

Equalities Screening Record Form

Date of Screening:	Directorate: Adult Social Care, Health and Housing (ASCHH)	Section: Joint Commissioning
1. Activity to be assessed	Joint Commissioning Strategy for Assistive Technology 2012-17 (5yrs)	
2. What is the activity?	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy/strategy	
3. Is it a new or existing activity?	<input type="checkbox"/> New	
4. Officer responsible for the screening	Zoë Johnstone: Chief Officer: Adults & Joint Commissioning	
5. Who are the members of the EIA team?	Nick Ireland -Head Of Learning Disability Services Amina Begum -Joint Commissioning Officer Faisal Mirza -Assistant Care Manager Claire Bennett -Forestcare Services Manager Naoma Dobson -Head Of Long Term Conditions & Continuing Health Care Andrew Hodby -Technical Development Officer Anna Mccafferty -Assistant Team Manager Jonathan Sly -Team Manager CR&R Jamie Kumari -Personal Facilitator Mary Waight -Occupational therapist Susan Nutter -Team Manager –Older People with Long term conditions	
6. What is the purpose of the activity?	<p>The Council and NHS Berkshire have developed this Assistive Technology strategy to ensure that the opportunities presented by assistive technology are maximised for the benefit of individuals and carers accessing support services.</p> <p>Assistive technologies present opportunities for health and social care to support people have greater choice and control over their lives. It is therefore time to further embrace assistive technology.</p> <p>Assistive technology can also provide a range of other wider benefits which have been identified nationally such as:</p> <p>Reducing the cost of providing support whilst increasing quality and choice. The Department of Health described some of the cost benefits of assistive technology for the wider health and</p>	

social care system as;

- Better targeted timing and sizing of care packages and support
- Greater choice of care and support options
- Reduction in residential placements
- Crisis avoidance, meaning fewer A&E and hospital admissions

The themes that emerged from the consultation exercise have informed the priorities of this strategy. These priorities will support;

1. *Enabling people to be supported to feel safe in their homes, and to live independently*
2. *Providing support for people to carry out everyday tasks*
3. *Providing people with opportunities to exercise control over their lives to do the things that matter to them*
4. *Give people the help and support when they need it which includes supporting family carers in their caring role*

Assistive Technology is defined as:

*“Any **device** or **system** that allows an individual to perform a task that they would otherwise be unable to do, or increase the ease and safety with which tasks can be performed” (The Royal Commission on Long Term Care 1999)*

Assistive technology, sometimes referred to as adaptive technology, is an umbrella term that includes assistive, adaptive, and rehabilitative devices for people with disabilities and also includes the process used in selecting, locating and using them. Assistive technology promotes greater independence by enabling people to perform tasks that they were formerly unable to accomplish, or had great difficulty accomplishing, by providing enhancements to, or changing methods or interacting with, the technology needed to accomplish such tasks.

Assistive technology plays a role in maintaining people's independence and allowing people to stay in their own homes. Effective use not only maximises independence, but is also a cost-effective way of supporting individuals who may otherwise have to rely on paid support to carry out the daily functions that the technology is assisting.

This Strategy covers the period 2012 to 2017. It takes account of the following data:

- Needs analysis of recent local consultation
- National and local policy context

	<p>The target groups for this activity is for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals eligible for support from ASCHH • Family Carers who care for someone who are eligible for support from ASCHH • Health and Social Care Practitioners 		
Protected Characteristics	<p>Please tick yes or no</p>	<p>Is there an impact? What kind of equality impact may there be? Is the impact positive or adverse or is there a potential for both? If the impact is neutral please give a reason.</p>	<p>What evidence do you have to support this? E.g. equality monitoring data, consultation results, customer satisfaction information etc Please add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform members decision making, include consultation results/satisfaction information/equality monitoring data</p>
8. Disability Equality	<p>Y N</p>	<p><i>Positive impact</i></p>	<p>The Strategy aims to support people eligible for services from ASCHH and to give equal access to be supported through the use of technology equipment if they so wish to do so. This also enables their family carers to be supported in order to carry out their caring role regardless of their ability or disability. This strategy aims to support and improve people's health and well-being. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.</p>
9. Racial equality	<p>Y N</p>	<p><i>Neutral impact</i></p>	<p>The Strategy aims to support anyone who is eligible for support from ASCHH, and their family carers irrespective of their racial identity. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.</p>

10. Gender equality	Y	N	<i>Neutral impact</i>	The Strategy aims to support anyone who is eligible for support from ASCHH, and their family carers irrespective of their gender. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.
11. Sexual orientation equality	Y	N	<i>Neutral impact</i>	The Strategy aims to support anyone who is eligible for support from ASCHH, and their family carers irrespective of their sexual orientation. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.
12. Gender re-assignment	Y	N	<i>Neutral impact</i>	The Strategy aims to support anyone who is eligible for support from ASCHH, and their family carers irrespective of their gender or gender reassignment. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.
13. Age equality	Y	N	<i>Positive impact</i>	This strategy supports individuals aged 18years and over who are eligible for support from ASCHH. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.
14. Religion and belief equality	Y	N	<i>Neutral impact</i>	The Strategy aims to support anyone who is eligible for support from ASCHH, and their family carers irrespective of their religious beliefs. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.
15. Pregnancy and maternity equality	Y	N	<i>Neutral impact</i>	The Strategy aims to support anyone who is eligible for support from ASCHH, and their family carers irrespective of whether someone is pregnant or in maternity. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.

16. Marriage and civil partnership equality	Y	N	<i>Neutral impact</i>	The Strategy aims to support anyone who is eligible for support from ASCHH, and their family carers irrespective of their marital status. There is no evidence at this time to suggest a differential impact currently.
17. Please give details of any other potential impacts on any other group (e.g. those on lower incomes/carer's/ex-offenders) and on promoting good community relations.	The strategy will positively impact the following groups; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with a Learning Disability • People with Dementia • People with Mental Health Issues • People with a Long term Condition • People with a Mental Health condition • People with Autism • People who are Elderly/Frail • People who have Sensory Impairment (hearing and visual impairment) • People with a Physical Disability 			
18. If an adverse/negative impact has been identified can it be justified on grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group or for any other reason?	No adverse impacts have been identified.			
19. If there is any difference in the impact of the activity when considered for each of the equality groups listed in 8 – 14 above; how significant is the difference in terms of its nature and the number of people likely to be affected?	Please explain N/A			
20. Could the impact constitute unlawful discrimination in relation to any of the Equality	Y	N		

Duties?			
21. What further information or data is required to better understand the impact? Where and how can that information be obtained?	In order to gather a better understanding of the impact of the strategy and implementation plan the Assistive Technology Steering Group will oversee the delivery and progress.		
22. On the basis of sections 7 – 17 above is a full impact assessment required?	Y	N	
23. If a full impact assessment is not required; what actions will you take to reduce or remove any potential differential/adverse impact, to further promote equality of opportunity through this activity or to obtain further information or data?			
Action	Timescale	Person Responsible	Milestone/Success Criteria
Develop an implementation plan to support the delivery of the strategy	January 2013	Nick Ireland	Resourced, time limited, measurable implementation plan to determine positive outcomes in place.
24. Which service, business or work plan will these actions be included in?	This strategy will be supported by an implementation plan.		
25. Please list the current actions undertaken to advance equality or examples of good practice identified as part of the screening?			
26. Chief Officers signature.	Signature: Zoe Johnstone		Date: 04/12/2012