

Annual Council Report – Social Services
2012/2013
17 June 2013

Equality Impact Assessment

Annual Council Report – Social Services 2012/2013

Contact: Craig MacLeod

Updated: 17.06.13

1. What type of proposal / decision is being assessed?

A strategic or service plan

Statutory role and accountabilities of the Director of Social Services issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970.

2. What is the purpose of this proposal / decision, and what change (to staff or the community) will occur as a result of its implementation?

Director of Social Services requirement to produce an annual report which summarises the effectiveness of the authority's social care services and priorities for improvement. Commitment to modernisation / Delivery of agenda = Changes that deliver cost effective, sustainable services that ensure vulnerable people are protected and that people receive high quality services that provide dignity in care and good outcomes.

3. Does this proposal / decision require an equality impact assessment? If no, please explain why.

*Please note: if the proposal will have an impact on people (staff or the community) then an equality impact assessment **must** be undertaken*

Yes

<If no, briefly summarise the reasons for this decision here, and skip ahead to the declaration at the end>

4. Please provide a summary of the steps taken, and the information used, to carry out this assessment, including any engagement undertaken

(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for guidance)

Feedback from service users and carers through existing quality assurance systems.

Self-assessment engagement - both Adults and Children's Services

Findings from CSSIW inspections 2012/2013.

Evidence to demonstrate self-assessment and associated judgements -

information submitted to the Care & Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW). Consultation on & response on proposed Social Services and Wellbeing Bill. Report to Scrutiny 16.05.13 - provided Scrutiny with our self-assessment of social care in Denbighshire and identified improvement priorities 2013/2014 & clear account of performance.

Assessed against set of outcome statements developed by Social Services Improvement Agency (SSIA).

Investment in preventative and early intervention services.

Identified cross Council/service and cross-sector solutions including community led initiatives - engagement with other departments, for example Marketing & Leisure Services, Housing, Internal Audit, Environmental Services.

Intranet statistical data provided by the Corporate Improvement Team.

Risk mitigation : Risk Registers mainstream ACRF work.

Additional funding identified to support the delivery of priorities in the Corporate Plan including 1 year Welsh Government budget protection for social services – fund the associated priorities in ACRF (Chief Finance Officer statement).

Draft assessment shared with CSSIW.

Peer review process with Flintshire CC – analysis and review.

Good practice research commissioned by the Welsh Government – eg. National Review of Outcomes for Children & Young People

Full Council – July 2013.

- 5. Will this proposal / decision have a positive impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**
(Please refer to section 1 in the toolkit for a description of the protected characteristics)

Increase in investment in preventative and early intervention services will have a positive impact on citizens to be independent, resilient and able (Scrutiny Report 16.05.13). Potentially all protected characteristics could be affected but for certain we know that age and disability are/will be.

- 6. Will this proposal / decision have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics (age; disability; gender-reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation)?**

Identified that some change will be unpopular, however, none are envisaged to have a disproportionate negative impact on any of the protected characteristics. Through our modernising social services work we will reduce any potential for people feeling socially isolated/lonely following short term intervention. Actions includes:

- effective signposting to community support and networks through our SPA (Single Point of Access) and as part of our assessment processes

- input into the development of the Big Plan Part 2 through work on community cohesion and responding to the needs of people living in rural communities

This will enable the services to put in place effective measures to eradicate any differential or negative impact to any of the equality target groups/protected characteristics. .

7. Has the proposal / decision been amended to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate negative impact? If no, please explain why.

<Please Select>	All due process has been carried out to ensure all `reasonable' efforts have been carried out to mitigate any impact. Directly contributes to Corporate Priority 4: Vulnerable people are protected and are able to live as independently as possible (eliminate or reduce any potential negative impact).
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8. Have you identified any further actions to address and / or monitor any potential negative impact(s)?

Yes	See below challenges and improvement priorities which relate to all citizens + EqIA review
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Action(s)	Owner	By when?
Appendix 2 provides an overview of the challenges for both Adult & Business and Children's Services (Scrutiny Report 16.05.13)	Craig MacLeod & Vicky Allen	2013/2014
Improvement priorities contained in the 2013/2014 Annual Report respond to the requirements and expectations of the Welsh Government's Social Services and Wellbeing Bill	Craig MacLeod & Vicky Allen	2013/2014
All new service developments to deliver the priorities identified in the annual report will be subject to the EQIA process	Gwynfor Griffiths & Vicky Allen	Quarterly

9. Declaration

Every reasonable effort has been made to eliminate or reduce any potential disproportionate impact on people sharing protected characteristics. The actual impact of the proposal / decision will be reviewed at the appropriate stage.

Review Date:	17.06.2014
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Name of Lead Officer for Equality Impact Assessment	Date
Craig MacLeod	17.06.2013

Please note you will be required to publish the outcome of the equality impact assessment if you identify a substantial likely impact.
