

Short Breaks Local Offer (SBLO)

Tell us what you think

Hertfordshire County Council is thinking about making changes to the Short Breaks Local Offer (SBLO).

No decisions have been made.

We want to hear from children, young people, parents, carers and professionals.

What is SBLO?

SBLO helps children and young people with SEND.

It gives them chances to:

- Take part in activities
- Make friends
- Learn new things
- Become more independent
- It also gives families a break from caring.

Why are we asking?

- More children and young people are using SBLO.
- Some families have to wait for support.

We want to make sure children and young people who need the most help can get it.

How does SBLO work now?

Children and young people aged 5 to 19 may be able to use SBLO if they meet the current rules. They can get up to 40 hours of support each year. At the moment, everyone who can use SBLO gets the same amount of support. We do not check how much help each family needs.

What changes are being considered?

- We are asking if support should be based on how much help a child and family need.

- Children and young people who need the most help would get support first.
- Some families may get more support than others.
- Families would be asked to pay at least **£5 per hour**.
- Support would be available for families who are finding it hard to pay.

What could be good about this?

- More help for children and young people who need it most
- Shorter waiting times

What could be difficult?

- Some families who get support now might not be able to get it in the future
- Families would need to go through an assessment

What is not changing?

This consultation is **not about**: Overnight short breaks, Shared care, Direct payments, Homecare support

Community activities and support will continue.

Have your say

Your views are important.

They will help us decide what happens next.

 **Complete the consultation here:** www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SBLOconsultation

 **Consultation closes:** 12 noon, Thursday 17th December 2026

 **SENDCommissioning@hertfordshire.gov.uk**

Contact us if you would like a paper copy or information in another format.