

Local Offer in Leicestershire

Script of the Powerpoint presentation

Slide 1

Hi, My name is Karen Hall and I am the SEND Family Information worker based at Leicestershire County Council. My role is to look after the Local Offer in Leicestershire and to ensure children and families can access the right information at the right time in relation to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

I am going to talk through a short presentation explaining the different elements to the SEND Local Offer in Leicestershire and how you can access them.

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Firstly, here is some background to the Local Offer:

The 'Local Offer' is the phrase used to describe what is on offer for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families

It is the Local Authorities statutory duty to provide a Local Offer as set out in the SEND Code of Practice 2014

It must be coproduced with parent carers and young people

In Leicestershire, the Local Offer is governed by a multi-agency steering group and reports to the SEND and Inclusion Board

Slide 3: Website

The first and main element of the SEND Local Offer in Leicestershire is the Website. This sits on the main County Council Website and can be found under "Special Educational Needs" As you can see it is made up of many sections which includes: Where to start with SEND, Education and – under each section you will find a wealth of information from choosing childcare to applying for personal transport budgets. It isn't too clear that you are in fact on the Local Offer but we are working on trying to improve this!

The Local offer MUST be coproduced with parent carers and young people. This way we can be sure we are getting it right for families and identify what needs improving.

It is worth noting that using the search bar at the top of the page will indeed search the whole county council website so don't be put off if some of the search results don't feel all that relevant!

We have a statutory duty to ensure that our Local Offer remains compliant.

Slide 4: Local Offer Roadshows:

As you can see from the image, the Roadshows operate like a market stall type event where families can walk around to view the information on the stands and meet with providers who offer

services that support children with SEND and their families. We always get really good feedback from parents at the Roadshows but are always gathering Feedback so we can improve. These are completely free and are usually held in a community venue.

Pre Covid 19 we aimed to visit each Locality in Leicestershire every 2 years however due to Covid these are currently on hold in line with guidance. We have developed a virtual Q&A type session where families can submit their questions around a certain topic or theme and members of our departments will answer them. You can visit the link for any further information.

Slide 5: SEND News

We have termly newsletters that go out to families and those that work with children with special educational needs. These include lots of information about new developments within SEND in Leicestershire, play and leisure opportunities and updates from Health and the Parent Carer Forum.

You can email her on the address provided to receive these straight to your inbox or you can visit the link to view them online.

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We also have a **Local Offer Facebook Page** in Leicestershire which we are really proud of. We know not everyone uses Facebook so we have added it to the main landing page on the Local Offer Website so each post can be seen without needing to be logged into Facebook. We share a lot of information and support services along with things happening throughout the county and in bordering counties. Do give us a follow if you haven't already, we are always trying to reach as many parents as possible and Facebook is a great way to do this.

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The final part of Leicestershire's Local Offer which we are talking about today is the Information and Support Directory which forms part of the Local Offer. This was previously known as the Family Information Directory (the FID for short) It is a joint directory with Adults and Communities and is a directory of information and support services. You can use the search bar to look for a service or organisation which will search all the information in the listings as well as the filters down the left hand side of the page.

Whilst talking about directories, it is worth mentioning that each school has a duty to list their SEN information report (this is sometimes called their Local Offer) this is a wealth of information which sets out how a school can support a child with Special educational needs and what their provision looks like. You can find a link to each school's SEND section by using the Find a school directory on the County Council Website.

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Thank you for listening, we hope you have found this useful, you can get in touch with us at LeicestershireLocalOffer@leics.gov.uk for any further information.