

AHDC Latest News (March 2010)

Welcome to the second edition of the AHDC e-bulletin

NHS to provide more care at home for disabled children



Measures to shape NHS services around individual patients were set out on 18 February 2010 by Health Secretary Andy Burnham. They include providing more services at home for children and young people who have acute or long-term conditions or disability or palliative care needs. As a next step, the Department of Health (DH) will be publishing the final version of the National Framework for

Children and Young People's Continuing Care very shortly. For more information about the package of measures and how this will affect ill and disabled children, young people and their families, read the [DH press release](#).

DH invites proposals from strategic health authorities to improve disabled children's community equipment

DH invited each strategic health authority to submit proposals for funding for innovative activities within and across Primary Care Trusts to help achieve transformation of children's community equipment and related services, taking account of the findings of a [recent consultant's report](#). For more information, go to '[AHDC: Community equipment and wheelchair services](#)'.

Good progress made in the transition support programme

The Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) set a target that by 2011 all areas will have a transition process in place which meets minimum standards or beyond. Currently

Report

Commissioning - A Survey of the Views and Experiences of Providers of Services to Children, Young People and Families 2009

Providers' experiences and perceptions of the commissioning process showed that principal

commissioning bodies - local authorities and schools - have some way to go to achieve both

a level playing field and the involvement of providers in service design. Nevertheless, there

were signs that providers received some support from commissioning bodies.

Guidance

Home-educated children with SEN

Following the Badman review of Home Education, DCSF has published a guidance letter for local authorities on their duties in meeting the special educational needs of home-educated children.

Consultation

Support for All: the Families and Relationships Green Paper

(Closing Date: Wednesday 21 April 2010)

143 local authorities, up from 108, are meeting minimum standards. Some are going beyond minimum standards to produce innovative work that transforms the lives of young people. To find out more about the Transition Support Programme and funding in 2010-11 go to '[AHDC local transition support](#)'.

Parent participation grant levels for 2010-11 confirmed at £10,000 per local area

Grant levels for parent participation for 2010-11 have now been confirmed. A parent participation grant of £10,000 will be available in each local authority area in 2010-11. Together for Disabled Children (TDC) will shortly be publishing the Phase 3 application forms on the [TDC website](#), along with a new set of criteria and guidance on how the grant can be used. The closing date for applications is the 30 April. For more information visit the Together for Disabled Children website.

Short breaks consultation

DCSF have launched [the Consultation on Draft Regulations, and Associated Statutory Guidance, for Local Authorities to Provide Short Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children and Young People](#). The closing date is Monday 26 April 2010. For more information on the AHDC short breaks programme go to '[Short Breaks](#)'.

C4EO Disability Sector Specialists



C4EO is a government sponsored, sector-led programme that provides evidence of "what works" to help local managers and practitioners improve their support to particular groups of children and young people. Disabled children is one of these groups. C4EO can provide free support through their Disability Sector Specialists, to work alongside you on your AHDC work (see [website](#) to access support). C4EO are also collecting local practice to share with the sector and would love to hear from you if you have some interesting practice to share. Download a form from the C4EO website or email the [C4EO team](#).

This Green Paper sets out a wide range of measures to support all families as they bring up their children and to help families cope with times of stress and difficulty. The proposals recognise that while all families need some help, there are families in our society with complex needs and others who require additional - and sometimes non-negotiable - support.

Event

[Aiming High for Disabled Children: Parent Participation Transforming Disabled Children's Services](#)
(22 March 2010)

Ed Balls is the keynote speaker at this conference. Children's services and PCT managers, commissioners, parents and voluntary sector will attend.

