



EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Partial Assessment Form

Policy, practice, function or project assessed	Youth Participation Strategy
Lead Officer	Susannah Harris and Tracy Mann
Team	Paul Williams, Susannah Harris, Jane Thompson, Tracy Mann
Start date of assessment	05/02/2010
Completion of assessment	

Please use this form to record your findings in relation to the assessment of an existing policy, function, service or practice.

A. POLICY, PRACTICE, FUNCTION OR PROJECT TO BE ASSESSED

A1. Please describe what are the main aims, objectives, purpose and intended outcomes of the policy or function?

The Children and Young People's Participation Strategy will provide clear guidance for South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) to translate the good intentions, government guidelines and local authority strategies into meaningful and effective ways for children and young people to be heard and to influence the decision-making that takes place within SCDC. It is the intention that this Strategy will be adopted by the Cabinet to facilitate the achievements of its objectives across SCDC and the District for the benefit of children and young people and their communities.

SCDC seeks to embed children and young people's participation in all aspects of service planning which have an impact on their lives and this strategy supports and sits beneath the County Council's Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership (OCYPS) Participation Strategy's objectives, which are:

- To develop structures to facilitate children and young people's active involvement in service planning and delivery.
- To provide routes for children and young people's views to be fed into decision-making at all levels.
- To provide opportunities for children and young people to engage at a level they choose.
- To develop structures for monitoring children and young people's active involvement and measuring its impact on service provision.

The objectives of SCDC's Youth Participation Strategy will support the delivery of the Big Plan2 as well as fulfilling our commitment to implementing the National Indicator (NI) 110 - Young people's participation in positive activities, SCDC's Corporate Objectives and Aims and the Local Area Authority (LAA) priorities.

A2. Is this policy or function associated with any other Council policy or priority?

SCDC's Sustainable Communities Strategy

SCDC's Community Engagement Strategy

Every Child Matters

Every Disabled Child Matters

Youth Matters 2005

Aiming High for Young People 2007

Children Act 2004

Cambridgeshire Big Plan1 and Big Plan2

Huntingdon District Council's Children and Young People's Active Involvement Strategy 2009

SCDC's Statement of Community Involvement (draft) 2009

SCDC's Safeguarding Children Audit 2009

Councils' five aims:

AIM - We are committed to being a listening council, providing first class services accessible to all.

AIM - we are committed to ensuring that South Cambridgeshire continues to be a safe and healthy place for you and your family.

AIM - we are committed to making South Cambridgeshire a place in which residents can feel proud to live.

AIM - We are committed to assisting provision for local jobs for you and your family.

AIM - We are committed to providing a voice for rural life.

A3. Who are the intended beneficiaries/stakeholders of the policy or function? How many people are affected and from what sections of the community?

All children and Young People (up to age 19 or 25 if disabled) living in South Cambridgeshire.

A4. Is the policy/function corporate and far-reaching?

Yes and it ties in with Cambridgeshire County Council's big plan 2 along with contributing towards supporting every child matters outcomes.

- To help children and young people feel safe and happy in their communities.
- To narrow the gap in outcomes for children and young people.
- To improve outcomes for children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities and complex needs.
- To meet the needs of children and young people in areas of growth or demographic change.

A5. Are you expecting to make any significant change to the policy or service in the near future? If so, please give details.

The Strategy is currently out for public consultation (29 January – 23 April 2010). Following consultation the strategy will be reviewed and sent to the New Communities Portfolio Holder for approval in July 2010.

A6. Is this a new or existing policy or function?

This is a new policy.

B. EVIDENCE/ DATA and CONSULTATION

It is important to consider all information that is available in determining whether the policy or function could have a differential impact. Please attach examples of monitoring information, research or consultation reports.

B1. What monitoring or other information do you have about relevant target groups, which will show the impact of the policy or function?

We will monitor how many children and young people we engage with through delivery of the strategy's action plan. South Cambridgeshire has an ageing population. In future the percentage of children and young people is forecast to decrease whilst the percentage of population aged 65+ is forecast to increase significantly. Population forecasts predict that the percentage of children and young people (0-19) is forecast to decrease by 2.4 percentage points from 25% in 2001 to 22.6% in 2021.

B2. Have you compared the data you have with the equality profile of the local population? What does it show?

The total population for South Cambs is 130,000; children and young people make up 25% of this. In the newer communities such as Cambourne and Orchard Park, children make up a higher proportion of the population than in the more established communities.

B3. Have you identified any improvements or other changes that could be made from monitoring the data?

These will be identified following the consultation.

B4. Have you consulted or involved external stakeholders about the policy or function? If so, what were their views?

Yes, the strategy is out for consultation January 29 – April 23 2010 and a wide number of public sector, voluntary organisations, children's and youth groups have been notified of it. There is also a link on the council's web site and article in the spring edition of the South Cambs magazine.

B5. Have you undertaken any consultation with staff to assess their perception of any impacts of the policy or function? If so, what has been learnt from them?

