

Bristol City Council



# **Short Breaks for Disabled Children** **Recommissioning Consultation** **Report**

**May 2024**

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## 1. Short Breaks in Bristol: Background Information

Short Breaks are family support services that provide a Disabled child or young person with a break. They can be at any time ranging from an hour to a day, evening, overnight, weekend or holiday, depending on the needs of the family. Short Breaks allow parents and carers to have a break from their caring responsibilities and give children and young people the opportunity for a positive experience. In 2023/24, 1,229 child places were supported by a Short Break.

Local Authorities have a statutory duty to provide a range of Short Breaks services that are sufficient to help parent carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively. Short Breaks in Bristol are jointly funded by Bristol City Council and NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) Integrated Care Board (ICB). The ICB currently contributes 18 per cent of the budget and Bristol City Council provides 82 per cent into a joint-funded budget pot.

Currently, the Specialist Short Breaks Service and the Inclusion Service are run in-house by Bristol City Council. Bristol's Targeted Short Breaks services are delivered through contracts with the following external organisations: [WECIL](#), [KHAAS](#) and [FACE](#). These contracts are due to end on 31 March 2025 and the intention is to procure the new Targeted Short Breaks services to start on 1 April 2025.

Initially an engagement survey was held in May to July 2022 to find out what parent carers and young people thought of the current Short Breaks offer. Following this, the commissioning team ran two further workshops in May 2023 with parent carers and professionals looking at emerging themes and priorities for future services, giving parents and carers a further opportunity to feedback on the key matters that are important to them to help inform the recommissioning.

Bristol City Council, along with local authorities across the country, is facing difficult financial pressures. The council's General Fund, which is used to pay for day-to-day services, was forecasted to have a budget gap of around £18 million for the 2024/25 financial year, and this is projected to rise to £32 million over the next five years if no further action is taken. Bristol City Council is looking across all its services to establish where costs can be reduced, and how services can be run more efficiently and sustainably.

At Budget Setting in January 2023, Full Council agreed a proposal to reduce the Short Breaks budget by £273,340, pending consultation. This is a reduction of £273,340 to a total budget of £3,346,454 including the NHS ICB contribution.

## 2. Short Breaks Recommissioning Consultation

### 2.1 Consultation methodology

A consultation on proposals to reduce the budget was undertaken for six weeks between 21 November 2023 and 2 January 2024. This included the following:

- An online consultation survey. The survey was also available as an interactive Easy Read version and a printable PDF Easy Read version.
- A summary PowerPoint presentation was published to support people to fill out the consultation.
- A session at the Community of Groups meeting on 4 December 2023, was attended by 11 organisations that provide support to the families of Disabled children - to explain the consultation, ensure participants were clear on the proposals and ask them to publicise the consultation. A separate session was held with an additional provider on request.
- Two parent carer events; one in the evening of 4 December 2023 and one at lunch time on 12 December 2023 to explain the consultation and record feedback.
- A coffee morning at a special school, for parent carers to attend was held on 4 December 2023.
- A session with the commissioned Short Breaks service for ethnic minority groups was held on 13 December 2023 to go through the survey with parent carers and capture feedback. At this session, the presentation was translated into Urdu.
- Forty people in total attended the different parent carer events.

Every parent carer whose child currently receives a Short Break was notified of the consultation survey and events via email shortly after it was published. Each family was also sent a reminder email about the deadline, 10 days before the online survey closed.

The online survey and events were promoted widely, including to providers of Short Breaks in Bristol, headteachers, Special Schools, Bristol Parent Carers membership, Community of Groups partners and other voluntary sector partners. It was published on the Bristol [Local Offer](#) and promoted via social media channels and the Headteachers' Bulletin.

### 2.2 Responses to the Online Consultation Survey

There were 182 responses to the survey, including six Easy Read responses. The responses were from a wide range of stakeholders and citizens. There were 172 respondents who provided details about their situation, selecting from a list of 11 options. Respondents could select more than one option; therefore, the total of the percentages below exceeds 100 per cent.

- 80 per cent of respondents were Bristol residents.
- 52 per cent were parents or carers whose child currently uses Bristol's Short Breaks Services.
- 24 per cent were parents or carers of a child with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), who do not currently use Bristol's Short Breaks Services.
- 10 per cent were a health or social care practitioner/professional.
- 6 per cent were Bristol City Council employees.

