

Equality Impact Assessments Screening Proforma

Section One: About the Policy / Function

Service Group: CESC	Service: Short breaks for disabled children	Section: Complex and Additional Needs Team	Lead officer for EIA: Jane Harvey
Support officers: Dawn Coyle		Date EIA completed:	
General information			
(1) Name of Policy / Function:	Delivery of short breaks for disabled children following the ending of the Aiming High for Disabled Children initiative.		

<p>(2) Is this new or existing?</p>	<p>The Aiming High for Disabled Children Initiative has developed a range of short break provision for disabled children and their families in Stockton. The ring fenced funding for this has ended. Funding is now included in the EIG. From 1.4.11. the LA has to meet the short break duty</p> <p>The Short Breaks Duty states that the local authority must provide a range of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere • Overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere • Educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes and • Services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the schools holidays. <p>Therefore although Aiming High for Disabled Children has ended, the LA still has a duty to provide short break services.</p>
<p>(3) What is the overall aim(s) of the policy / function?</p>	<p>To continue to develop short break provision in Stockton in order to meet the short break duty.</p>
<p>(4) What are the objectives of the policy / function?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All parents of disabled children are able to access a short break • A range of short breaks is available to meet a range of needs • A core offer for short breaks is available • There is clear parental involvement in the development of services • The voluntary and community sector are involved in the provision of short breaks

(5) Who are the main customer groups of this policy / function?	Children with disabilities/complex and additional needs and their families
(6) What are the potential and actual numbers of customers in each group?	In the last quarter of 2010/11 1120 disabled children received a short breaks service. Of these 221 were autistic young people with severe learning disabilities or behaviour which was challenging. 87 of the 1120 has complex health needs including life limiting conditions.
(7) Who implements this policy / function within Stockton-on-Tees and how?	The CAN team has overseen the implementation of the development of short breaks during the Aiming High Initiative and will continue to work on the development of such services from April 2011.
(8) Are any partner agencies involved in the delivery of this policy / function? If so, whom?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other services within Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council e.g. Strategy team, finance, legal • Voluntary/community sector groups who have delivered short break provision that has been commissioned • Stockton United for Change – parents group which works in partnership with the LA to develop services.
(9) Are other services affected by this policy / function?	Potentially
(10) If yes, please state which policies or functions are affected and whether this is a positive or negative impact?	Social care functions are potentially affected in that lack of short break provision can put additional stress on families which can lead to greater need for services and also potential for children to become LAC.
(11) Would it be better to combine assessment of this policy /function with others closely related into one impact assessment?	No

Section One: Data Review and Analysis

Data Source	When and how collected	Significant findings Age	Significant findings Disability	Significant findings Faith	Significant findings Gender	Significant findings Race	Significant findings Sexual Orientation
Nationally Collected Data eg: Census Performance Indicators		<p>The findings below relate to disability:</p> <p>Feedback from parents in this report demonstrates that, when delivered appropriately, the short breaks improvement programme is changing lives. Not only has it facilitated the development of innovative practice and ensured many families are able to access regular, reliable and appropriate short breaks, it has also raised the expectations of disabled children and their families. As a result, a transformation process has been set into motion and will be expected to continue. Parents and disabled children will demand the support that they need to ensure that they can enjoy the same quality of life as any other family. (Every disabled child matters- Short Breaks tracking report – June 2010 No going back)</p> <p>There is clear evidence from the evaluation that better outcomes are achieved in terms of short breaks that meet family wishes, are more inclusive and meet the widely varying need and wishes of children and young people if there is significant investment in mechanisms that involve families at all levels of commissioning and provision. Together for Disabled Children short breaks path finder evaluation – Rob Grieg</p>					
Locally Collected data eg: Viewpoint panel, Mori Survey	LAIMP and tracker data sent to TDC See above number 6	<p>Together for Disabled Children (TDC) have gathered evidence from Local Areas confirming that Short Breaks are a Cost-Effective Way of Providing Family Support Services. A “systematic population needs analysis” that has included finding out what families really need and would help alleviate the responsibility of caring, has led to more effectively tailored breaks. Many of these breaks are in universal services, making them more accessible to families without having to undertake formal assessments. Short breaks are an integral part of an early intervention strategy. Having a good level of provision that meets needs of the families needing support prevents crises arising later on. Enabling easier and speedier access (by having a high level of volume and range in open access models of provision) means that families often need less support than if they were kept waiting for more specialist types of support when they are older. Research shows that timeliness, reliability and regularity are key to coping. Short breaks prevent many disabled children entering the looked after</p>					

		<p>children (LAC) system. TDC research with 17 areas showed that they were successfully using short breaks as a means of preventing children entering the LAC system and from requiring emergency, high cost placements, particularly when a high level of good quality short breaks provision was offered in school holiday times. The cost savings for the 22 children in the study were reported to be almost £2million. Short breaks are likely to reduce the need for costly out of borough placements. During the short breaks programme, children living in 'out of area placements' have decreased considerably and this will have a huge impact on budgets.</p> <p>Together for Disabled Children 2011 3 10th March 2011 Sustaining Short Breaks Development v2.0</p>
<p>Service area data eg: comments and complaints, user surveys or evaluation forms</p>	<p>Parents views collected through United for change conference 29.3.11.</p>	
<p>Other data</p>		

Stage 2 Scoring the Policy

Now that you have all the information available you can move onto scoring the policy for impact:

	Does it reduce discrimination?	Does it or is it likely to promote equality of opportunity?	Does it promote good relations between groups?	Does it encourage participation in public life and access to council services?	Does it promote positive attitudes and images to different groups?	Total Score for strand
Age	2	2	2	2	2	10
Disability	3	3	3	3	3	15
Faith/Belief	2	2	2	2	2	10
Gender	2	2	2	2	2	10
Race	2	2	2	2	2	10
Sexual Orientation	2	2	2	2	2	10
Total Score						65

Scoring System:

- Score 3 if the policy has a positive effect
- Score 2 if the policy has a neutral effect.
- Score 1 if the policy has a negative effect
- If a score has been awarded due to lack of data rather than anticipated effect please indicate by using **ND**

Equality Impact Assessments Summary Sheet

Name of Policy / Function Short breaks for disabled children

Service and Service Group: CESC/CAN

Responsible Officer: Jane Harvey

Form completed by: Jane Harvey

Date: 5.4.11.

Stage 1 Collecting information and data to support the assessment

Date completed: 4.4.11.

Stage 2 Scoring the Policy

Impact Assessment Score

65

Action Taken

No action required

x

Policy to be amended (action plan attached):

Substantiate aims of the policy as originally proposed:

The policy / function has not been amended because:

The proposals in the EIG report will allow for sustained provision of short breaks for disabled children.

Stage 3 Publication and Monitoring

Date of Publication

Date Set for Review.....

Action Plan:

This action plan highlights how the policy will be amended to address the issues highlighted in the Equalities Impact Assessment. Longer term issues will be developed into actions within the relevant Service Improvement Plan.

Objective - To ensure _____ Policy / Function is being delivered so all residents have equal opportunities to benefit from its aims and objectives.		
Key Actions	Who is responsible?	When will it be done?