

Have Your Say : Children & Family Well-being Consultation

We are asking for views on our proposal to reduce the number of buildings where the Children and Family Wellbeing Service is based and work more flexibly in the community. As a valued stakeholder, I wanted to make you aware of this at the earliest opportunity.

We are committed to providing the best services we can to the people of Lancashire, particularly to the most vulnerable in our communities. However, the council's financial position remains extremely challenging and we need to look at how we can do things differently whilst still providing support to those who need our help.

As you know, the service supports children, young people, parents and families and prioritises those most in need, particularly where we think that early help will make the biggest difference. We have looked at evidence of how the service makes a difference to people and how it can become more effective. To do this we will focus on providing support direct to people where possible and include the use of community settings where best. This will enable us to become more people focused rather than building based.

We are proposing to cease delivering the service from 19 buildings whilst retaining service delivery in 57 buildings. The other services delivered in these buildings will not be affected by our proposals.

We will also commission a 12-19 years youth offer through the voluntary, community and faith sector to support our delivery of services to young people across Lancashire.

We are launching the consultation at 11am today (Wednesday 6 June) and it will run until Friday 3 August. Visit <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/haveyoursay> or printed questionnaires will be available in the buildings where children and wellbeing services are delivered.

In addition, we will be holding a number of focus groups across the county for the people we support to share their views and will be run by an independent facilitator. We will also be consulting staff, county councillors and other interested parties.

After considering feedback received during the consultation period, the council's Cabinet is due to make a decision on a final set of proposals in October.

We welcome your views and feedback.

Best wishes

Louise Taylor
Executive Director of Adult Services, Health and Wellbeing