

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
24 October 2013 at 7.00 pm

Please find the background document for:

10. Sevenoaks District Health Inequalities Action Plan

(Pages 1 - 14)

Lesley Bowles

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Equality Impact Assessment

Details of the assessment	
Name of Function/Policy/ Service being assessed	Sevenoaks District Health Inequalities Action Plan
Date of assessment	Commenced: 14 October 2014 Completed: Continuous
Directorate & Service	Communities & Business Team
Policy Owner	Lesley Bowles
Name of Officer(s) carrying out assessment:	Hayley Brooks

Step 1	Initial Screening for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New/revised policies/strategies • policy decisions • considering partnership working arrangements • procurement/commissioning activities (For assessments identified within the Equality Impact Assessment Timetable please go straight to Step 2).	
	Key Questions	Answers/Notes
1	What are you looking to achieve in this activity?	To reduce health inequalities in the Sevenoaks District by reducing the gap in health status between the richest and poorest communities, through effective partnership working with key agencies, the voluntary sector and local residents
2	Who in the main will benefit?	A range of identified local people with specific health needs including older people, people living in areas of deprivation and vulnerable residents.
3	Does the activity have the potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Please explain:
		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please explain: The Action Plan sets out actions that target those groups who are most at risk from health inequalities.
		Note: if the answer is 'yes' then a full equality impact assessment is required – see step 2.
4	Does the activity have potential to make a positive contribution to equalities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please explain: The Action Plan sets out actions that targets those groups who are most at risk from health inequalities.
		No <input type="checkbox"/> Please explain:
		Note: if the answer is 'yes' then a full equality impact assessment is required – see step 2.

Where the screening has identified the need for a full impact assessment, this must:

Equality Impact Assessment

- be commenced during the drafting stages of a new policy/strategy and fully completed following any consultation period before submitting for committee approval
- carried out before any policy decision is taken
- completed in the planning stages of any procurement exercise

Equality Impact Assessment

	Key Questions	Answers/Notes
Step 2	Scoping the assessment	
1.	What is the overall aim, or purpose of the function/ policy/service?	To reduce health inequalities in the Sevenoaks District by reducing the gap in health status between the richest and poorest communities, through effective partnership working with key agencies, the voluntary sector and local residents
2.	What outcomes do you want to achieve with this function/ policy/service and for whom?	Improvements in health inequalities across the Sevenoaks District.
3.	Who will be affected?	A range of identified local people with specific health needs including older people, people living in areas of deprivation and vulnerable residents.
4.	Who defines or defined the function/service/ policy?	Sevenoaks District Council, Kent County Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Local Health & Wellbeing Boards, Acute Services.
5.	Who implements the function/service/policy?	Relevant SDC officers Sevenoaks District Council in partnership with Kent County Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Local Health & Wellbeing Boards, Acute Services
6.	How do the outcomes of the function/service/policy meet or hinder other policies, values or objectives of the public authority (if applicable)?	Please indicate which of the Councils core values / promises (as set out in the Vision) these outcomes relate to:
		We will provide value for money
		We will work in partnership to keep the District of Sevenoaks safe
		We will continue to collect rubbish efficiently and effectively
		We Will protect the Green Belt
		We will support and develop the local economy
		Fairness
		Integrity
		Quality
7.	What factors could contribute or detract from the outcomes identified earlier?	Contributes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective partnership working between health providers, GPs and local authorities. • Joint press releases and cross-media promotion.

Equality Impact Assessment

	Key Questions	Answers/Notes
		<p>Detracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding changes may occur due to changes in Government Public Health functions and/or KCC commissioning arrangements.
Step 3 Consideration of data and information		
8.	What do you already know about who uses this function/service/ policy?	Quarterly monitoring
9.	Has any consultation with service users already taken place on the function/service/ policy and if so what were the key findings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation through the Council's Community Plan has highlighted issues for local residents as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all groups have equal access to services, facilities and opportunities Transport to local health facilities is an issue for many people who do not drive, particularly in rural areas. Residents were concerned to make sure that the health needs of children and young people were taken in to account Access improvements are needed to health advice and information including advice about drug and alcohol misuse. Local residents also told us that it is important to maintain access to the District's leisure facilities, open spaces and countryside to provide healthy lifestyle activities.
10.	What, if any, additional information is needed to assess the impact of the function/service/policy?	Quarterly monitoring will assess the impact of the Action plan.
11.	How do you propose to gather the additional information?	Quarterly monitoring.
Step 4 Assessing the Impact		
12.	Based on what information you already know, in relation to each of the following groups consider whether a) there is anything in the function/service/policy that could discriminate or put anyone at a disadvantage b) for an existing function/service/policy, how it is actually working in practice for each group	

