

### **Update on restructuring of Lancashire Residential Overnight Break Service November 2013**

#### **Background**

The Overnight Residential Short Break Service provides overnight breaks and day activities for children with disabilities across Lancashire. Currently there are 8 units, some of which have limited accommodation and capacity to meet the needs of all children. There are also some buildings which require significant refurbishment. Following a review of buildings and the changing demands on the service a proposal to restructure the service was developed with the involvement of parents and other interested parties. Following a period of consultation Cabinet approved the proposal in March 2013. Part of the proposal involved the replacement of the current provision with 3 or 4 purpose built units. The approval was made for the building of 4 units.

#### **Current Situation.**

The process to take the new builds forward is being led by ACERS service with support from Property Services, Estates and Inclusion and Disability Support Service. It has been proposed to phase the building of the units in order to evaluate and learn from the process of building the first unit to inform any future changes or improvements.

- The current consultation is the first phase of the implementation of the decision to modernise the short break provision and build 4 new units. The current consultation was agreed by Cabinet in October, with the consultation running for 8 weeks from 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 to 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014. This consultation is to identify the site of the first build (2 options) and the current units that will merge into the first build.
- The consultation is open to all and details are available on LCC 'Have your Say website' as well as ACERS and IDSS websites. The consultation response form is available on the ACERS website [http://www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/aces/index.php?category\\_id=1429](http://www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/aces/index.php?category_id=1429) and consists of a short questionnaire and requests for comments. There is also background information and details of the possible sites of the first build.
- Meetings have been held for those parents/families who are service users of the 3 units to merge and staff of these units. Parent Partnership were contacted, prior to the start of the consultation to inform them of the consultation and encouraged to contribute to via the on line process.