

**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE JOINT
STRATEGIC REVIEW OF RESIDENTIAL SHORT
BREAKS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE JOINT STRATEGIC REVIEW OF RESIDENTIAL SHORT BREAKS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

1. Topic of assessment

EIA title:	Joint Strategic Review - Short Breaks for Children with a Disability
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EIA author:	Diane McCormack, Head of Complex Needs including CAMHS NHS Guildford and Waverley CCG; Ian Banner Head of Commissioning Children's Social Services Surrey CC
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2. Approval

	Name	Date approved
Approved by¹	Caroline Budden Councillor Mary Angell Sarah Parker	

3. Quality control

Version number	3	EIA completed	
Date saved	Nov 2013	EIA published	

4. EIA team

Name	Job title (if applicable)	Organisation	Role
Ian Banner	Head of Children's Social Care and Well-being Commissioning	Surrey CC	
Diane McCormack	Head of Children with Complex Needs including CAMHS	NHS G&W CCG	
Sandy Thomas	Service Manager, Children with Disabilities	Surrey CC	
Holly Beaman	Commissioner	Surrey CC	

5. Explaining the matter being assessed

What policy, function or service is being introduced or	This is an equality impact assessment of the Joint Strategic Review of Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities in Surrey. The review terms of reference include detail of the scope of the review. The purpose of the Review is to develop options for consultation on the future commissioning of short breaks services for children with disabilities
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¹ Refer to earlier guidance for details on getting approval for your EIA.

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<p>reviewed?</p>	<p>by Surrey County Council and the six Clinical Commissioning Groups in Surrey.</p> <p>The service covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventative and universal access services for 2375 children accessing short breaks, funded by Surrey County Council (July 2013); • Specialist support services for 785 (open cases June 2013) more severely disabled children including residential short breaks, short breaks in the child's own home or fostering, and day support services. <p>The former services are discretionary the later statutory following assessment of needs and meeting threshold for eligibility for health and /or social care support by health and/ or social care professional staff.</p>
<p>What proposals are you assessing?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The specific changes being consulted on are detailed in the review. • The implications of commissioning new services and possible closures/changes to some services depending on what decisions are agreed (following consultation on options). • The review recognises that the responsibility to meet individual child's assessed health and social care needs must be met in accordance with the legislation in the Children & Families Bill sections in children with special education needs and disabilities. In particular the requirement for an Education, Health and Care Plan with a personal budget that meets the disabled child's assessed needs.
<p>Who is affected by the proposals outlined above?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People affected by the joint strategic review are Children with Disabilities and their families in Surrey. • Other affected people are Council staff, and staff employed in public, private and voluntary sector organisations providing short breaks services.

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6. Sources of information

Engagement carried out
<p>Evidence from previous strategic reviews of the need for short breaks, the cost benefits of short breaks and the evidence of better quality of life for children and their families, using surrey data and national reports and research evidence.</p> <p>The Joint Strategic Review terms of reference includes seeking the views of parents; -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A questionnaire for parents was carried out in July 2013 and there were 63 responses.• SCC also offered to meet parents in 10 Surrey Special Schools. Two schools have taken up the offer so far; -<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Ridgeway School, Farnham – July 2013- Booklands School, Reigate – Oct 2013 <p>Options arising from the review will be consulted on before decision by Surrey County Council and NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups in Surrey.</p> <p>The review looks at the needs for short breaks for all children with disabilities , but particularly those children with complex needs - autism, challenging behaviour or profound and multiple disabilities.</p>
Data used
<p>In addition to data gathered from engagement activity, there is extensive qualitative and quantitative data regarding the needs for short breaks services for children with disabilities. We have used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National research by charities, think tanks or lobby groups.• <u>Surrey-i</u>, the local data and information portal and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment,• Service monitoring reports.• User feedback from previous consultations• Questionnaires to parents/families

7. Impact of the new/amended policy, service or function

In the tables below we have brought together our equality analysis and set out how the new/amended policy, service or function will affect children with disabilities and their carers and staff. This analysis considered how the policy, function or service would:

- advance equal opportunities;
- eliminate discrimination; and
- foster good relations between people that share protected characteristics and those that do not.

You should think about the potential equality impact on all of the protected characteristics listed. Remember that:

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- Our analysis and evidence gathered was proportionate to the likely scale of impact on children with disabilities, their families and staff sharing protected characteristics.
- Analysis was based on the information gathered from the data and engagement activities listed in section six. The options in the joint strategic review and this draft equality impact assessment will be consulted on and the results of any consultations will be taken into account in finalising the EIA and subsequent reports on implementing the decision taken. Specific details and comments that are relevant for protected characteristics are included in the EIA.
- We have listed every possible way the change might conceivably impact on children with disabilities and their families.
- Our analysis did not identify that the proposal needs to be amended in order to deal with the equalities implications identified in this EIA.
- Our analysis identified mitigating actions or ongoing monitoring required when the consultation is completed, and decision on the options is agreed.
- We consider that there will be no impact on particular protected characteristics for the reasons stated.

Annex 1 contains detailed guidance about the issues we considered when assessing impact of the joint strategic review.

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7a. Impact of the proposals on residents and service users with protected characteristics

Protected characteristic ²	Potential positive impacts	Potential negative impacts	Evidence
Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a range of short break services are available to children and young people up to 18 years of age. Any options will include future working with Adult Services to develop inclusive provision for 16-25 year olds. 	none	
Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The review objective is to achieve better outcomes for children with disabilities and their families. Working together with NHS Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Groups, should lead to a more co-ordinated service. 	If proposals put forward lead to the closure of a service this could have an adverse impact on CYP with disabilities and their families such as increased travel etc.	
Gender reassignment	none	none	
Pregnancy and maternity	none	none	

² More information on the definitions of these groups can be found [here](#).

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Race	none	none	
Religion and belief	none	none	
Sex	none	none	
Sexual orientation	none	none	
Marriage and civil partnerships	none	none	

7b. Impact of the proposals on staff with protected characteristics

Protected characteristic	Potential positive impacts	Potential negative impacts	Evidence
Age	none	none	
Disability	none	none	
Gender reassignment	none	none	
Pregnancy and maternity	none	none	

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Race	none	none	
Religion and belief	none	none	
Sex	none	none	
Sexual orientation	none	none	
Marriage and civil partnerships	none	none	

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8. Amendments to the proposals

Change	Reason for change
No changes were identified by the Equality Impact Assessment	

9. Action plan

Potential impact (positive or negative)	Action needed to maximise positive impact or mitigate negative impact	By when	Owner
If proposals put forward lead to the closure of a service, this could have an adverse impact on CYP with disabilities and their families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent/Carer Panel set up to ensure that the views of parents and carers are fully considered and to work together to agree proposals for wider consultation in the New Year. Wide public consultation process Options appraisal to understand full impact of any options put forward. 		

10. Potential negative impacts that cannot be mitigated

Potential negative impact	Protected characteristic(s) that could be affected
None identified	

11. Summary of key impacts and actions

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Information and engagement underpinning equalities analysis	National and Local Data from previous reviews and the Joint Strategic Review
Key impacts (positive and/or negative) on people with protected characteristics	The Review is to achieve best outcomes for children with disabilities and their families.
Changes you have made to the proposal as a result of the EIA	None
Key mitigating actions planned to address any outstanding negative impacts	Not applicable
Potential negative impacts that cannot be mitigated	None