

Equality Impact Assessment Record

Date of EIA January 29th 2009
 Directorate Social Care & Learning

		Step
Initial Screening Record		1/2
Activity to be assessed	Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC), Proposed Strategy 2009-2011	
What is the activity?	This activity is a strategy which sets out expenditure plans for a new government grant, together with the supporting evidence.	
Is it a new or existing activity?	New	
Aim / objective / purpose of the activity – who is the activity designed to benefit/target?	<p>The purpose of the activity is to: Implement the Government's transformation programme for disabled children's services in England. The programme is led jointly by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) and the Department of Health. There are two clear aspects to the Government's agenda. Firstly, the transformation of how services and support is provided to children with disabilities and their carers, and secondly, funding for a significant increase in the level of short breaks.</p> <p>The activity is designed for: All children and young people with disabilities who live in Bracknell Forest, and their families.</p>	
Who is responsible for the activity?	The person/section/team responsible for this policy/function is: Simon McKenzie, Head of Service, Learning Difficulties and Disability, simon.mckenzie@bracknell-forest.co.uk	
Did Step 1: Initial Screening indicate that a full EIA was necessary?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – full EIA completed and recorded below. <input type="checkbox"/> No – full EIA not completed therefore record ends here.	
Full EIA Record		
Who are the members of the EIA team?	Chris Mills, Simon McKenzie, Penny Reuter	
What evidence has been found to indicate that the activity might need to be amended? (Include any consultation undertaken)	<p>The strategy aims to achieve a significant increase in the level of inclusion for disabled children. The document was written in consultation with families, voluntary groups, the PCT and other providers, who are steering group members. The document states that:</p> <p>Within Bracknell Forest the AHDC steering group has agreed that improving the level of inclusion experienced by children with disabilities is critical to the delivery of effective support services to children with disabilities and their families. For the purpose of this strategy, inclusion has been defined by the steering group as: <i>'The ability of society to ensure that all children with or without disabilities participate effectively in all aspects of life and have the same opportunities and choices as any other child.'</i></p> <p>In order to achieve this aim, many service providers will need to be provided with training and support to develop a more positive approach to the use of their services by</p>	3/4

	<p>disabled children. In some instances children with disabilities will need specialist, targeted assistance in order to take advantage of available services.</p> <p>The strategy aims to significantly improve :</p> <p>Information Information about services must be easily accessible.</p> <p>Transparency Eligibility criteria for services must be clear and available to service users.</p> <p>Participation Services must fully involve children and their families in developing the support services they receive.</p> <p>Assessment Assessment must be integrated and co-ordinated across service areas, so that families are not asked the same questions about their needs by different agencies and professionals.</p> <p>Feedback Services must gather feedback to inform how services are developed in the future.</p>		
<p>With regard to the equalities themes, which groups might be impacted by the activity? Might any of these groups be impacted adversely?</p>	<p>Groups Impacted</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race and ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief</p> <p>All of these groups could be potentially impacted upon</p>	<p>Groups impacted adversely</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Race and ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Age <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation <input type="checkbox"/> Religion or belief</p> <p>All of these groups could potentially be adversely affected</p>	4
<p>What evidence is there to suggest an impact/adverse impact?</p>	<p>See above</p>	<p>See above</p>	
<p>On what grounds can impact or adverse impact be justified?</p>	<p>No adverse impact has been identified</p>		
<p>Is there any current action that addresses issues for any of the groups impacted/adversely impacted?</p>	<p>Not required</p>		
<p>What changes will you make to the activity reduce or remove any differential/adverse impact?</p>	<p>No adverse or differential impact has been identified.</p>		5
<p>Into which action plan/s will these actions be incorporated?</p>	<p>The strategy will be further developed to demonstrate clear plans for 2010/11 following further consultation with service users and other professionals during 2009/10.</p>		
<p>Who is responsible for the action plan?</p>	<p>Simon McKenzie, Head of Service, Learning Difficulties and Disability, simon.mckenzie@bracknell-forest.co.uk</p>		

Have any examples of good practice been identified as part of the EIA?	The strong emphasis on increasing the use of universal public facilities by children and young people with disabilities, and the attention to the needs of those with particularly complex needs.	6
Has the EIA been published on the Council website?	Yes it has been available on the Internet since 15 December 2008 as part of the consultation process.	
Who is the relevant Chief Officer and have they signed off the EIA?	<p>Chief Officer: Children's Social Care</p>  <p>Signature...Penny Reuter</p>	
Which PMR will this EIA be reported in?	2008-09 Q4	