

Equality Impact Assessments Screening Proforma

Section One: About the Strategy / Policy / Function

Service Group: CESC	Service: Business Support and Improvement	Section: Planning and Quality Assurance	Lead officer for EIA: Martin Graham
Support officers: N/A		EIA Completion date: 23 August 2011	
General information			
(1) Name of Policy / Function:	Family and Friends Care Policy		
(2) Is this new or existing	New		
(3) What is the overall aim(s) of the policy / function?	The aim of the policy is to set out a framework for the provision of support to family and friends carers..		
4) What are the objectives of the policy / function?	The objective of the policy is to ensure the implementation of the duties contained in the Children Act 1989 in respect of children and young people who, because they are unable to live with their parents, are being brought up by members of their extended families, friends or other people connected with them.		
(5) Who implements this policy / function within Stockton-on-Tees and how?	CESC Operations		

(6) Are any partner agencies involved in the delivery of this policy / function? If so, whom?	The policy applies to all Children, Education and Social Care Staff. It is also relevant to all staff in the Council's partner agencies who work with children and young people in the Stockton on Tees Borough Council area with particular relevance to local housing providers.
(7) Are other services affected by this policy / function? If yes which are they	None

Data Review and Analysis

The data analysis should be used to identify who are the actual and potential customers for this policy. And any significant findings across the diversity strands

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	Family and Friends Care: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities , Department for Education 2010 https://www.education.gov.uk/publications Accessed 23/08/11	<p>Whilst most children are brought up by one or more of their parents, it is estimated that nationally over 300,000 children are cared for full time by a relative, friend or other person previously connected with the child. Of these, as of 31 March 2010 some 7,200 children were “looked after” children who were placed with family members and friends who had been approved as foster carers.</p> <p>Family and friends carers play a unique role in enabling children and young people to remain with people they know and trust if they cannot, for whatever reason, live with their parents. These children may or may not be looked after by the local authority, or even known to it. The majority of the relatives who provide care are grandparents, aunts and uncles, but the group includes others such as older siblings.</p> <p>Many children who live in family and friends care do well in life, but others are vulnerable to failing to achieve good outcomes. Many family and friends carers both want and need support to enable them to meet the needs of the children they care for. Whilst every child must be considered on an individual basis according to their needs, this guidance sets out a framework for local authorities and their partners to use in assessing the need for, and providing, such support.</p> <p>There is an important policy focus on narrowing the gap in outcomes between children from disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers in ways that reflect local circumstances. The provision of effective inter-agency support to family and friends carers is one way to help</p>					

		<p>achieve this. Agencies should consider the needs of children living with family and friends carers when they are targeting their early intervention services, and reflect these needs in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, which is a joint assessment of the health and wellbeing of the local community made by the local authority and health services.</p> <p>Each local authority with responsibility for children’s services must, no later than 30 September 2011, publish a policy setting out its approach towards promoting and supporting the needs of children living with family and friends carers. The policy must address the needs of children in family and friends care, whether or not they are looked after children, and should be clearly expressed, regularly updated, made freely and widely available and publicised by relevant means, such as websites and leaflets.</p> <p>Not all children who are cared for by family and friends carers will be looked after by the local authority. Some arrangements may simply require the kind of support which the local authority can offer under section 17 of the 1989 Act, In such informal arrangements, this support can be seen within the broader context of enabling family members to provide support and care to each other, supported by adults’ and children’s services working together.</p> <p>Each local authority with responsibility for children’s services must, no later than 30 September 2011, publish a policy setting out its approach towards promoting and supporting the needs of children living with family and friends carers. The policy must address the needs of children in family and friends care, whether or not they are looked after children, and should be clearly expressed, regularly updated, made freely and widely available and publicised by relevant means, such as websites and leaflets.</p>
<p>Locally collected data eg: Vewpoint panel, Mori surveys</p>	<p>Stockton-on-Tees Children’s Trust Children and Young People’s plan 2009-12 (Review 2009-10)</p>	<p>47,700 children and young people live in the borough (0-19) and make up 25% of the population. Of these, 11,515 are under 5, with 29,317 being of school age. 2,500 children are considered to be from BME backgrounds equating to nearly 7% of the population. The number of children in the borough overall is estimated to rise to 49,300 by 2033.</p> <p>Profile of children and young people’s needs and social and economic disparities across the borough are reflected in the life experiences of children and young people; inequalities in economic prosperity, in health, in educational attainment, in access to sport, leisure and</p>

		<p>culture, and in social exclusion and offending. A key aim for all agencies involved in Children's Services is to narrow these gaps by improving services for all children across the borough and to prioritise services for the most in need.</p> <p>Number of children in care (March 2010): 287</p> <p>Key Action within 2.1 Key priority: Stay safe: Continue to improve the outcomes for Children in Care is to Implement the outcomes of the EIT Review of Children's and Young people Placements, one of which was to develop a Kinship care Policy (now Family and Friends Policy)</p>
Service area data eg: comments and complaints, user surveys or evaluation forms	Local data	Current number of children in care within the local authority (August 2011): ~300
Other data		N/A

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	3	3	2	2	2	12
Disability	3	3	2	2	2	12
Faith/Belief	3	3	2	2	2	12
Gender	3	3	2	2	2	12
Race	3	3	2	2	2	12
Sexual Orientation	3	3	2	2	2	12
Total Score						72

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**

Action Plan:

This action plan highlights that will address the issues highlighted in the Equalities Impact Assessment. Longer term issues will be developed into actions within the relevant Service Improvement Plan. They will also be included in the Disability, Gender and Race Action plans that form part of the Council's Single Equality Scheme

Objective - To ensure the Family and Friends Care Policy is being delivered so all residents have equal opportunities to benefit from its aims and objectives.		
Key Actions	Who is responsible?	Timescale
Staff training to be in place	Head of C&YP Operational Services, CESC.	March 2012
Policy to be reviewed		By Sept 2014

Stage 3 Publication and Monitoring	Published Score
Date of Publication	72
Date Set for Review.....	