.

Allocation of Surrey's capital funding was subject to a similar application process. A range of voluntary organisations will be able to improve their play and leisure facilities and play equipment for children and young people. Several voluntary organisations have requested funding to purchase minibuses to improve access to their local community by disabled children and young people and address transport needs.

Successful applicants in the bidding process for revenue funding are outlined below:

Avenues:



Home based support for help with all aspects of care.

- Focus on young people aged 12 - 18 with severe learning difficulties, ASD & challenging behaviour
- Services in East Surrey
- Referrals through social care teams

Barnardos:



A transition support programme

- Catering for young people with severe learning disabilities, ASD or physical disabilities aged 15 - 18
- Working across Surrey
- Referrals through connexions

Challengers:

Youth activity weekends



- Catering for young people aged 13 - 18 with severe learning difficulties, ASD & challenging behaviour
- Services are across Surrey but particularly in East Surrey
- Direct access by families
- Phone: 01483 579 390

Challengers:

Extension of the play and youth holiday, Saturday and evening schemes:



- Catering for children and young people aged 4 - 18 with severe learning difficulties, ASD & challenging behaviour
- Services are across Surrey but particularly in East Surrey
- Direct access by families

The Children's Trust (Tadworth):

A summer holiday scheme



- Catering for children with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) and children with complex health care needs aged 5 - 18
- Children can come from across Surrey
- Direct access by families
- Phone: 01737 365 000

Halow Project:

Youth activities utilising universal services and including non disabled youth



- Young people aged 16 - 19 years
- Services are in South West Surrey
- Direct access by families
- Phone: 01483 447960



AHDC commissioned services continued...

National Autistic Society:

After school clubs

- Catering for children on the Autistic Spectrum aged 7 to 13
- Services are across Surrey
- Direct access by families
- Phone: 01483 861066



Rainbow Trust:

Community based family support

- Catering for life-limited children aged 0 - 18
- Services are across Surrey
- Referrals through Social Care teams and medical services



Rainbow Trust:

Rainbow House residential care

- Catering for life-limited children aged 0 - 18
- Services are across Surrey
- Referrals through Social Care teams and medical services



Reigate & Redhill YMCA:

Extension of holiday play scheme and holiday and Saturday youth schemes

- Catering for children with severe learning disabilities, ASD and challenging behaviour aged 5 - 18
- Services are in South East Surrey
- Direct access by families
- Phone: 01737 779979



Scope:

Community and family based support

- Catering for children with physical disabilities, severe learning disabilities, ASD and challenging behaviour aged 0 - 18
- Services are in North Surrey
- Referrals through Social Care teams



Spelthorne Millennium After School Club:

After school club

- Catering for children with severe learning disabilities, ASD and complex health care needs aged 5 - 13
- Services are in North East Surrey
- Direct access from families or referral
- Phone (White Lodge): 01932 567131

Applewood

AHDC will contribute funding towards Applewood, a new residential provision that will be opening in Tadworth in Autumn/ Winter 2009.

This will be a six-bed unit catering for children with a wide range of disabilities. Children and young people will be referred to this service by the social care teams.



Children and Young People's Consultation

In order to find out children and young people's views regarding activities they enjoy or would like to take part in, the AHDC team are working with children and young people at a variety of venues including schools, summer clubs and short break centres.

The purpose of gathering this information is to inform further commissioning of services. The findings will be analysed in September and will be fed back to the participants and be reported in our next newsletter.



Parent/ Carer Questionnaire June 2009

One of the priority areas for AHDC is for children, young people and their families to be actively involved in the planning and delivery of services in their local area.

As part of the consultation process parent/carers of disabled children were asked for their views about Short Breaks and Leisure Activities they would like their child to access, what is important to them about the short break, and what would make it easier for them to use the services. A total of 517 questionnaires have been returned to include 531 children.

The analysis of the Parent/Carer questionnaire can be found on the Partnership with Parents website. <http://www.pwpsurrey.org/ahdc/>

AHDC Online Community for Surrey

With input from parents and voluntary organisations Partnership with Parents recently set up a new e-community for parents/carers of disabled children and young people in Surrey. The purpose of this website is to provide a place where parents can meet, exchange ideas, ask questions and give their views on developments and proposals around Aiming High in Surrey.



To join the e-community

- Go to: <http://collaboration.becta.org.uk/groups/aiming-high-for-disabled-children-in-surrey>
- Login or click on "register" at the top of the page
- Enter registration details and then click on "create account".
- A confirmation email will be sent to your email account Follow the link within the email to confirm that your account has been set up.

General Information and Updates:

Useful Websites/ Contacts:

Family Information Service:

Tel: 0300 200 1004

Email: surrey.fis@surreycc.gov.uk

Surrey Family Information Service (FIS) is an internet, telephone and outreach service that provides information, advice and assistance to parents of children and young people aged 0 to 19 years old (up to 25 years old for young people with special needs).



Go2Do:

<http://www.go2do.co.uk/kbroker/surrey/go2do/start.jsp>

Go2Do is the new positive activities website for 11-19 year olds in Surrey. The search facility allows for searches around the word "Disability"



Surrey Parent Know How Directory

<http://parentknowhow.surreycc.gov.uk/kbroker/surrey/fis/start.jsp>

This directory provides information on services for families in Surrey. The search facility allows for searches around the word "Disability".



Surrey Children's Disability Register (SCDR):

The Surrey Children's Disability Register (SCDR) has recently been updated and the criteria for registration have been substantially widened.

The main purpose of the register is to support consultation and assist with future planning. Information is sometimes distributed via the SCDR but being registered is not an entitlement to receive services.

To find out more about the Surrey Children's Disability Register, please contact: Sheila Bray, the register administrator, on 020 8541 8792.

After School Clubs in Surrey

There are a number of non-school organisations that provide after school clubs for children with disabilities in Surrey. The list below is not an exhaustive list:

Challengers:

- Catering for young people aged 13 – 18 with severe learning difficulties, ASD & challenging behaviour
- Services are across Surrey
- Phone: 01483 579 390



Link Leisure:

- Catering for children with severe learning disabilities, ASD and challenging behaviour
- Based in Woking
- Contact: 01483 770037



National Autistic Society:

- Catering for children on the Autistic Spectrum aged 7 to 13
- Services are across Surrey
- Phone: 01483 861066



Reigate & Redhill YMCA:

- Catering for children with severe learning disabilities, ASD and challenging behaviour aged 5 - 18
- Services are in South East Surrey
- Phone: 01737 779979



Aiming High for Disabled Children (Surrey):

To contact Aiming High for Disabled Children in Surrey:

Email: ahdc@surreycc.gov.uk

Phone: 01372 833073

Address: **Mid Surrey Area Office (AO1),
Bay Tree Avenue,
Kingston Road
Leatherhead
KT22 7SY**

Website: <http://www.pwpsurrey.org/ahdc/> (currently under development)