- 4 per cent were responding on behalf of a voluntary or community or social enterprise/interest group.
- 2 per cent were responding on behalf of a school or education provider.
- 1 per cent were responding on behalf of a health or social care provider.

Appendix 1 provides a detailed demographic breakdown of who answered the survey.

## 2.3 Proposal 1: Internal Review

Savings of £144,923 were identified by reviewing internal Bristol City Council contractual arrangements and staffing structures, making them more efficient and deleting vacant posts that were no longer needed. This proposal was not consulted on because it is not likely to mean any major changes to services the council currently provides.






## 2.4 Proposal 2: Discontinue Residential Holiday Short Breaks service

The proposal to discontinue Residential Holiday Short Breaks would give savings of £75,000.

This service has not been running since 31 March 2022 when the provider handed the contract back and we were unable to find another provider to run the service. This was an expensive service that was vulnerable to cancellation due to staff and/or child illness. Unlike all other Short Breaks services, this service did not offer a regular year-round break to children and young people.

Figure 1 below shows responses to the proposal to discontinue Residential Holiday Short Breaks.

**Figure 1**

To what extent do you agree or disagree with Proposal 2 to cease the Residential Holiday Short Breaks service?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent %	Response Total
1	Strongly agree		23.9	42
2	Agree		31.8	56
3	Neither agree nor disagree		17.6	31
4	Disagree		5.7	10
5	Strongly disagree		21.0	37
			answered	176
			skipped	6

Of the 176 respondents who provided their views on Proposal 2 to cease Residential Holiday Short Breaks service:

- 98 (56 per cent) either 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' with the proposal.

- 47 (27 per cent) respondents either ‘disagreed’ or ‘strongly disagreed’ with the proposal.
- 31 (18 per cent) respondents neither agreed nor disagreed.

## 2.5 Proposal 3: Eight possible options

Under proposal 3, eight options were identified - each of which would achieve the remaining savings target of £53,417:

- **Proposal 3, option a** - Split the remaining **£53,417** budget reduction proportionally across all parts of the Short Breaks system.
- **Proposal 3, option b** - Split the remaining **£53,417** budget reduction by reducing all individual Short Breaks services budgets by £3000 to £10,000. (The proposal would reduce each service budget by £3,000 or £6,000 or £10,000 based on the size of the overall budget for that service).
- **Proposal 3, option c1** – Reduce the budget of the Inclusion Service by **£53,417**.
- **Proposal 3, option c2** - Reduce the budget of Targeted Short Breaks by **£53,417**.
- **Proposal 3, option c3** - Reduce the budget of Specialist Short Breaks by **£53,417**.
- **Proposal 3, option d1** - Reduce the budgets of both the Inclusion Service and Targeted Short Breaks by **£26,709** each.
- **Proposal 3, option d2** - Reduce the budgets of both the Inclusion Service and Specialist Short Breaks by **£26,709** each.
- **Proposal 3, option d3** - Reduce the budgets of both Targeted Short Breaks and Specialist Short Breaks by **£26,709** each.

Table 1 below show the responses to these proposals in table form (both percentages and numbers of respondents for each option). Figure 2 illustrates the responses in a bar chart.

