

# Diversity impact assessment

<b>TITLE</b>	Joint SEND Strategy
<b>DATE</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> September 2019
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	Wendy Vincent Head of Integrated 0-25 Disability Services

## 1 Summary description of the proposed change

This is a Joint SEND Strategy that sets the priorities and actions to meet these priorities that the Local Authority and CCG will jointly do to ensure the needs of children and young people who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Medway.

This strategy has been co-produced with parents, carers and young people. It replaces the Local Authorities SEND Strategy and has been developed as part of the improvements following the SEND Local Area inspection 2017 which recommended that a joint Local Area Strategy be published to replace the Medway Council SEND Strategy that was approved by Cabinet in May 2017 and the CCG SEND Priority Document.

## 2 Summary of evidence used to support this assessment

This Joint Strategy has been co-produced with parents, carers and young people. They assisted to develop the key priorities and the actions that sit under these.

The strategy has been widely consulted on including targeted consultations with schools, parents, carers and young people.

The strategy addresses gaps in provision identified during Joint Strategic Needs Analysis as well as via feedback from schools, parents, carers and young people.

Benchmarking and national data has also been used to inform the strategy and priorities.

## 3 What is the likely impact of the proposed change?

The Joint SEND Strategy aims to have a positive impact on the lives of children and young people aged 0-25 who have a disability and/or special educational need and their carers and families.

(insert  in one or more boxes)

<b>Protected characteristic groups (Equality Act 2010)</b>	<b>Adverse impact</b>	<b>Advance equality</b>	<b>Foster good relations</b>
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Age		✓	✓
Disability		✓	✓
Gender reassignment			
Marriage/civil partnership			
Pregnancy/maternity			
Race			
Religion/belief			
Sex			
Sexual orientation			
Other (eg low income groups)			

#### 4 Summary of the likely impacts

The Joint SEND Strategy Action Plan aims to have a positive impact on the lives of children and young people aged 0-25 who have a special educational need and/or disability and their families and carers.

The strategy will assist this population group to have their needs met in a better way, to be included in school and to ensure that they are assisted to achieve their potential.

**This strategy also provides a strategic picture to partner agencies.**

#### 5 What actions can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impacts, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations?

N/A

#### 6 Action plan

- Actions to mitigate adverse impact, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations and/or obtain new evidence

Action	Lead	Deadline or review date
Formal consultation process to ensure that the voice of the service users is integrated into the plan	Wendy Vincent	Completed May 2019

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Regular monitoring of progress against the plan through the SEND Improvement Board	Wendy Vincent	monthly
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## 7 Recommendation

The recommendation by the lead officer should be stated below. This may be:

- to proceed with the change, implementing the Action Plan if appropriate
- consider alternatives
- gather further evidence

If the recommendation is to proceed with the change and there are no actions that can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impact, it is important to state why.

Proceed

## 8 Authorisation

The authorising officer is consenting that:

- the recommendation can be implemented
- sufficient evidence has been obtained and appropriate mitigation is planned
- the Action Plan will be incorporated into the relevant Service Plan and monitored

**Director**

**Date**

Contact your Performance and Intelligence hub for advice on completing this assessment

RCC:	phone 2443	email: <a href="mailto:annamarie.lawrence@medway.gov.uk">annamarie.lawrence@medway.gov.uk</a>
C&A (Children's Social Care):	contact your usual P&I contact	
C&A (all other areas):	phone 4013	email: <a href="mailto:jackie.brown@medway.gov.uk">jackie.brown@medway.gov.uk</a>
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