Equality Impact Assessment

	Key Questions		Answers/Notes
a.	Equality groups	Age	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of their age.
b.		Disability	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, including those with disabilities.
c.		Carers	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of their status as carers
d.		Gender	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of their gender
e.		Race	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of their race
f.		Religion/Belief	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of their religion/belief
g.		Sexual Orientation	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of their sexual orientation
h.		Marital / Civil Partnership status	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of their partnership status
i.		Pregnancy and maternity	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards.
j.		Gender reassignment	Health interventions are open to residents in targeted wards, regardless of gender reassignment
k.		General <i>i.e</i> affecting all of the above /other <i>e.g.</i> socio-economic	Health interventions are targeted at those wards where health inequalities are greatest.
Step 5 Reviewing and scrutinising the Impact			
13.	Have you identified any differential impact and does this adversely affect any groups in the community?		No. We continue to target people and locations identified in most need of health interventions to reduce health inequalities. We do not envisage an adverse impact at this stage. If external funding ceases or reduces, there would be an adverse impact and will would need to review the delivery.
14.	Can we make any changes?		No
15.	If there is nothing you can do, can the reasons be fairly		N/A

Equality Impact Assessment

	Key Questions	Answers/Notes
	justified?	
16.	Do any of the changes in relation to the adverse impact have a further adverse affect on any other group?	N/A

Equality Impact Assessment

Step 5 continued...		Actions to be inserted into Equality Action Plans		
Based on your answers in Step 5, please finalise your actions here. These actions will then be incorporated into our equality action plans.				
Equality Strand	Action	Outcome/monitoring information and targets	Date for Completion	Responsible Officer
If an adverse impact was found or unmet needs identified, which actions will you put in place to address this:				
If the impact is still unclear, list the actions you will put in place to gather the information you need:				
If you did not find any evidence of unmet needs or adverse impact, list the actions you will put in place to maintain good practice:				

Step 6 Decision making and future monitoring		
	Key questions	Answers / notes
17.	Which decision making process do these changes need to go through i.e. do they need to be approved by a committee/Council?	Discussion with Chief Officer initially
18.	How will you continue to monitor the impact of the function/service/ policy on diverse groups?	Recommendations will result from the next evaluation.
19.	When will you review this equality impact assessment?	October 2014

Final steps

For an existing function/service/policy:

- Submit the EqlA to your Departmental Management Team for approval.
- Send your assessment to the West Kent Equalities Officer for publication on the website.
- Update Covalent.

For a new function/service/ policy:

- Summarise your findings in the committee report.
- Ensure planned consultations address the findings of the impact assessment.

SUSTAINABILITY CHECKLIST:

Name of Officer completing this form: Simon Davies	Tel Ext no. 7374
Date checklist completed: 14 October 2013	
Title of policy/strategy/project: Sevenoaks District Health Inequalities Action Plan	

What contribution/impact does this proposal make towards enhancing the Council's commitment to sustainability?

Tick: (✓) +ve - if the proposal makes a **positive** contribution
 -ve - if the proposal makes a **negative** impact
 ? - if there is **uncertainty** in predicting positive contribution or negative impact
 N/A - if the impact of the proposal is **outwith scope** of proposal

Categories	+ve				-ve			?	N/A	Action to minimise or eliminate negative impacts or enhance benefits
	+	+	+	0	-	-	-			
A. Community Safety										
1) Help to reduce fear of crime				X						
2) Help to reduce occurrence of crime				X						
3) Help to reduce occurrence of anti-social behaviour				X						
4) Ensure developments maximise security and safety using safer by design procedures as appropriate				X						
5) Encourage individual/community responsibility				X						
B. Economy & Work										
6) Increase employment opportunities for local people		X								
7) Link local production with local consumption				X						
8) Help local and community based businesses to set up and grow and promote rural diversity				X						
9) Value and support unpaid work				X						
C. Education & Awareness Raising										

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Categories	+ve				-ve				?	N/A	Action to minimise or eliminate negative impacts or enhance benefits
	+	+	+	0	-	-	-				
10) Foster appreciation and care for the local environment				X							
11) Improve access to training, education and self-development opportunities for all			X								
12) Encourage the adoption of sustainable lifestyles and practices				X							
D. Equitable Access to Local Facilities & Services											
13) Address inequalities through allocating resources based on need		X									
14) Improve access to local services and facilities for local people		X									
15) Protect local shops and services										X	
16) Ensure access to usable open spaces and meeting places										X	
17) Improve facilities, access and opportunities for people with disabilities, wheelchair users, people with pushchairs and elderly people			X								
18) Improve opportunities, facilities and access for children & young people				X							
E. Health											
19) Reduce factors contributing to ill health (e.g. poverty, safety, diet, lifestyle, pollution)	X										
20) Provide support for elderly people and young people and their families		X									
21) Provide access to housing, appropriate to need										X	
22) Increase opportunities for residents to partake in regular physical activity			X								
23) Increase accessible leisure/ recreation opportunities for young people (i.e. in terms of cost/transport/supervision)										X	