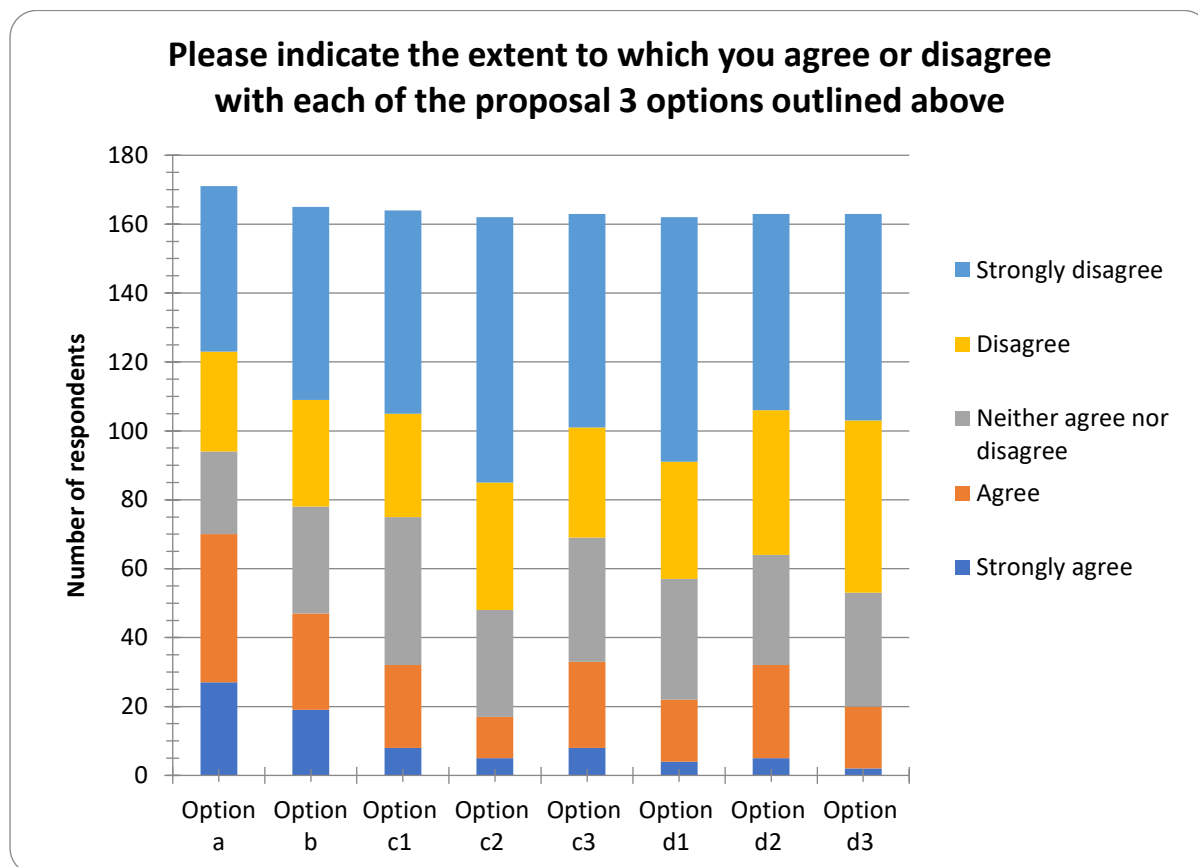
**Table 1**

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the proposal 3 options outlined above:						
Answer Choices	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Response Total
Proposal 3, option a - Split the remaining £53,417 budget reduction proportionally across all parts of the Short Breaks system	15.8% 27	25.1% 43	14.0% 24	17.0% 29	28.1% 48	171

**Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the proposal 3 options outlined above:**

Answer Choices	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Response Total
Proposal 3, option b - Split the remaining £53,417 budget reduction by reducing all individual Short Breaks services budgets by £3000 - £10,000	11.5% 19	17.0% 28	18.8% 31	18.8% 31	33.9% 56	165
Proposal 3, option c1 – Reduce the budget of the Inclusion Service by £53,417	4.9% 8	14.6% 24	26.2% 43	18.3% 30	36.0% 59	164
Proposal 3, option c2 - Reduce the budget of Targeted Short Breaks by £53,417	3.1% 5	7.4% 12	19.1% 31	22.8% 37	47.5% 77	162
Proposal 3, option c3 - Reduce the budget of Specialist Short Breaks by £53,417	4.9% 8	15.3% 25	22.1% 36	19.6% 32	38.0% 62	163
Proposal 3, option d1 - Reduce the budgets of both the Inclusion Service and Targeted Short Breaks and by £26,709 each	2.5% 4	11.1% 18	21.6% 35	21.0% 34	43.8% 71	162
Proposal 3, option d2 - Reduce the budgets of both the Inclusion Service and Specialist Short Breaks by £26,709 each	3.1% 5	16.6% 27	19.6% 32	25.8% 42	35.0% 57	163
Proposal 3, option d3 - Reduce the budgets of both Targeted Short Breaks and Specialist Short Breaks by £26,709 each	1.2% 2	11.0% 18	20.3% 33	30.7% 50	36.8% 60	163
					answered	173
					skipped	9

**Figure 2**



The majority of survey respondents either ‘disagreed’ or ‘strongly disagreed’ with each of the individual options that were proposed for finding the remaining savings target of £53,417. The combined total percentages of ‘disagree’ and ‘strongly disagree’ for each proposal are shown in the table below.

