

# Information

## for County Councillors

Sheet Number: 2009-13/222
------------------------------

From:	Julia Ridge – Senior Responsible Officer for Somerset Choices - Childrens
-------	---

Date:	13 April 2016
-------	---------------

To:	All County Councillors
-----	------------------------

## Somerset Choices – Children's

The Somerset Choices website is being expanded to include children's services.

The Somerset Choices website will be a central point of access to information, advice and a wide range of services and support groups for children and families.

Local people and professionals will be able to search a directory on the website of local services, support groups and products provided across the community to meet individual needs.

The website will help more people to help themselves or help professionals to advise of local opportunities which have the potential to prevent the need for intervention from children's social care or other professionals.

It is important that we now encourage groups to add their information to Somerset Choices.

If providers are registered with Ofsted e.g. school, college, registered child minder etc. their details will be automatically transferred. However, it is really important that they check their information and that their links work.

We have transferred some details on services from SEND Local Offer and Somerset Family Information Directory (SFID) website.

To visit a preview version of the website go to:

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/choicespreview/>

The website is currently in its infancy, and as time progresses, we hope to include more and more providers to create a really useful resource for people and professionals. You can give your initial feedback on the preview website by going to: [www.somerset.gov.uk/choicesfeedback](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/choicesfeedback)

We are keen to ensure that this includes large and smaller providers as well as local support groups and networks.

We need your help! If you know of any providers that could benefit from being on the website then please let them know about the following provider events that are coming up in April.

Providers can come along to an event to see a demonstration, find out how it can help them and their organisation and what they need to do to be part of it. Staff will be on hand to help register providers at the event.

**Providers can sign up to one of the events by using this link**  
[www.somerset.gov.uk/choicesfeedback](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/choicesfeedback) or calling **01823 357354**

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Sedgemoor District Council, King Square, <b>Bridgwater</b> , TA6 3AR	2.00pm - 3.30pm	Please use public car parks
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Frome Town Football Club, Berkley Road, <b>Frome</b> , Somerset, BA11 2EH	10.00am – 11.30am	Parking available
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	West Somerset District Council, Killick Way, <b>Williton</b> , Taunton, TA4 4QA	10.00am - 11.30am	Please use public car parks
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	The Wyvern Club, Mountfields Road, <b>Taunton</b> , TA1 3BJ	7.30pm – 9.00pm	Parking available
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Luttrell Room, Somerset County Council, County Hall, <b>Taunton</b> , TA1 4DY	9.30am - 11.00am	Please use the two park and ride sites or public car parks in the town.
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Edgar Hall, 8 Cary Court, Somerton Business Park, <b>Somerton</b> , TA11 6SB	2.00pm – 3.30pm	Parking available
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Edgar Hall, 8 Cary Court, Somerton Business Park, <b>Somerton</b> , TA11 6SB	7.30pm – 9.00pm	Parking available

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at  
[www.somerset.gov.uk/choicesfeedback](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/choicesfeedback) where you can ask a question of the team

All of your support is appreciated, and together, we can create something that will benefit Children across the county. For more information please contact:	Name: Julia Ridge Email: <a href="mailto:jaridge@somerset.gov.uk">jaridge@somerset.gov.uk</a> Tel No.: 01823 357633
--	---