

Equality Impact Assessment Template

Please complete this template using the [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance document](#)

Version 4: January 2019

Title of proposal <i>(include forward plan reference if available)</i>	Corporate Parenting Strategy 2020-2023
Directorate and Service Area	Children's Services
Name and title of Lead Officer completing this EIA	Charlotte Moriarty Corporate Parenting Co-ordinator
Contact Details	charlotte_moriarty@sandwell.gov.uk 0121 569 3529
Names and titles of other officers involved in completing this EIA	
Partners involved with the EIA where jointly completed	
Date EIA completed	
Date EIA signed off or agreed by Director or Executive Director	
Name of Director or Executive Director signing off EIA	Lesley Hagger Executive Director of Children's Services
Date EIA considered by Cabinet Member	

See [Equality Impact Assessment Guidance](#) for key prompts that must be addressed for all questions

1. The purpose of the proposal or decision required (Please provide as much information as possible)

The proposal is a refreshed Corporate Parenting Strategy (2020-2023). The strategy sets out how we plan to further improve the support we offer to our Children in Care and Care Experienced young people, it is underpinned by our Corporate Parenting Pledge along with the Corporate Parenting Principles identified in the Children and Social Work Act 2017. The priorities highlighted within the Corporate Parenting Strategy are: Child's Voice, Access to Services, Health and Wellbeing, Safeguarding and Stability, Educational Achievement and Attainment, Preparation for Adulthood. The strategy aims to promote positive outcomes for our Children in Care and Care Experienced young people within each of these workstreams. Sandwell MBC has a statutory responsibility to the children and young people in its care and their parents/carers, this strategy has been developed to underpin this commitment and provide an overview of how these responsibilities are being continually developed and delivered. The strategy underpins the work of the Corporate Parenting Board which meets bi-monthly and will regularly review the attached action plan. There are no perceived issues or likely impact on equality groups.

2. Evidence used/considered

The proposal impacts borough wide directly targeting the Children and Young People who are, or have been, in our care. There are currently 894 young people in the care of Sandwell MBC. Of those, 45.2% are BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) (0.3% information not yet obtained) and 9.4% have a disability. The age ranges are as follows:

- Under 1 – 50
- Aged 1-4 – 198
- Aged 5-9 – 201
- Aged 10-15 – 298
- Aged 16+ – 147

3. Consultation

The proposal has been developed following consultation with Sandwell MBC Corporate Parenting Board. Consultation has included working closely with Sandwell Children's Trust in the content of both the strategy itself and the action plan within. Key partners have contributed to the action plan, including colleagues from Education and Health. Consultation has also taken place with Directors from Sandwell MBC to ensure a Council wide approach has been established.

Our young people have been consulted through their Looked After Young People's Board where initial principles were discussed with discussion

surrounding the importance of each one, what this should look like and what each one should include. This work has gone on to inform consultation at Corporate Parenting Board where young people led similar conversations with their Corporate Parents to ensure there was mutual understanding and to ensure that a consistent approach is adopted within the strategy and the action plan.

Consultation with our young people, Corporate Parenting Board and Directors will be ongoing to ensure progress is monitored.

4. Assess likely impact

Please give an outline of the overall impact if possible.

The proposal aims to strategically outline how key partners will work to deliver improved outcomes with regard to the key workstreams of the Corporate Parenting Board, including: Health and Wellbeing, Access to Services, Safeguarding and Stability, Child's Voice, Educational Achievement and Attainment and Preparation for Adulthood. The strategy is supported by an action plan that is attached as an appendix.

Please complete the table below at 4a to identify the likely impact on specific protected characteristics

4a. Use the table to show:

- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a negative impact on any of the equality strands (protected characteristics), that is it could disadvantage them or if there is no impact, please note the evidence and/or reasons for this.
- Where you think that the strategy, project or policy could have a positive impact on any of the groups or contribute to promoting equality, equal opportunities or improving relationships within equality characteristics.

Protected Characteristic	Positive Impact ✓	Negative Impact ✓	No Impact ✓	Reason and evidence (Provide details of specific groups affected even for no impact and where negative impact has been identified what mitigating actions can we take?)
Age	✓			The proposal impacts our children and young people aged 0-25, along with their parents/carers and families.
Disability	✓			9.4% of our children in care have a disability.
Gender reassignment			✓	
Marriage and civil partnership			✓	
Pregnancy and maternity			✓	
Race	✓			45.2% of our children in care are BAME.
Religion or belief			✓	

Sex			✓	
Sexual orientation			✓	
Other				N/A

Does this EIA require a full impact assessment? Yes No

If there are no adverse impacts or any issues of concern or you can adequately explain or justify them, then you do not need to go any further. You have completed the screening stage. You must, however, complete sections 7 and 9 and publish the EIA as it stands.

If you have answered yes to the above, please complete the questions below referring to the guidance document.

5. What actions can be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts?

6. As a result of the EIA what decision or actions are being proposed in relation to the original proposals?

7. Monitoring arrangements

The proposal will be monitored through the Corporate Parenting Board's bi-monthly meetings. On an annual basis the Action Plan will be monitored to ensure progress is monitored and that impact is evidenced. The Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report will offer a review and evidence the progress of the proposal.

8. Action planning

You may wish to use the action plan template below

9. Publish the EIA

Where can I get additional information, advice and guidance?

In the first instance, please consult the accompanying guide “Equality Impact Assessment Guidance”

Practical advice, guidance and support

Help and advice on undertaking an EIA or receiving training related to equalities legislation and EIAs is available to **all managers** across the council from officers within Service Improvement. The officers within Service Improvement will also provide overview quality assurance checks on completed EIA documents.

Please contact:

Kashmir Singh - 0121 569 3828