

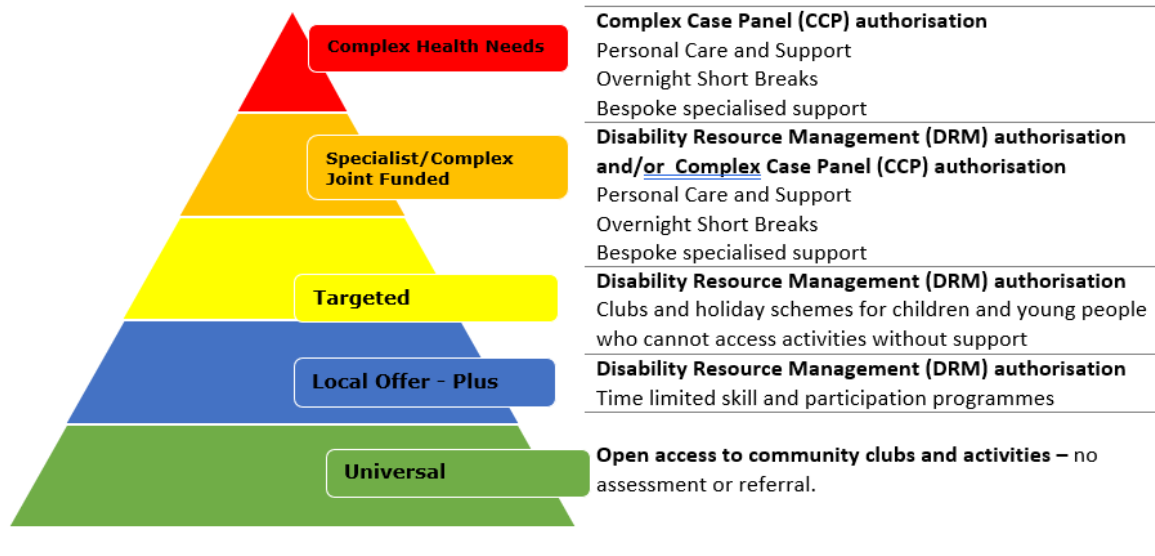
Reference	
Executive Director	Isobel Booter
Cabinet Member	CLlr Lucy Smith

Section A

Service Area	Children, Young People & Skills
Budget Option Description	Children's short breaks and Personal Budgets

Budget Reduction Proposal – Detail and Objectives

Burys's short break offer is based on the following model that was developed in consultation with parents



The allocation of Personal Budget sit within the top 2 zones of this model.

There is a separate saving proposal that related to the bottom 3 short break offer. We are mindful that to reduce the level spend on the personal budget allocation we do need to increase the offer within the targeted, local offer and universal

In regard to savings for 2023/24 the service will extend the 2022/23 review of all personal budget plans in place either as a direct payment to the family on a payment card or through a broker arrangement.

We are seeking to the view of all packages that are funded within the Specialist and complex zone to seek to realign the spend to the correct funding sources. Whether that we health via CHC assessment and or social care via Section 17

We have reviewed the top 15 costing packages and identified that the short break offer are being access to support provision of care rather than offering respite so that the calibration of that funding need to be reconsidered which will be done via the Complex Care Panel

We care currently auditing short break packages is appropriate according to the assessed levels of need, and to quality assure the plans to ensure the best potential outcomes for the child/young people are being achieved and recorded. This work will be enhance with the development of the Short break team as set out within the Phase 1 of the children's service restructure

We already have a proactive approach to reconcile all plans to bank accounts and recover any unspent funding which is part of the current saving work.

To ensure families are aware that the award and level of personal budget will be subject to review dependent to their ongoing assessed needs and is not in perpetuity.

To work with Bury2gether to develop policy and processes for personal budgets and ensure that families are engaging through the Local Offer.

To work with health and education to have a system wide process for personal budgets that is fair and transparent

We have commissioned a joint piece of work with the Council for Disabled Children review our short breaks policy and the assessment process and formation need/packages

Clarification around Continuing Health Care Assessment to ensure that we are seeking the relevant joint funding arrangements for support packages where there is a health component

	2023/34	2024/25	2025/26
Budget Reduction (£k)	0.200	0.300	
Staffing Reduction (FTE)	0		

Section B

What impact does the proposal have on:

Property

N/A

Service Delivery

There will be updated awareness training for social workers and family support workers so that families are encouraged to use personal budgets in support of independence.

Rigorous budgetary control measures and brokerage are in place to ensure a robust system of management.

For example, for those social care assessed short break personal budgets issued in 21/22, the auditing of accounts has begun with early funds recouped from account holders in August and September. The timeline for all non-evidenced/non-used funds to be returned to the local authority following audit is the end of October. It is estimated that this final amount will be circa £115,000. The reasons which families give as to why they were unable to use their support are: Covid related as unable to take up activities, and now post Covid, PA recruitment has become more difficult as time goes on.

Audit and reconciliation will be undertaken by the commissioning team.

Organisation (Including Other Directorates/Services)
N/A
Workforce – Number of posts likely to be affected.
None
Communities and Service Users
Bury2gether; families; Children with SEND; Children with Disabilities

Other Partner Organisations
N/A

Section C

Key Risks and Mitigations

Risks	Mitigations
Parental perception	Co- produce with Bury2gether and co-design personal budget policy which is a statutory obligation to co-produce
Lack of awareness of the policy and processes for personal budgets which impacts on the volumes of complaints	Ensure that the personal budget policy and criteria are up to date and are clear to families on the Local Offer

Key Delivery Milestones

Include timescales for procurement, commissioning changes etc.

Milestone	Timeline
Extend review and continued Reduction of Personal Budget costs:	2022/23 onwards
Review current personal budget plans and identify where other funders to contribute	April 23
Ask health to screen proposed cases for funding eligibility and then submit to panel for agreement	April 23
Audit payments mid year	Sept 23
End of year reconciliation	April 24

Section D

Consultation Required?	Yes
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	Start Date	End Date
Staff		
Trade Unions		
Public	March 2023	March 2023
Service User		
Other		

Equality Impact

Is there potential for the proposed budget reduction to have a disproportionate/ adverse impact on any of the following?

Disabled people	Yes
Particular Ethnic Groups	No
Men or Women (including impacts due to pregnancy/maternity)	No
People who are married or in a civil partnership	No

People of particular sexual orientation	No
People who are proposing to undergo, undergoing or undergone a process or part of a process of gender assignment	No
People on low incomes	No
People in particular age groups	No
Groups with particular faiths and beliefs	No
EIA Required?	Yes

Section E

Financial Implications and Investment Requirements

Investment requirements – Revenue and Capital
None

Finance Comments – Will the proposal deliver the savings and within the agreed timescales?
The review and reduction to personal budget allocations / clawback of unused funding will secure the saving on the budget from 2023/24