**Table 2: Percentage of respondents who disagree or strongly disagree with proposal 3 options.**

Option:	a	b	c1	c2	c3	d1	d2	d3
% of respondents who ‘disagree’ & ‘strongly disagree’ (combined)	45%	53%	54%	71%	58%	65%	61%	68%

The option that received the most ‘agree’ and ‘strongly agree’ responses (41 per cent) was ‘Option a’ which is to split the remaining £53,417 budget reduction proportionally across all parts of the Short Breaks system.



## 2.6 Open text comments on the savings proposals

Respondents were invited to provide any further comments on the savings proposals or tell us other ideas for how savings could be made within the Short Breaks service. An open text box was provided.

There were 73 open text responses to this question which have been analysed thematically and the themes are summarised below.

### 2.6.1 Theme 1: Short Break services should not be cut.

#### Overview

The most common theme 64 per cent (47 out of 73) in response to this consultation was that Short Breaks services should not be cut as they provide an essential service to vulnerable children and young people and families who are already struggling. Examples of these comments are:

- ‘...terrible to be cutting budget of the most vulnerable in our society.’
- ‘...I am fundamentally opposed to these cuts.’
- ‘...cutting the funding to these statutory services is likely to be unlawful.’
- ‘...it does not seem humane or fair to children and their families to have these services reduced or removed.’
- ‘...will have a detrimental impact on Disabled children and their families all over the city.’
- ‘...if this money went [inclusion money] we would not be able to accept any 1:1 children.’

Within the overarching theme of ‘Short Breaks services should not be cut’, a number of sub-themes emerged, as explanations for why services should not be cut.

#### **Sub-theme 1: Short Breaks services keep families functioning.**

There were four responses which talked about the need for these services for parent carers, children and young people to keep functioning, referring to the services as a ‘lifeline’:

- ‘...these services are lifelines for many.’
- ‘...we need these services to keep functioning.’

### **Sub-theme 2: Families will break down without this support.**

There were eight responses that mentioned the risk of families reaching crisis point leading to family breakdown without the support of Short Breaks.

- ‘...you’re going to break families by cutting into their care...some families just won’t be able to cope.’
- ‘...failure [to provide these services] will mean they need to go into care if the family system breaks down.’
- ‘...reduction in services...would increase social isolation and the risk of family breakdown.’

### **Sub-theme 3: Lack of support will lead to increase in costs.**

There were four responses that talked about the potential increase in costs at a later date:

- ‘...will have a greater impact on parent carers – who will reach crisis point then approach the LA for support.’
- ‘...total breakdown leading to escalated cost.’
- ‘I think my child would end up in residential care that would cost even more.’

### **Sub-theme 4: Children and young people learn how to play and engage with others at Short Breaks.**

Survey responses talked about the importance of Short Breaks services for children and young people to have the opportunity to learn to play and engage with others, both other children and adults, in the various settings they can attend either with 1-2-1 support or in the Targeted Short Breaks after school and holiday schemes:

- ‘...without this service my child wouldn’t learn how to play with other children or engage with people.’
- ‘...she can now mix with other children and take part in activities she would not otherwise have the opportunity to.’

## **2.6.2 Theme 2: Make savings elsewhere in the council.**

The next most common theme in the consultation survey was to find the budget savings elsewhere (13 responses). Some of these responses provided suggestions of where and how to make these cuts from unrelated areas including: savings from implementing a fair and affordable care policy, stop paying for publicly funded art murals, use savings from the cessation of the mayoral post and functions, ending payments to the Bristol Beacon and cancelling pay rises for councillors.

There was one response that detailed suggestions of how to make Direct Payments (DP) more streamlined and effective:

- ‘Allow parents more flexibility in how they use their DP so that they can try and make it work for their family. For example, being able to hire a cleaner so they are more resourced to spend time with their children and take them

out. Or the DP paying for activities so a family member can take them. Or finding ways of two PAs (Personal Assistants) attending to three children at once rather than one PA per child.’

### 2.6.3 Theme 3: Ask families to contribute to costs.

Five responses indicated that they would be happy to contribute to costs if that meant that services could continue as they are. They were all clear that contributions should only be asked for if that was affordable to the families.

### 2.6.4 Theme 4: The consultation was too difficult to understand and therefore answer.

Twelve respondents said they found the various proposals difficult to understand, follow, and therefore answer:

- ‘This consultation is way too hard to understand...it is unfairly biases against the families with ...children with very complex needs [who] are NOT going to have the same capacity to fill out this complicated form.’

