

TITLE
Name/description of the issue being assessed

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Capital Programme to provide additional places.

DATE
Date the DIA is completed

4 August 2020

LEAD OFFICER
Name of person responsible for carrying out the DIA.

**Paul Clarke
Ext 1031**

1 Summary description of the proposed change

- *What is the change to policy/service/new project that is being proposed?*
- *How does it compare with the current situation?*

To provide additional SEND places for a range of needs across medway. The places will be provided in a number of ways.

- **Expansions of Schools**
- **Supporting New free school**
- **Providing resourced unit capacity**

2 Summary of evidence used to support this assessment

- *Eg: Feedback from consultation, performance information, service user records etc.*
- *Eg: Comparison of service user profile with Medway Community Profile*

A needs assessment was undertaken and highlighted the need for additional provision within Medway to reduce significantly the number of pupils placed out of area in residential, independent or other authority placements.

This was to reduce current levels of out of area placements but also to mitigate the need going forward as numbers of pupils continue to rise.

3 What is the likely impact of the proposed change?

Is it likely to :

- *Adversely impact on one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
- *Advance equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
- *Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't?*

(insert ✓ in one or more boxes)

Protected characteristic groups	Adverse impact	Advance equality	Foster good relations
Age		yes	
Disability		yes	

Gender reassignment		N/A	
Marriage/civil partnership		N/A	
Pregnancy/maternity		N/A	
Race		N/A	
Religion/belief		N/A	
Sex		N/A	
Sexual orientation		N/A	
Other (eg low income groups)		N/A	

4 Summary of the likely impacts

- *Who will be affected?*
- *How will they be affected?*

By creating additional places within Medway, pupils with SEND will be able to remain in education close to their families, friends and communities, which will improve the monitoring of education provision, help with the improved well-being of the pupils and foster better community cohesion for the pupils and their families.

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

- *Are there alternative providers?*
- *What alternative ways can the Council provide the service?*
- *Can demand for services be managed differently?*

There are not expected to be adverse impacts upon pupils or their families if the proposals are implemented. All impacts will be positive and improve the education and well being of vulnerable pupils.

The additional places will provide an opportunity for all pupils to be placed in the most appropriate provision to meet their needs.

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
As all impacts are expected to be positive actions to mitigate adverse effects are limited. However, the DIA should be reviewed upon completion of the programme of expansions to ensure that sufficient places do exist and that the positive impacts expected have been realised.	PC	Dec 2024

7 Recommendation

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

- *to proceed with the change implementing 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 with the implementation of the proposals to provide the additional places.

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 service plan and monitored*

Assistant Director

Date

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

RCC: phone 2443 email annamarie.lawrence@medway.gov.uk

C&A: phone 1031 email paul.clarke@medway.gov.uk

BSD: phone 2472 or 1490 email: corppi@medway.gov.uk

PH: phone 2636 email: david.whiting@medway.gov.uk

Send completed assessment to the Corporate Performance & Intelligence Hub (CPI) for web publication