

BUDGET 2023 – REACTION FROM THE DISABLED CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP

Once again, this Budget is a missed opportunity to address the crisis in support for families with disabled children. A key focus of the Chancellor's statement was to help get people back into work, but there is precious little to support parents of disabled children to do so. As revealed in our *Failed and Forgotten* report, three quarters of parents of disabled children have had to give up work or even whole careers because of the lack of support and the time it takes to fight for the services their children need. Economic analysis in 2021 revealed a funding gap of £573 million in social care for disabled children. Filling this would have made a massive difference to the lives of thousands of disabled children, their siblings and their parents. We welcome the expansion of childcare provision, but with fewer than one in five local authorities having enough childcare for disabled children, this will only help families with disabled children if action is taken to ensure there are places available that can meet the specific needs of their children.

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