## 2.7 Proposal 4: Changes to Bristol Autism Project membership

### 2.7.1 Description of Proposal 4

As part of the consultation, we proposed to cease offering Bristol Autism Project (BAP) membership to families who live outside of Bristol City Council boundaries, where the child attends a special school based in Bristol. This proposal is not intended to contribute to the £273,340 of savings from the Short Breaks services. Instead, this proposal intends to maximise the availability of BAP for children living in the Bristol City Council area.

BAP has seen a large increase in membership from 175 young people in 2019 to over 630 different young people in 2023. Current members living outside the Bristol boundaries would not be affected. This eligibility criterion would only be applied to new applications for children from outside the Bristol City Council area from 2024 onwards.

### 2.7.2 Level of agreement and disagreement with Proposal 4

Figure 3 shows the extent to which respondents agree or disagree with Proposal 4.

Figure 3.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this proposal to change the membership criteria for Bristol Autism Project?			
Answer Choices		Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Strongly agree	34.8	62

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this proposal to change the membership criteria for Bristol Autism Project?				
2	Agree		31.5	56
3	Neither agree nor disagree		21.4	38
4	Disagree		5.1	9
5	Strongly disagree		7.3	13
			answered	178
			skipped	4

Of the 178 respondents who provided a view on Proposal 4:

- 118 (66 per cent) 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that BAP should only be accessible by children who live in Bristol.
- 22 (12 per cent) 'disagreed' or 'strongly disagreed' with this proposal.
- 38 (21 per cent) neither agreed nor disagreed.

## 2.8 Open text comments on Proposal 4

### 2.8.1 Overview

Respondents were invited to provide further comments on the BAP proposal to change eligibility criteria. An open text box was provided.

There were 41 open text responses to this question which were analysed thematically, and the themes are summarised below.

### 2.8.2 Theme 1: BAP membership should be for children living within Bristol City Council boundaries.

Of the 41 responses to this question, 27 responses (66 per cent) of these responded to the specific question about agreeing or disagreeing with the proposal.

Of the 41 responses, 20 responses (49 per cent) agreed that BAP membership should cease to be offered to families who live outside of Bristol City Council boundaries. Out of these 20 responses, 15 (75 per cent) stated that children who live in Bristol should be prioritised for the service and that the obligation on Bristol City Council was to keep the funding that comes from Bristol for Bristol children.

The theme was that it was fair that the child's resident local authority should be the one funding the service for the child, and that children living in Bristol could miss out on services if the funding was not only for local children.

- '... [it's] fair to restrict service to children in Bristol.'
- '...if criteria goes outside Bristol... children in Bristol miss out on

opportunities.’

- ‘...if it’s from the Bristol pot it just needs to go to Bristol children.’

### **2.8.3 Theme 2: Other Local Authorities should offer those services or cover the costs if children from their area have BAP membership:**

Five (25 per cent) of the 20 that agreed with the proposal to cease offering BAP membership to families living outside of Bristol City Council boundaries suggested that the Local Authority where the child lives should be offering these services or covering the costs if they were to attend BAP.

- ‘...other LA[s] should have similar services, not funded by Bristol.’
- ‘...ask surrounding LAs to make a contribution?’

### **2.8.4 Theme 3: Responses disagreeing with the proposed changes to eligibility:**

Seven (18 per cent) responses did not agree that BAP membership should cease to be offered to families living outside of Bristol City Council boundaries. Responses suggested that children who are already facing travelling distances to schools and being away from the residential communities, needed as much support as possible with making social contact.

- ‘Young people travelling to school far away need as much help as possible with making social contact.’
- ‘Children should be able to attend a holiday club where their schoolfriends are.’

### **2.8.5 Responses which were not included in a theme.**

The other open text responses were more general in nature.

Seven (17 per cent) of the 41 open text box comments praised the BAP service and how important it was for both children and parents, giving ‘access to activities.... that would otherwise be too overwhelming’.

One response suggested that data should be shared amongst providers to manage attendance giving ‘preference to those children and families that are not already receiving any other targeted Short Breaks.’

There were six responses which did not answer the question of whether BAP membership should cease to be offered to families living outside of Bristol City Council boundaries. These responses were more general, such as:

- ‘There should be a small payment.’
- ‘We feel they have become overwhelmed in the last few years.’
- ‘Lifesaver in the holidays.’

