

Equalities and Voluntary & Community Sector Screening

Member Portfolio: CYP								
Service: Early Years Commissioning								
Line title/Description of Decision: Early Years National Funding Formula								
Name of officer completing screening:			Jane Nicholls			Date completed:		07/03/2017
Equalities Screening						Yes	No	Maybe
Q1	Will the proposal have an impact on the public or service users directly (e.g. removing/reducing a service, changing mode/place of delivery or increasing charges)?						x	
Q2(a)	Will groups of people be affected differently by the proposal because of a protected characteristic as set out in the Equality Act 2010 (see below), or because of their geographic location or economic status?						x	
Q2 (b)	If “yes” or “maybe”, please indicate below by placing an X in the relevant box(es) below:							
	Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity Status	Race	Religion or Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
	Geographic location(s) (If any, please state):							
	Socio economic group(s) (If any, please state):							
Q3	Will the proposal have an impact on how other services are delivered by the county council, external suppliers or other statutory agencies (e.g. increased demand/costs)?						x	
Q4	Will the proposal have an impact on our employees (e.g. redundancy, change of place/mode of delivery, usual working practices)?						x	
Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) Screening						Yes	No	Maybe
Q5	Does the proposal have a direct impact on voluntary and community sector organisations either as a result of a reduction/cessation of funding (including where contracts are coming to an end and will not be renewed or new contracts are at lower cost)?						x	
Equalities/VCS Screening – further information								
Please include in the box below any information to help explain your answers to the screening questions. Where the proposal is a reduction please state what the total budget for the cost centre is prior to the proposal being implemented.								
(Please read text overleaf before completing this section)								
This service is necessary to comply with government guidance on the delegation and passporting of funding to the specific end users (eligible early years childcare providers).								

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Under the National Funding Formula we are required to consult with all childcare providers to agree a local funding formula which complies with Department for Education (DfE) guidelines. The consultation was carried out through an online survey forwarded to all schools and providers, and through a series of providers forums

The attached link gives the results of the consultation

[https://extranet.buckscc.gov.uk/early-years/eef-early-education-funding/early-years-national-funding-formula-\(eynff\)/](https://extranet.buckscc.gov.uk/early-years/eef-early-education-funding/early-years-national-funding-formula-(eynff)/)

Do I need to complete a full impact assessment?

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You should be familiar with the context and the scale of the proposal when set against the service being provided and, therefore, be able to make an informed decision as to whether a full impact assessment is necessary. The text below should help confirm that decision.

If you have answered “No” to all of the equalities and VCS screening questions, you will not need to continue with a full impact assessment. This could be because relevance to equalities or the VCS has not been identified, or because the amount of the proposal is too insignificant when set against the cost centre/team budget to have any impact on the Council’s Public Sector Equality Duty (see below). Whatever your reason for not carrying out an assessment, please ensure this is explained in the further information section on the preceding page.

If you have answered “Yes” or “Maybe” to one or more of the equalities screening questions you should consider completing an equalities impact assessment (EIA). Your decision and your approach should be based on proportionality and relevance. Please read through the EIA proforma as this is designed to prompt your thinking about the relevant issues such as:

- How the proposal will affect service provision to service users and residents (both now and in the future)
- Any known existing inequalities in service delivery/outcomes for residents
- The risk and cost to the council’s finances and reputation if there is a judicial review of the decision to implement the proposal
- The scale of the proposal when set against the future resources to deliver the service (i.e. how likely is a £29k cut in a £3mn budget going to affect performance against the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which, in essence, is to:
 1. **Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation**
 2. **Advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not by:
 - a. *Removing or minimising disadvantage that people in the protected groups suffer because its connected to that protected characteristic*
 - b. *Take steps to meet the needs of people from the protected groups where these differ to those of other people*
 - c. *Encourage participation from protected groups in public life or other activity where their participation is disproportionately low*
 3. **Foster good relations** between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not by:
 - a. *Tackling prejudice*
 - b. *Promoting understanding*

If you have answered “Yes” or “Maybe” to the VCS screening question you should complete a VCS impact assessment (VCS IA).

Please ensure that your Cabinet Member has agreed the outcome of the screening exercise as these will be collated and presented to them for sign off.

Please return this completed screening assessment to Yvette Thomas, Policy & Equality Manager, 4th floor, New County Offices. If you’re unsure how to proceed after completing the screening, please ring on 01296 387483 to discuss or by email to ythomas@buckscc.gov.uk