

<u>Work Streams</u>	<u>Progress to date</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Short breaks</b></li> </ul>	<p>Dudley has a wide range of short breaks available to children with disabilities and their families and has included new provision and the improving of existing provision. There has also been support to mainstream provision to enable it to provide for disabled children. This pilot pathfinder worked together with the play pathfinder to achieve a centre for play, which can provide for children with disabilities and the centre opened at Sycamore Green earlier this year. In April, 2011 there will be a statutory duty to provide short breaks for Children with Disabilities.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transition</b></li> </ul>	<p>Work has been completed in this area following consultation with disabled young people, parents and carers and professional staff which has led to the development of a strategy; protocol and pathway for transition. Information is available on the Council website to enable careers and young people to understand what they can expect of the services to support transition.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Palliative &amp; Continuing Care</b></li> </ul>	<p>This area is led by the Primary Care Trust. We have an established team of nurses providing palative care for children with disabilities and life limiting illnesses. The Primary Care Trust commissions a short break service from Acorns Hospice.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community Equipment &amp; Wheelchairs</b></li> </ul>	<p>This area is lead by Directorate of Adults, Community and Housing Services discussion is taking place to review the position of community equipment provision to children with disabilities with a view to considering a poole budget arrangement and integration with the community equipment services.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Individual Budgets</b></li> </ul>	<p>Under the transforming Social Work iniative within Directorate of Adults, Community and Housing Services personalised budgets</p>

	are being piloted. This is a relatively new area for children and Families and work in under going to develop on approach which is suitable for children with disabilities and which enables families to utilise resources flexibly to provide individual packages of care.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DCATCH (Disabled Children’s Access to Child Care)</b></li> </ul>	Work has been ongoing in respect of this area of the programme to ensure that nurseries and child minders are trained, to ensure that disabled children can access child care. A full training programme plan has been produced to ensure that this information is widely available.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SLCN (Speech, Language and Communication Needs)</b></li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>Speech and Language provision within mainstream schools has been reviewed by the Primary Care Trust and there is a new allocation system so that all school benefit from a level of service.</p> <p>The Local Authority continues to part fund speech and language therapy within schools. A KS2 language unit for children with complex speech language and communication needs has been established schools continue to support Language for Learning training. Hasbury Language Unit has been recently judged as good in its Ofsted inspection.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Early Support</b></li> </ul>	Dudley has had an excellent Early Support programme for some time now and has successfully trained multi agency staff in the work so that they can become key workers for families where there is more than one service involved in the child’s care. Over 300 key workers are now trained to deliver a team around the child approach and this is influenced practice in all areas for both children with disabilities and non disabled children.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Special Education Needs – Lamb enquiry</b></li> </ul>	The Lamb enquiry outlined 51 recommendations to improve special educational needs processes, support, training and

	<p>parental confidence. These recommendations are currently being prioritised by the Inclusion Policy Development Group. Local Authority officers represent Dudley on the Steering Group and Strands groups of the West Midlands Special Educational Needs HUB. Activities that have taken place so far are training in working effectively with parents, developing parental confidence in the Special Educational Needs process, writing Quality Statements and Mediation Training has been planned.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Participation</b></li> </ul>	<p>A young persons forum is led by Me2 and they have supported young people to be involved in the decision making process, particularly around short breaks. There is also a parents forum and they have been involved in decision making again in particular around short breaks and parents are now involved in most of the sub groups; the steering group and in the management board for Aiming High for Disabled Children.</p>