

## Lancashire Break Time: Children and Young People

Lancashire County Council, like many councils across the country, is going through financially challenging times. This is as a result of funding not keeping pace with the increasing demand and cost of services being delivered. We need to continue to look at ways of reducing costs to help balance the books for future years. This means that we have to consider changes to some of the services we currently provide, as we do not have the resources to continue to deliver what we have done in the past. These changes were considered by our county councillors and we are now looking to consult on what impact the proposals may have. We really welcome your views.

Lancashire Break Time (LBT) is a county-wide service providing short breaks for parents or carers of children and young people with special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND). The child or young person will attend a fun group activity whilst their parent or carer gets a short break from their caring role.

LBT can be used without a social care assessment of need. LBT is for unpaid primary carers of a child or young person with SEND, aged four to 18 years, who lives in Lancashire (excluding Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool) and where the child or young person has difficulty accessing services for reasons such as sensory issues, learning difficulties and physical mobility problems.

Children and young people with a higher level of need receive services through their package of care. Parents and carers are able to request a statutory social care assessment of need under Section 17, Children Act 1989 or a carer's assessment under the Care Act 2014. These assessments are undertaken by a social worker and will consider the needs of the child or young person and their family and the needs of the parent or carer. This assessment may mean that short breaks are offered to meet identified needs of the parent or carer.

Lancashire County Council is proposing that LBT will cease, meaning that parents and carers will no longer be able to get short breaks through this service and children and young people will no longer be able to attend LBT activities.

We are asking the public, staff and partner organisations to give their views. You can complete this online version, or printed questionnaires are available on request, please ring 01772 532509 or email [Find@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Find@lancashire.gov.uk). Your views and comments will be included in the report Lancashire County Council's Cabinet will consider when making the final decision on these proposals.

### Timescales

3 December 2018 - Cabinet agreed to consult on proposals

28 January to 25 March 2019 - consultation period (11<sup>th</sup> February to 8<sup>th</sup> April for Children and Young People)

16 May 2019 - report the consultation outcomes to Cabinet

From September 2019 - LBT is proposed to cease

Using Lancashire Break Time

**In the last 12 months, how often, if at all, have you used Lancashire Break Time?**

*Please select one option only*

- I haven't used Lancashire Break Time
- One to four times
- Five to nine times
- Ten to 19 times
- 20 to 29 times
- 30 or more times
- Don't know

**Why do you use Lancashire Break Time?**

*Please select as many as apply*

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Our proposal

**We are proposing to cease Lancashire Break Time. How strongly do you agree or disagree with this proposal?**

*Please select one option only*

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Why do you say this?**

*Please type in below*

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**If Lancashire Break Time was to cease, how would this affect you?**

*Please type in below*

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**Thinking about our proposal, please tell us if you think there is anything else that we need to consider or that could be done differently.**

*Please type in below*

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About you

**This final section is about you. It's a little more personal, but is really useful to us. By answering these questions you will help us to understand the views of different groups of people. If there are any questions that you'd rather not answer, please tick 'prefer not to say', or leave it blank and go on to the next question.**

**Are you...?**

*Please select one option only*

- Male
- Female
- Other
- Prefer not to say

**What was your age on your last birthday?**

*Please select one option only*

- Under 11
- 11-15
- 16-18
- Prefer not to say

**Are you a deaf person or do you have a disability?**

The Equality Act 2010 defines a disabled person as someone who has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

*Please select as many as apply*

- Yes, learning disability
- Yes, physical disability
- Yes, sensory disability
- Yes, mental health disability
- Yes, other disability
- No
- Prefer not to say

**Which best describes your ethnic background?**

*Please select one option only*

- White
- Asian or Asian British
- Black or black British
- Mixed
- Other
- Prefer not to say

**What is your religion?**

*Please select one option only*

- No religion
- Christian (including CofE, Catholic, Protestant and all other denominations)
- Buddhist
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Any other religion
- Prefer not to say

**Do you have access to a car or van in which you could travel?**

*Please select one option only*

- Yes - as a passenger
- Yes - as a driver
- No
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

**Does your household have access to the internet (dial-up, broadband or mobile internet)?**

*Please select one option only*

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

**What is your home postcode?**

*Please type in below*

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**Thank you for completing the questionnaire.  
Please send your responses to:  
Business Intelligence Team  
Lancashire County Council  
PO Box 100  
County Hall  
Preston  
PR1 0LD**