



## Six Ways Children's Centre Advice and Guidance Service Community Consultation

چھ طریقے چلڈرنز سینٹر مشورے اور رہنمائی سروس کمیونٹی مشاورت	Urdu
ছয় উপায় শিশুদের সেন্টার পরামর্শ এবং উপদেশ পরিষেবা কমিউনিটি কনসালটেশন	Bengali
مركز سة طرق للأطفال المشورة والإرشاد الخدمة استشارة المجتمع	Arabic
ਛੇ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਬੱਚੇ ਦੇ ਸਟਰ ਸਲਾਹ ਅਤੇ ਅਗਵਾਈ ਸਰਵਿਸ ਕਮਿਊਨਿਟੀ ਮਸ਼ਵਰਾ	Punjabi
Centrum Sześć sposobów dzieci Porady i wytyczne usługi Społeczność Konsultacje	Polish
Xarunta Lix Siyaabaha Caruurta Talo iyo hanuun Service Community Consultation	Somali

**If you would like this document translated please speak  
to a member of staff at Six Ways Children's Centre**

آپ ترجمہ شدہ یہ دستاویز چاہتے ہیں تو بات کریں چھ طریقے چلڈرنز سینٹر میں عملے کے کسی رکن سے	Urdu
আপনি অনুবাদ এই নথিতে চাই বলতে দয়া ছয় উপায় শিশুদের সেন্টারে কর্মীদের একটি সদস্য	Bengali
إذا كنت ترغب هذه الوثيقة المترجمة يرجى التحدث إلى أحد أعضاء هيئة التدريس في مركز سة طرق للأطفال	Arabic
ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹਨ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਛੇ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਬੱਚੇ ਦੇ ਸਟਰ 'ਤੇ ਸਟਾਫ ਦਾ ਇੱਕ ਸਦੱਸ ਨੂੰ	Punjabi
Jeśli chcesz tego dokumentu przetłumaczony porozmawiaj do członka personelu Centrum Sześć sposobów dzieci	Polish
Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd dokumentigan turjumay fadlan la hadal xubin ka mid ah shaqaalaha xarunta Lix Siyaabaha Caruurta	Somali

## Introduction

The purpose of this document is to consult on proposed changes to the way in which that Advice and Guidance Services are provided through Six Way's Children's Centre included services provided by EDAS.

## What are Children's Centres?

Children's Centres deliver a range of services that include group activities for children under the age of 5 and their parents/carers. These services focus on learning, health, wellbeing and community engagement, and are delivered in Children's Centre buildings, community venues and family homes.

## Context of Six Ways Children's Centre

A number of services are currently being run from Six Ways Children's Centre for children under the age of 5 and their families on behalf of Bloomsbury Children's Centre, which is part of Aston and Nechells Locality. The Centre has a reach area of 2705 children under the age of 5.

**Location: Six Ways Children's Centre, Albert Road, Aston, Birmingham. B6 5NH (Mansfield Green School)**

## Why are we consulting on changes to services?

The money Children's Centres' receive from the government is being reduced significantly, we have had budget reductions this year and it is anticipated there may be further reductions next year.

Children's Centres' have had to make changes to some Children's Centre commissioned services and this consultation is your opportunity to tell us what you think of our proposals to change the way in which we deliver Advice and Guidance Services including the service commissioned from EDAS.

## What are the proposed changes?

For a number of years we have commissioned a 1 -1 Advice and Guidance Service from EDAS organisation for Six Ways Children's Centre families (Benefit, Housing, Debt Advice).

Until the end of September 2015, EDAS has provided advice at Six Way's Children's Centre for 2.5 days per week at a cost of: £23,207.85 per year

Since October 2015, EDAS provides the service for 1 day per week at a cost of: £9,996 per year.

Following a review, we are proposing to deliver this service in a different way as explained below. We are proposing to continue to commission Advice and Guidance Services from EDAS for 1 day per week rather than for 2.5 days per week as before.

The reason is that the cost for each advice session given by EDAS is relatively high compared to the cost of the proposed alternative which is to provide advice through members of the Family Support team and other organisations offering specialist advice services.

