

Equality Impact Assessment - Optional EqlA Review

Reference: EQIA123770465

Submitted: 11 June 2019 09:29 AM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: SEND Integrated Therapies

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): Re-procurement of an existing service that supports ECC's statutory duty to ensure that the Special Education provision in Education Health and Care Plans is made. The contract supports an integrated therapy service for Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy for pupils with an identified need within their EHCP.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Enable inclusive economic growth, Help people get the best start and age well

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Enable inclusive economic growth: Help people in Essex prosper by increasing their skills

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Help keep vulnerable children safer and enable them to fulfil their potential

Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?: a change to an existing policy, practice or project

Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqlA relates: Project Initiation Document - 1101 SEND Therapies

Please upload any documents which relate to this EqlA, for example decision documents: Project Initiation Document - 1101 SEND Therapies

Assessing the equality impact

Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision): On going liaison with front line staff and families in receipt of services along with contract management with the incumbent supplier, is informing the design of the new service moving forward, ensuring needs are met and services are fit for purpose as part of continuous improvement. The service has seen a 75% increase of usage in the last 2.5 years, in line with the rise seen in Education Health and Care Plans across the county.

Does or will the policy or decision affect:

Service users: Yes

Employees: No

The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities: No

Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?: All Essex

Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?: No

Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?: No

Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?: No

Description of impact

Description of Impact. If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank.:

Age, Disability - learning disability, Disability - mental health issues, Disability - physical impairment, Disability - sensory impairment

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The decision will have a positive impact for the users of the service as capacity will be available to provide therapy services, if required, to existing users of the service beyond the age of 19 and up to the age of 25 in line with the requirements of the Children and Families Act (2014)

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: The decision will have a positive impact for the users of the service as capacity will be available to provide therapy services, if required, to existing users of the service beyond the age of 19 and up to the age of 25 in line with the requirements of the Children and Families Act (2014)

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: The decision will have positive impact for those eligible for the service. The specification ensures that the service is appropriately resourced to meet the needs of the identified cohort.

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?: No

Details of person completing the form

I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance: I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

Date EqIA completed: 11/06/2019

Name of person completing the EqIA: Kate Martin

Email address of person completing the EqIA: Kate.Martin@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Social Care & Education

Your service area: SEND Strategy & Innovation

Your team: SEND Provision

Are you submitting this EqIA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: No

Email address of Head of Service: Ralph.Holloway@essex.gov.uk