Yes a workshop was held in September 2009 to gauge the views of staff and partners on engagement across the board especially in the growth areas. It was agreed that

- A Growth Engagement Plan would benefit all partners
- Partners would liaise with their organisations about a partnership approach to engagement
- A discussion took place about using best practice from other areas experiencing growth
- A lengthy discussion took place about coordinating engagement and making it user friendly for people.
- By coordinating engagement calendars an up to date log of engagement could be maintained.

B6. Please provide information about any other consultation, research, or involvement undertaken in relation to this impact assessment.

YIP project in Cambourne – Children and young people finding out more about how they can influence services.

Orchard Park and Cambourne surveys – follow up to Place Survey.

Hardwick and Gamlingay youth videos.

Scrutiny research into the wants of young people in specific localities.

C1. IMPACT OF THE POLICY OR FUNCTION

Assess the potential impact on each of the equality strands/groups. The impact could be negative, positive or neutral. If you assess a negative impact for any of the groups then you will need to assess whether that impact is low, medium or high. Refer to the evidence you use.

DESCRIPTION OF IMPACT	Nature of Impact (Positive, Neutral, Adverse)	Extent of Impact (Low, Medium, High)
GENDER: Identify the potential impact of the policy or function on men and women	Positive	
Gender neutral, promotes equal involvement for both genders. Youth workers target disengaged groups, e.g. boys.		
RACE: Identify the potential impact of the policy or function on different race/ethnic groups	Positive	
Working with Traveller Education, Travellers officer and Ormiston Children and Families Trust.		
DISABILITY: Identify the potential impact of the policy or function on disabled people	Positive	
Working with Speaking Up, Disability Youth Parliament.		
AGE: Identify the potential impact of the policy or function on different age groups	Positive	
Schools, Young Lives, Cambridge Voluntary Services.		
SEXUAL ORIENTATION: potential impact of the policy on lesbian, gay men, bisexual or heterosexual people	Positive	
Circle 33, Romsey mill, SexUality, dhiversity and extra services for children and young people.		
RELIGION/FAITH: Identify the potential impact the policy on different religious/faith groups	Neutral	
Not targeted specifically.		
OTHER	Positive	
Young parents, young carers, children and young people at risk of homelessness and children and young people isolated in rural communities.		

PLEASE NOTE: Following completion of the section above, if the nature of the impact is adverse then you may need to proceed to a full equality impact assessment.

C2. Could you minimise or remove any adverse or potential impact that is high, medium or low significance, in advance of a full impact assessment? Explain how.

N/A

C3. Does the policy or function actively promote equal opportunities and good community relations? Or could changes be made so that it does so?

Yes

C4. Please provide any further information, qualitative or quantitative that does not fit into the questions but you feel has a likely impact on this assessment.

Success of reaching communities funding bid will impact on what can be delivered through the action plan.

Restructure of New Communities will have an impact on the delivery of the action plan.

Support from Corporate Managers to allow staff to participate in departmental youth groups and training.

D. CONCLUSIONS			
D1. Was there sufficient data to complete the partial assessment?	Yes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If “NO”, what arrangements are in place for evidence gathering and continuing with the assessment?
	No?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
D2. Is the outcome of the partial assessment that the policy or function would have an adverse impact (medium or high impact) on one or more target group?	Yes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	If “YES”, will you proceed to a full assessment? If so, what arrangements are in place to carry out the full assessment?
	No?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
D3. Is the outcome of the partial assessment that the policy or function would have a neutral or positive impact on equalities?	Yes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If “YES”, have you included proposals in the Action Plan to further improve the impact of the policy or function on equalities?
	No?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Do you plan to review the service or policy again in future to assess whether there has been any change? If so, when? Has the Equalities Steering Group and the Consultative Forum reviewed the assessment? If so what were their comments?
D4. Do you have any other conclusions/outcomes from the partial assessment?			
Awaiting the results of the consultation to complete the EQIA in May 2010.			

ACTION PLAN for enhancing existing practice

Recommendation/ issue to be addressed	Planned Milestone	Planned completion of milestone (date)	Officer Responsible	Progress
Consultation on draft Strategy	Ending 23 April 2010	23/04/10	Tracy Mann	
Final Strategy for adoption by PFH	July 2010	July 2010	Tracy Mann	
Actions in the final approved action plan linked to the YPS.	July 2010 action plan approved	July 2010	Tracy Mann	

RESOURCES

Does the above action plan require any additional resources?

Yes financial and staffing.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR MONITORING

Please give your plans for monitoring the achievement of the above actions.

Action plan in the strategy to be monitored by New Communities/Tracy Mann.

SIGN OFF: The officers below confirm that this partial assessment has been completed in accordance with the Council's guidance

Signature of Lead Officer

Date:

Signature of Corporate Manager or Chief Officer:

Date:

Please retain the original form on your service area and return a copy of the completed form to the Equality & Diversity Officer.