### Continued:

From cost analysis and reviewing cases, it was felt that the Family Support Team and Drop in Sessions, could provide support to families regarding welfare issues.

Over the last year the Children's Centre Family Support Team, have worked closely with partner organisations to enable them to incorporate Advice and Guidance within the Children's Centre services.

Under the proposed arrangements, Family Support Workers would undertake lower level work and signpost families to specialist advice organisations, including those that have already been used to support families in the past, e.g. EDAS, Asian Resource Centre, Aston Centre for the Family (Birmingham Settlement), Shelter, Citizen's Advice, Nishkam, Neighbourhood Office, local Job Centre to use language line for benefit applications

Via these partnerships, we would signpost Parents and Carers who require specialist support on a needs led, case by case, basis. There are many organisations in the area that deliver Advice and Guidance Services including EDAS and referrals would be made by a Family Support Worker to the most appropriate service. (refer to booklet outlining 20+ organisations)

### How would the proposed changes affected me?

Advice and Guidance services would continue to be delivered as part of Children's Centre services but in a different way.

We are now looking to gather your views and opinions on the proposed changes. This will help us to see if any further changes need to be made and from when. This will include reviewing the level of support provided by EDAS (number of days)

#### **Provision of Advice and Guidance Services before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015:**

EDAS delivered for 6 Way's Children's Centre:

- 1 day per week at 6 Ways Children's Centre
- Half a day per week at Aston Tower School
- 1 day per week at Witton Community Centre

#### **Provision of Advice and Guidance Services since 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015:**

- EDAS delivers at 6 Way's: 1 day per week: where a EDAS worker offers 1-1 appointments for advice and advocacy case work support to parents of children under the age of 5 for specialist targeted work.
- An allocated Family Support Worker supports parents / carers as part of their Family Support Plan
- Family Support deliver a drop in session every Thursday afternoon at 6 Ways
- We continue to signpost families to partner agencies to meet the needs of more specialist advice
- The Centres' devised a booklet which is available for parents / carers to find out where they can go to get more specialist advice and support in addition to that of the advice they can get from a Family Support Worker.

## **Consultation with the Community**

It is important that we consult and engage with as many service users as possible who could have been affected by these changes. Please could you contribute and give your comments and feedback by completing the questionnaire at the end of this document.

We are looking to gather opinions and views from a range of stakeholders including: Parents, carers, centre users, staff, other centres in the area, health, places of worship, partners, professionals, district committee, Children's Centre Committee, EDAS and other commissioned service providers.

We are using a range of consultation approaches and methods to ensure that the full range of stakeholders who may have been affected by the changes are able to contribute.

**Consultation with the families and the community  
on these changes to services will take place between:**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

### Here are the ways you can get involved:

1. Complete a **Consultation Questionnaire** and return it to:  
**Six Ways Children's Centre, Albert Road, Aston, Birmingham. B6 5NH**
2. Hear more about the changes and share your views at a **Consultation Meeting** on the following dates:

Date	Time	Where?
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	1:30 – 2:30	Six Ways Children's Centre
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	11.30 – 12:30	Six Ways Children's Centre
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	12.30 – 1.30	Six Ways Children's Centre

3. Attend a **Parent User Group** during the consultation period that will be facilitated as part of the Stay and Play sessions that are currently delivered at 6 Ways **every Wednesday 9.30 – 11.00 (2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 6<sup>th</sup> January)**
4. **Face to face** within the Centres' throughout the consultation period – please feel free speak to a member of staff and these responses will be documented as part of this consultation
5. **Children's Centre staff will take out the consultation within their outreach role to include Nurseries, Schools, supermarket, Health Centres'**

Translation support will be provided to assist families to complete the questionnaire and to participate in the discussion forums.

### What happens next?

The Aston and Nechells Locality Co –ordinator will collate and analyse the consultation findings and the outcome will be used to support any further decisions that need to be made around the delivery of this service.

The consultation findings will be reported to the Children's Centre Committee (Bloomsbury Governing Body) and Aston and Nechells Strategic Partnership Group.

It will be the role of the Governing Body to make final decisions about this service area.

Responses to the points raised will be collated in a report which will be circulated and made available publically at the Children's Centres' by the end of January.

