

Durham County Council – Altogether Better equality impact assessment form

NB: Equality impact assessment is a legal requirement for all strategies plans, functions, policies, procedures and services. We are also legally required to publish our assessments. You can find help and prompts on completing the assessment in the guidance from page 7 onwards.

Section one: Description and initial screening

Section overview: this section provides an audit trail.	
Service/team or section: Overview & Scrutiny: Joint Report of Children & Young People and Adults Wellbeing & Health Scrutiny Committees Review of Childhood Obesity of Primary Aged Children	
Lead Officer: Ann Whitton	Start date: April 2012
<p>Scrutiny review of Childhood Obesity of Primary Aged Children. The focus of the review was the effect of childhood obesity on primary aged children and followed four key lines of enquiry:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review the current childhood obesity strategy to ensure it reflects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current obesity programmes. • Changes in national policy. • A multi-agency approach. • Social determinants such as poverty and exercise. 2) Social marketing of health promotions such as change4life and behaviour change and the impact of their implications. 3) Investigate gaps in local data. 4) Impact of all commissioned programmes on obesity in primary aged children. <p>The key findings of the review was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the current strategy was in need of refresh to reflect changes in legislation, programmes, structures and statistics. • Schools play an important role delivering programme outcomes 	

- Most programmes take a whole family approach
- Local Supermarket chains should be encouraged to promote healthy eating
- Evaluation of programmes is important and it should be continuous process and not an activity at the end of the programme.
- County Durham has an excellent participation record with the National Child Measurement Programme
- Only 10% of parents who are informed their child is overweight or obese take up a place on a programme.

Recommendation 1

Cabinet, the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Families Trust agree that the current strategy, 'Tackling Obesity in Children and Young People in County Durham and Darlington: A Strategy for Prevention and Treatment' is refreshed and updated to reflect changes in legislation, current programmes, statistics, structures and funding arrangements. The revised strategy should continue to follow a multi-agency approach to strengthen partnership working and to address prevention and treatment of obesity in children, reflect a Think Family approach, looking at the lifestyle of the family and not an individual. A revised strategy should be holistically integrated to sit with other strategies such as Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Recommendation 2

Cabinet, the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Families Trust encourage the management of schools to provide the necessary leadership to drive forward programmes and projects and deliver outcomes, to help children and families recognise the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Recommendation 3

Cabinet, the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Families Trust in recognition of best practice of continuous evaluation, as set out in the Standard Evaluation Framework ensure that all projects and programmes that provide healthy lifestyle changes and support to children and families follow the principles of continuous evaluation, with particular emphasis on effectiveness of programmes and projects and value for money.

Recommendation 4

Cabinet seek the advice from the Director of Public Health on the need for further work to assess the feasibility of an interim measurement at year 2 (ages 6-7 years) in addition to National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) measurements taken

at Reception Class (age 4-5 years) and Year 6 (age 10-11 years). The Working Group note that the NCMP is a nationally prescribed programme and that there are potential resource implications to establish an interim measurement.

Who are the main stakeholders: General public / Employees / Elected Members / Partners/ Specific audiences/Other (please specify) – DCC Children & Adult Services, Neighbourhood Services; County Durham and Darlington Public Health, NHS County Durham & Darlington Foundation Trust; County Durham School Sports Partnership.

Is a copy of the subject attached? Yes / No

If not, where could it be viewed?

Initial screening

The group of people mostly affected by the review are children who are measured as overweight or obese and their families or carers. The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) takes measurements at reception and year 6 classes, this data has indicated that there are greater numbers of children recorded as obese in year 6 than reception. Early intervention programmes that address childhood obesity work with the whole family to help change behaviours and ultimately change lifestyle choices to encourage healthy eating and increase physical activity.

Is there an actual/potential negative or positive impact on specific groups within these headings?

Indicate :Y = Yes, N = No, ?=Unsure

Gender	N	Disability	N	Age	Y	Race/ethnicity	N	Religion or belief	N	Sexual orientation	N
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How will this support our commitment to promote equality and meet our legal responsibilities?

Reminder of our legal duties:

- Eliminating unlawful discrimination & harassment
- Promoting equality of opportunity
- Promoting good relations between people from different groups
- Promoting positive attitudes towards disabled people and taking account of someone's disability, even where that involves treating them more favourably than other people
- Involving people, particularly disabled people, in public life and decision making

In addressing Childhood Obesity in Primary Aged Children will raise awareness of the benefit of early intervention programmes to alleviate health problems as adults thus providing a better quality of life.

What evidence do you have to support your findings?

Evidence for the review was submitted from Durham County Council Children & Adult Services; Neighbourhood Services; Children's Trust Joint Commissioning Board; NHS County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust – Public Health; County Durham School Sports Partnership.

Decision: Proceed to full impact assessment – Yes/No **Date:**

If you have answered 'No' you need to pass the completed form for approval & sign off.

Section two: Identifying impacts and evidence- Equality and Diversity

Section overview: this section identifies whether there are any impacts on equality/diversity/cohesion,

what evidence is available to support the conclusion and what further action is needed.			
	Identify the impact: does this increase differences or does it aim to reduce gaps for particular groups?	Explain your conclusion, including relevant evidence and consultation you have considered.	What further action is required? (Include in Sect. 3 action plan)
Gender			
Age	The focus on this age group was selected following NCMP data and performance information.	By addressing this age group early intervention programmes can address weight problems before they become acute and need specialist treatment. This will reduce health complications in adulthood which will enable a better quality of life.	
Disability			
Race/Ethnicity			
Religion or belief			
Sexual orientation			

How will this promote positive relationships between different communities?

There is a lot of community involvement in programme delivery.

Section three: Review and Conclusion

Summary: please provide a brief overview, including impact, changes, improvements and any gaps in evidence.

- By refreshing and updating the original strategy will reflect changes in legislation, programmes, structures and statistics.
- It is essential that there is the backing of school management when they are delivering obesity programmes as this is needed to sustain the momentum of the programmes and drive through their outcomes.
- Continuous evaluation of programmes will ensure that the programmes that can demonstrate impact and value for money are the ones that are taken forward.
- Measurements taken at reception class are in line with national average but measurements taken at year 6 class are double those taken at reception class and well above the national average. It is important to find out why this is and advice should be sort from the Director of Public Health on the need for further work to assess the feasibility of an interim measurement at year 2 (ages 6-7 years) in addition to National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) measurements taken at Reception (ages 4-5 years) and Year 6 (ages 10-11 years).

Action to be taken	Officer responsible	Target Date	In which plan will this action appear

When will this assessment be reviewed?	Date:		
Are there any additional assessments that need to be undertaken in relation to this assessment?			
Lead officer - sign off:			Date:
Service equality representative - sign off:			Date:

Please email your completed Impact Assessment to the Equality team - equalities@durham.gov.uk.