

Proposed changes to Short Break Services (Respite) for people with Disabilities



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Introduction



We (Kent County Council) want to tell you about our plans for short breaks.

We want to make the services better for everyone.



We can see that many people are choosing different types of short breaks.



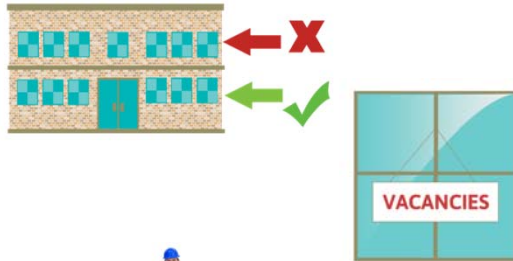
This means that our accommodation based short breaks (where you can stay overnight) are not as busy. So we don't need as many of them.



We know how important short breaks are for people and their families.

We want to make sure the buildings we have are better.

Which service will this affect?



Osborne Court is an old building. It is on two floors. It does not have a lift.

To use the top floor you need to climb stairs. You cannot use the top floor if you use a wheelchair. This means that (a lot of the time) only the downstairs bedrooms are used.

It will cost a lot of money to fix.

Faversham Day Centre next door is closing. It will be closed by Christmas 2016.

Problems with vandalism may get worse.

Our plan is to close Osborne Court and offer overnight short breaks in other places.

Where will I get Short Breaks?



There will still be KCC short breaks at Deal, Ashford, Staplehurst, Canterbury, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.

There are lots of other types of short breaks services across Kent.



We know this will mean some people will need to go further for short breaks.



You can talk about what you need with your family/carer and Care Manager.

You can visit some of the other short break services.

We will improve our other Short Break services



We will spend money to improve the building at Southfields in Ashford.



It will have much better rooms and facilities, like a sensory area and new en-suite bedrooms.

It will offer much more than it does now.

Becoming an Adult



Our children's and adult's short breaks services are now working better together.



When you move from one service to another we want it to be a good experience.



The children's short break buildings have been updated. They are more modern than our adult short break buildings.

We want to make our adult short break buildings are as good as the children's short break buildings.



This means we will make sure everyone can go to a short break service that is in a building that can (as much as possible) meet everyone's needs.

What will happen to the people who work at Osborne Court?



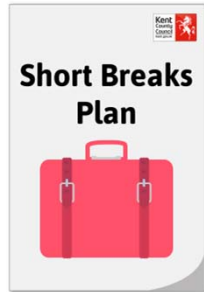
The staff will be asked if they want to work at another service.

What will happen to the building?



Adult Social Care has no plans for the Osborne Court building.

Other ways to have an overnight Short Break



We have been working hard to give more choices for a short break.

These are:

Shared Lives Scheme



This gives overnight breaks in a Shared Lives host's home.

You will be looked after by the host family in their home.

Direct Payments



You can have a direct payment to arrange the break you want.

A direct payment is money given to you by the council to organise your own services.



Carer's Short Break Service

Your carer can get someone to come to your home and support you overnight.

Your carer can use the time to have a break or to go shopping or for an appointment.



The service is available for planned breaks or emergencies.

Local Care Homes

You can also have overnight short breaks in a local care home.



Other KCC overnight short break units

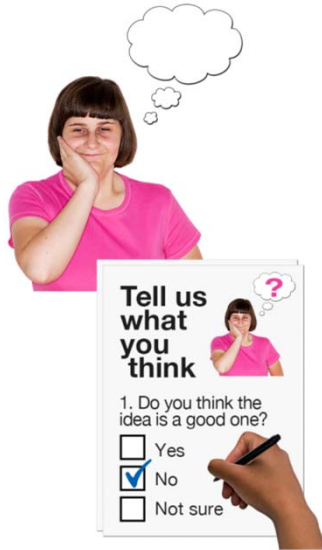
KCC has other services at Deal, Ashford, Staplehurst, Canterbury, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.



Moving from children's to adult's overnight short breaks

You can stay in your children's short break service longer if this meets your needs

We want to know what you think



If you think the changes will affect you?

We will meet with you to complete the form attached or you can fill it in yourself and give it to your Care Manager.

If you have more questions or comments you can share these in the following ways:

- Consultation meetings and events
- Completing the form
- Logging on to the website:

www.kent.gov.uk/shortbreaksconsultation

- Emailing: shortbreaksconsultation@kent.gov.uk
- Phone:

Jeni Lawford on Tel: 01233 620256
(between 10am – 4pm)





**Any
Questions?**