

The Local Offer

» What is the Local Offer

Every local authority **must** publish a Local Offer. The Local Offer tells you what support the local authority expects to be available for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. It must include information about education, health and care provision. It should also tell you about training, employment and independent living for young people with special educational need and/or disabilities.

You can find the Local Offer on Hartlepool's Family Service Directory at:
<http://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk/send>

» Who is it for?

The Local Offer is for:

- Children, young people with SEN and/or disabilities from birth to 25
- Their parents and carers
- Practitioners and professionals



» What is the idea?

The Local Offer should:

- Make it easier to find out what you need to know
- Give information about what is available
- Tell you where you can get further information

The Local Offer should also make services more responsive to local needs. The **SEND Code of Practice** says that the Local Offer should:

- *Provide clear, comprehensive, accessible and up-to-date information about the available provision and how to access it*
- *Make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving disabled children and those with SEN and their parents, and disabled young people and those with SEN, and service providers in its development and review*

(4.2)

» What does it include?

The Local Offer includes information on:

- How children and young peoples' needs are identified
- How their needs are assessed
- The special educational, health and social care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities
- Opportunities for training and employment
- Support for independent living
- How provision is funded
- Leisure activities and support groups
- Where you can find out more information, advice and support
- Arrangements for travel to and from school and other settings
- The help available to resolve disagreements

The Local Offer must also tell you about services provided outside of area which local people are likely to use.

You can find a full list of what must be included in the [SEND Code of Practice](#) section 4.30.

» How can I get involved?

The local authority **must** involve children and young people with SEN and disabilities, and parents and carers in preparing and reviewing the Local Offer. If you would like to be involved, or make some comments, you can find out more on the [Local Offer website](#).

Parents who want to be more involved in developing and reviewing the Local Offer can contact Hartlepool's Parent Carer Forum (1 Hart 1 Mind 1 Future) at: HartMindFuture@yahoo.co.uk

Children and young people who want to be more involved in developing and reviewing the Local Offer can contact: The Standards, Engagement and Development Team on 01429 284876 or email: tracy.liveras@hartlepool.gov.uk

The local authority must publish what children, young people and parents tell them about the Local Offer. It must also say clearly what it will do about the comments it has received.

» Where can I get further information, advice and support?

Chapter4 of the [SEND Code of Practice](#) tells you more about the Local Offer.

You can find the Local Offer for Hartlepool Borough Council at: <http://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk/send>

The SEND Advisor (IASS) can also give you:

- Information and advice about SEN and disability support and provision
- More information about local services, organisations, and resources which might help
- Advice and support to get more involved

» Have your say

Please let us know any comments you may have about this leaflet by contacting the Information, advice and Support Service using the contact details below.

Alternatively you can write to us at:

Hartlepool Information, Advice and Support Service
Hartlepool Borough Council
Children's and Joint Commissioning Services
Level 4, Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY

Further copies of this and other leaflets are available from the Information, Advice and Support Service.

This leaflet is also available in large print on request.

» Data Protection

Although we are part of Hartlepool Borough Council, any record we make of your contact with us is confidential to the Information, Advice and Support Service except where you agree to us talking with other agencies, or if a child is at risk.

Tracy Liveras - Hartlepool Information, advice and Support Service



Level 4, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY



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We issued this document in August 2018. We will check the information is up to date in August 2020.