

Title of proposed EIA	Early Years Health and Wellbeing Service
Reference No	EQUA911
EA is in support of	Amended Service
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	31/05/2023
Directorate	Education and Skills
Division	Commissioning
Service Area	Commissioning
Responsible Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Catherine Moore
Quality Control Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brianne Thomas
Accountable Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nigel Harvey-Whitten
Purpose of proposal	EIA of the Early Years Health & Wellbeing contract extension
Data sources	Other (please specify)
Please include any other sources of data	Contract Award for Early Years Health & Wellbeing Service 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2017

#### ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Protected characteristic: Age

Age details:

Service Users/ Stakeholders

The Early Years Health & Wellbeing Service is one of two contracts the Council has in place to deliver the Healthy Child Programme.

The Healthy Child Programme is a universal programme available to all children aged 0-19 (25) to lay the foundations of a healthy life. The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development including physical, intellectual and emotional are established in early childhood.

Universal and targeted public health services provided by health visiting and school nursing teams are crucial to improving the health and wellbeing of all children and young people. The Council has a number of statutory duties in relation to the provision of services to children and families which are delivered as part of this Early Years



In 2019 Birmingham had a younger population compared to the rest of the country, a higher than average birth rate and the largest population of children aged 0-5 years of any local authority in England.

The Early Years Health & Wellbeing Service will have a positive impact on children aged 0-5 and their families across the city.

Early Years Services support families from the point that a child is conceived until they start school. High quality Early Years Services have been shown to be extremely important in helping children to develop well and learn the skills they need to be ready for school.

Improving the health and wellbeing of children by promoting early intervention to secure healthy lifestyles and behaviours goes beyond the 0-5 years into older childhood and into adult life, therefore having a positive longer-term impact on the wider community.

The Early Years Health & Wellbeing contract will also positively impact parents, carers and families as the services offered aid the development of the skills, confidence, support networks and resilience needed to parent well and achieve financial independence and stability for families.

Protected characteristic: Disability

Disability details:

Service Users/ Stakeholders

As above re. Age.

The Healthy Child Programme is universal in reach. It is available to all children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities up to the age of 25.

It includes targeted help and support as appropriate, for example to provide holistic support for families of children with special educational needs and disability.

It assists with early identification of children who have, or are likely to have, special educational needs and /or disability. It ensures that the needs of children with disabilities are proactively assessed and met. The Early Years Health and Wellbeing contract therefore positively impacts children and young people with disabilities and special needs and their families.

Protected characteristic: Sex

Service Users/ Stakeholders

Gender details:

As above re. Age.

The Early Years Health and Wellbeing contract is focussed on the 0-5 years age group and applies to all children irrespective of gender therefore having a positive impact on this characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment

Service Users/ Stakeholders

Gender reassignment details:

As above re. Age.

The Early Years Health and Wellbeing contract is focussed on the 0-5 years age group and is universally available to all children irrespective of gender identity or reassignment. During this timeframe the concept of gender identity is developing, so this protected characteristic is of low relevance to this age group.

Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership

Not Applicable

Marriage and civil partnership details:

Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity

Service Users/ Stakeholders

Pregnancy and maternity details:

As above re. Age.

The Early Years Health and Wellbeing Services support families from the point that a child is conceived until they start school.

A healthy pregnancy sets up the unborn baby for a healthy life and the physical and mental wellbeing of the mother directly impacts the baby's healthy development.

The services therefore cover unborn children, pregnancy and maternal health and will have a positive impact on this group in terms of Health Visitor services, screening, immunisation, health and development reviews, as well as signposting for any additional services as required.

Protected characteristics: Race

Service Users/ Stakeholders

Race details:

As above re. Age.

The population of children and young people in Birmingham are more ethnically diverse than the older population of the city and diversity increases with every cohort of children born. As the Early Years Health and Wellbeing contract applies to all children irrespective of race and ethnicity, the services are therefore inclusive and have a positive impact on this characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Service Users/ Stakeholders

Religion or beliefs details:

As above re. Age.

The Early Years Health and Wellbeing contract applies universally to all children irrespective of religion, the services are therefore inclusive and have a positive impact on this characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Not Applicable

Sexual orientation details:

Socio-economic impacts

It is widely regarded that the first 1001 days from conception to age 2 is critical for prevention and early intervention to address the wide spectrum of issues that can impact on the resilience, mental, physical and economic outcomes on individuals later in life.

Evidence shows that those who suffer multiple adverse childhood events achieve less educationally, earn less, and are less healthy, making it more likely that the cycle of harm is

perpetuated, in the following generation.

The Early Years Health and Wellbeing services therefore help to improve population health and reduce inequalities by providing families with a universal early intervention and preventative service which provides all families with a programme of screening, immunisation, health and development reviews.

Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.

Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended

NO

What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?

Consultation analysis

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact?

How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?

What data is required in the future?

Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)

No

If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.

Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

The contract has no adverse or negative impacts on citizens with protected characteristics as it universally seeks to improve the health and wellbeing of all children aged 0-5 across the city.

The performance metrics will be continually monitored throughout the contract extension period via the contract management process. The extension is based on a background of improving performance by the incumbent provider and will facilitate a full review of the 0-19(25) Healthy Child Programme contracts including potential consolidation or redistribution for the future recommission.

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Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?	No
Quality Control Officer comments	
Decision by Quality Control Officer	Proceed for final approval
Submit draft to Accountable Officer?	No
Decision by Accountable Officer	Approve
Date approved/ rejected by the Accountable Officer	05/07/2022
Reasons for approval or rejection	
Please print and save a PDF copy for your records	Yes