## 2.9 Other Feedback relating to the online survey.

The commissioning team received some initial feedback from providers that some parents and carers felt that the online survey was too complicated, especially with regards to Proposal 3, which looks at different finance models for finding the remaining unidentified savings of £53,417.

In response to this feedback, a PowerPoint presentation was created which described the proposals in more detail and provided further explanation and visuals about the proposals. This presentation was shared at the Community of Groups meeting which was held on 4 December 2023 (in week two of the consultation) and was subsequently uploaded onto the council's [online Consultation and Engagement Hub](#).

## 3. Feedback from Consultation Events with Parents and Carers

### 3.1 Overview

Two online consultation events and two in-person events were held for parent carers during December 2023.

The main feedback from these events was that the participants strongly disagreed with the proposals to reduce funding to the Short Breaks budget. Another key message was that parents and carers felt uncomfortable being asked to choose where these budget reductions should come from. Parent carers voiced that they also wanted to see alternative proposals as part of the consultation and suggested ceasing funding for roadworks and a reduction in the maintenance of public spaces (mowing grass) as an alternative to seeing reductions to the Short Breaks budget.

Parent carers at all three events voiced their concern that any reductions to the Short Breaks budget would result in an increase in families struggling and ending up in crisis.

### 3.2 Quotes from sessions

Specific quotes from participants at the online and in-person events, which illustrate the themes listed above, include:

- 'Why were we not consulted in January 2023? This cut will result in an increase in referrals to CAMHS. Parents are broken already; their wellbeing is affected. This funding is a lifeline. We can't hold down a job without this support. It is hard to make these choices, they are not meaningful. Better choices need to be offered.'
- 'Uncomfortable to choose as it is choosing between a service your child is using or another service that another struggling family is using.'
- '[I'm a] parent who doesn't support any options [and] I think they they're all awful...it is a shock that we are cutting resources for the most vulnerable people in society. I think it is very short-sighted and families will start to fall apart in other ways.'
- 'There are probably some things the council could stop doing to stop these awful cuts [from happening].'
- 'Is there no other way this can be cut from somewhere else? These services are a lifeline for families.'
- 'These services provide vital services for communities. If [the council is] looking at cutting services, what are the other options for these families? They are going to end up in crisis and will cost more in the long-term. There should be something in

place to shoulder that burden, [otherwise it will] end up with people knocking at the door in crisis. Equip communities to support. Already [there is] crisis; poverty, cost of living crisis, people having to decide between heating or eating, Disabled people struggling. [There] should be some kind of protection to cushion that blow.'

### 3.3 Feedback on the specific proposals received at the events

Participants at the events provided the following feedback on specific proposals:

**Proposal 1:** Internal Review (savings of £144,923)

- 'Whose jobs are they cutting? The problem with that, you will cut the roles, and this will put more pressure on the service and it will grind to a halt, the knock-on effect is going to have an impact.'

**Proposal 2:** Discontinue Residential Holiday Short Breaks service (savings of £75,000)

- '[We'd] rather the £75k went back into service than being cut.'

**Proposal 3:** Proposal 3 outlined eight possible options, each of which would achieve the remaining savings target of £53,417

- 'All of the options have a direct impact for already struggling services.'
- '[We] couldn't agree with proposal 3.'

## 4. Next Steps

Following consultation, Bristol City Council decided to delay a decision on reducing funding from the Short Breaks budget by 10 per cent. This means that no budget reductions were made in for the financial year 2024/25 that will impact on current services. The decision on future spend from 1 April 2025 onwards will be considered by the new Committee System over summer 2024.

The decision regarding BAP membership (proposal 4) will also be taken to the Committee System with the recommendation of changing the eligibility criteria of BAP membership to children and young people who are Autistic or have social, communication and interaction needs, who live within the Bristol City Council boundaries.



## Appendix A: Demographic information on who answered the survey

There were 182 responses to the survey, including six Easy Read responses. By comparison, 1,229 child places were supported by Short Breaks during 2023/24.

