

Dear Sir/Madame

I am a mother of a child who has profound learning disabilities and is visually impaired, along with epilepsy and Cerebral Palsy.

Since last Summer we gained the opportunity to set up a direct payment and currently receive 12 hours care for a child who needs 24 hrs 7 days a week! He also wakes during the night and needs turning over.

Would someone be able to inform me how the report will be able to improve the standard of life for the whole family and how we will be able to access more hours for our personnel asistant for my son.

I feel local government does not give parents the choice weather they want to be a care worker or not. I love my son dearly but I do not wish to be a care worker for him for the rest of his life he is currently 4 years old I also have a 2 year old son with limited support from family. What we need is support for him on a daily basis within the family home. Six hours a day to provide for his basic needs.

I am a professional Fundraiser-(2 days a week) and over the past 12 months have raised £109,000 for capital projects for a Special Needs School. I feel it is important that I am able to maintain my skills and look after my two children along with sufficient support that is needed for my son.

During the school holidays there is no play schemes available for my son for his age group. The opportunity should be there for my sons personnel assistant to increase his care package and provide the care needs for my son. Allowing my son to access social activities and play — without putting a strain on the family resources. When my son is off school for a length of time he requires the same stimulation school provides him. I am unable to provide this resource to him in a home environment. He then becomes hysterical and cries constantly. I dread holiday times.

I hope you will be able to take these point forward as part of the report - Children who need 24 hers care should be getting high quality flexible child care NOW not 20115 it will be to late.

Kind Regards

Joanne Freeman.