Categories	+ve			-ve			?	N/A	Action to minimise or eliminate negative impacts or enhance benefits
	+	+	+	0	-	-			
F. Local Identity & Heritage									
24) Protect/enhance local heritage and features of cultural, visual and historic identity								X	
25) Contribute to local distinctiveness and promote design quality in new buildings								X	
26) Increase enjoyment/participation in arts, local culture and heritage								X	
G. Natural Environment									
27) Protect/enhance wildlife habitats (e.g. open spaces, trees, hedgerows, private gardens, some buildings, designated sites)								X	
28) Increase tree cover, especially broad-leaved woodland								X	
29) Improve/maintain public access to open spaces, wildlife areas and the countryside								X	
30) Protect/enhance landscape quality/heritage and retain open land/countryside								X	
31) Protect/enhance the welfare of captive, domestic and wild animals								X	
H. Participation, Democracy & Partnership									
32) Involve people in action								X	
33) Involve appropriate partner organisations		X							
34) Increase access to information by communicating in different ways			X						
35) Effectively involve local people in decision making, especially under-represented groups including young and elderly people				X					
I. Pollution									
36) Contribute to minimising or preventing incidences of localised flooding								X	

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Categories	+ve				-ve				?	N/A	Action to minimise or eliminate negative impacts or enhance benefits
	+	+	+	0	-	-	-				
37) Protect/enhance quality and availability of ground, surface and drinking water										X	
38) Prevent/reduce land contamination and dereliction										X	
39) Prevent/reduce air, noise and light pollution										X	
40) Ensure the appropriate use and disposal of hazardous materials										X	
41) Prevent an increase in waste production, fly-tipping, littering, dog fouling										X	
J. Resource Use, Energy & Waste											
42) Minimise use of energy, water, minerals and materials (e.g. paper)										X	
43) Increase use of renewable energy sources (wind, water, wave, biomass, solar gain)										X	
44) Increase re-use and recycling of water, minerals, materials and waste										X	
45) Ensure the use of environmentally friendly/recycled materials										X	
46) Ensure the use of wood from sustainably managed sources										X	
47) Use brown field sites or vacant buildings rather than greenfield land										X	
48) Ensure buildings are designed for a long life-span/future change of use										X	
K. Transport & Access											
49) Reduce the number and length of car and lorry journeys				X							
50) Promote the movement of people by walking and cycling to reduce car dependency				X							
51) Improve conditions and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists										X	

Categories	+ve				-ve			?	N/A	Action to minimise or eliminate negative impacts or enhance benefits
	+	+	+	0	-	-	-			
52) Increase use, availability & access to public transport particularly for disadvantaged groups				X						
53) Make use of new technologies/alternative fuels				X						

12. What changes will be made to the proposal as a result of using the sustainability checklist?

12.1 Community Safety
12.2 Economy & Work
12.3 Education & Awareness Raising
12.4 Equitable Access to Local Facilities & Services
12.5 Health
12.6 Local Identity & Heritage
12.7 Natural Environment
12.8 Participation, Democracy & Partnership
12.9 Pollution
12.10 Resource Use, Energy & Waste
12.11 Transport & Access

13. Sustainability Implications Statement

Please refer to guidance notes

The Council's Environmental Policy Statement is applicable to all decision making. Taking this into account, please say what significant beneficial/adverse sustainability implications are contained in this document.

E.g. A positive contribution to recycling because....

A negative impact on combating crime because....

The Sevenoaks District Health Inequalities Action Plan has positive contributions to Economy & Work, Education & Awareness Raising, Equitable Access to Local Services, Health and participation, Democracy & Partnership because it reduces health inequalities within the most deprived wards in the District.

14. It is recognised that when making the above decisions about sustainability impact, compromises and choices have to be made. Please list below any changes which were considered, but not proposed for implementation, giving the reasons for your choice:

Changes Considered	Reasons for non implementation
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Director's signature: _____

Date: _____

Please send completed Sustainability Checklist to:
Simon Davies, Partnership & Project Officer, Community Development Team.