### A1 Respondent role

Which of the following describes your situation? (Please select all that apply)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	I am a resident of Bristol		79.7	137
2	I am a parent or carer whose child currently uses Bristol's Short Breaks service		51.7	89
3	I am a parent or carer of a child with SEND who does NOT use Bristol's Short Breaks service		23.8	41
4	I am responding on behalf of a health or social care provider		0.6	1
5	I am a health or social care practitioner / professional		9.9	17
6	I am responding on behalf of a school or education provider		1.7	3
7	I am responding on behalf of a voluntary or community or social enterprise / interest group		4.1	7
8	I am a ward councillor		0.0	0
9	I am an MP		0.0	0



Which of the following describes your situation? (Please select all that apply)				
10	I am a Bristol City Council employee		6.4	11
11	Other (please specify):		5.2	9
			answered	172
			skipped	10

Under the 'other' category – 5 responses came from professionals who worked in play settings.

Four providers submitted responses on behalf of their organisation.

## A2 Respondent location by ward








Where do you live?		
Ward Name	Number of responses	Wards with higher levels of deprivation
Postcode not found	2	
Outside of Bristol	9	
Ashley	4	
Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston	11	Yes
Bedminster	5	
Bishopston & Ashley Down	1	
Bishopsworth	3	
Brislington East	4	
Brislington West	5	Yes
Central	3	
Clifton	3	
Cotham	3	
Easton	7	
Eastville	8	
Filwood	3	Yes
Frome Vale	12	Yes
Hartcliffe & Withywood	4	Yes
Henbury & Brentry	4	Yes
Hengrove & Whitchurch Park	4	Yes
Hillfields	7	Yes
Horfield	4	
Hotwells & Harbourside	1	
Knowle	7	Yes

Where do you live?		
Lawrence Hill	7	Yes
Lockleaze	8	Yes
Redland	4	
Southmead	3	Yes
Southville	2	
St George Central	2	
St George Troopers Hill	1	
St George West	1	
Stockwood	2	Yes
Stoke Bishop	3	
Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze	10	
Windmill Hill	3	

The table above shows the wards that the respondents come from. Forty-four (44 per cent) of responses are from wards within which there are areas of high deprivation. These are 1-10 per cent of the most deprived areas in England or have been identified in the Cost of Living Risk Index as being more at risk of the impact of the cost of living crisis. These wards are identified in the third column.

There were 10 or more responses from each of the following wards: Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston, Frome Vale and Westbury on Trym and Henleaze.



### A3 Age

What is your age?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	0-10		0.0	0
2	11-15		0.0	0
3	16-17		0.0	0
4	18-24		1.8	3
5	25-34		7.0	12
6	35-44		38.6	66
7	45-54		35.1	60
8	55-64		9.4	16
9	65-74		2.9	5
10	75-84		0.6	1

What is your age?				
11	85 +		0.0	0
12	Prefer not to say		4.7	8
			answered	171
			skipped	11

The majority of responses (74 per cent) were from people who are between the ages of 35-54. This aligns to the age bracket of the target audience, who were parent carers of Disabled children.

#### A4 Disability

Do you consider yourself to be a Disabled person?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Yes		10.5	18
2	No		81.3	139
3	Prefer not to say		8.2	14
			answered	171
			skipped	11

From the BCC Quality of Life survey Disabled population (3-year average 2020/21-2022/23), Over 10 per cent (10.7 per cent) of adults self-identified as a 'Disabled adult'. The percentage of respondents from this survey (10.5 per cent) who self-identify as 'Disabled' closely matches the Bristol population figure in the BCC Quality of Life survey.

#### A5 Ethnicity

What is your ethnic group? (Please select one only)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total







What is your ethnic group? (Please select one only)				
1	Asian or Asian British		18.8	32
2	Black, Black British, Caribbean or African		7.7	13
3	Gypsy, Roma or Traveller		0.0	0
4	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups		1.8	3
5	White British		56.5	96
6	Other White background		4.7	8
7	Prefer not to say		8.8	15
8	Other ethnic background (please specify):		1.8	3
			answered	170
			skipped	12

In Bristol 71.6 per cent of the population is 'White British', 5.9 per cent are 'Black, Black British, Caribbean or African', 6.6 per cent are 'Asian or Asian British', 8.3 per cent are 'Other White Backgrounds' (Bristol Census Data 2021).

The following ethnic groups were under-represented in the response rates compared to the proportion of people in each of these ethnic groups living in Bristol: 'White British'. Responses from 'Asian and Asian British' and 'Black, Black British, Caribbean or African' ethnic groups were over-represented.

From Short Breaks data in 2021/22; 66.4 per cent of children and young people attending were 'White British', 4.6 per cent were from a 'White Ethnic Minority', 11.5 per cent were 'Black', 10.2 per cent were 'Asian' and 7.2 per cent were from a 'Mixed Ethnic Group'. In comparison to this data set, which is based on children attending the service, responses from 'Asian or British Asian' ethnic groups were over-represented and responses from 'White British' or 'Black, Black British, Caribbean or African' were under-represented.




## A6 Religion / Faith

What is your religion/faith?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	No Religion		45.9	78
2	Buddhist		0.0	0
3	Christian		21.8	37
4	Hindu		1.2	2
5	Jewish		0.0	0
6	Muslim		21.2	36
7	Pagan		0.0	0
8	Sikh		0.0	0
9	Prefer not to say		9.4	16
10	Other (please describe):		0.6	1
			answered	170
			skipped	12

In comparison with Bristol Census 2021 data, the following religion/faith was over-represented in survey answers: no religion (32.2 per cent in Bristol population), Muslim (6.7 per cent in Bristol population) and Hindus (0.8 per cent in Bristol population).




The following religions/faiths were under-represented in survey responses: Christians (32.2 per cent in Bristol population), Buddhists (0.6 per cent in Bristol population), Sikhs (0.5 per cent in Bristol population) and Jewish (0.3 per cent in Bristol population).

## A7 Sex

What is your sex? (If unsure you can use the sex recorded in your official documents.)				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Female		76.3	129
2	Male		14.2	24
3	Prefer not to say		9.5	16
4	Other (please describe):		0.0	0
			answered	169
			skipped	13

From Bristol Census 2021: 50 per cent of the population were male and 50 per cent were female. Responses from females were over-represented in this survey with 76.3 per cent of respondents stating that they were 'female' and 14.2 per cent of respondents stating they were 'male'.

## A8 Transgender status

Do you consider yourself to have a gender identity different from your sex recorded at birth?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Yes (e.g., trans, or non-binary)		1.2	2
2	No		91.6	153
3	Prefer not to say		7.2	12
			answered	167
			skipped	15

Those who consider themselves to have a gender different from that recorded at birth is 0.83 per cent of Bristol’s population (Bristol 2021 Census Data). Respondents from this survey who answered ‘yes’ to this question are slightly higher than the Bristol Census data at 1.2 per cent.

Those who do not consider themselves to have a gender different from that recorded at birth totals as 92.5 per cent of Bristol’s population (Bristol 2021 Census Data). Respondents from this survey who answered ‘no’ to this question are within 1.5 per cent of this figure at 91.6 per cent.

## A9 Sexual orientation

What is your sexual orientation?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Bi		2.4	4
2	Gay / Lesbian		0.6	1
3	Heterosexual / Straight		76.2	125
4	Prefer not to say		20.1	33
5	I use another term (please specify):		0.6	1
			answered	164
			skipped	18

### Bristol Census 2021 Data:

Responses from people stating their sexual orientation to be ‘heterosexual/straight’ was slightly under-represented at 76.2 per cent as compared to the Bristol Census 2021 results which were 85.5 per cent.

Responses from people stating their sexual orientation to be LGB+ in Bristol was 6.1 per cent (Bristol Census 2021). This was under-represented in the survey responses at 3.1 per cent from survey responses (totals of sum of line one and line two).

There were a high number of responses (20.2 per cent) from people who preferred 'not to say' what their sexual orientation was in this survey.

### A10 Pregnancy and recent maternity

Are you pregnant or have you given birth in the last 26 weeks?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Yes		1.2	2
2	No		91.6	153
3	Prefer not to say		7.2	12
			answered	167
			skipped	15

### A11 Carer status




Are you a carer?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Yes		68.5	115
2	No		25.0	42
3	Prefer not to say		6.5	11
			answered	168
			skipped	14

Responses from this survey stated that 68.5 per cent identified as being a carer. This aligns with the largest target audience for this survey, which was parent carers of



Disabled children and young people due to the nature of the consultation being focused on Short Breaks services.

## A12 Refugee / Asylum seeker status

Are you a refugee or asylum seeker?				
Answer Choices			Response Percent (%)	Response Total
1	Yes		1.2	2
2	No		94.6	159
3	Prefer not to say		4.2	7
			answered	168
			skipped	14