

Equality Impact Assessment – Stage One

We need to ensure that our strategies, policies, functions and services, current and proposed have given due regard to equality and diversity.

Please complete the following questions to determine whether a Stage 2, Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Name of policy, strategy or function:	Oral Health Promotion
Version and release date of item (if applicable):	Version 1
Owner of item being assessed:	
Name of assessor:	Sarah Rayfield
Date of assessment:	23 October 2015

Is this a:		Is this:	
Policy	No	New or proposed	No
Strategy	No	Already exists and is being reviewed	Yes
Function	No	Is changing	No
Service	Yes		

1. What are the main aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy, strategy function or service and who is likely to benefit from it?	
Aims:	To promote oral health amongst children and vulnerable adults
Objectives:	<p>To encourage the adoption of oral health promoting behaviours in children – brushing with fluoride toothpaste, reducing sugars intake and attending dental check-ups (Brushing for Life Scheme)</p> <p>Promote good nutrition and oral health in Early years settings to address poor oral health in 0-5 year olds (Smiling for Life scheme)</p> <p>Training of health care staff in oral health promotion for residential, nursing care and special schools.</p>
Outcomes:	<p>Increase in the use of fluoride toothpaste</p> <p>Increase in the number of children attending dental check ups</p> <p>Raised awareness of good nutrition and oral health in Early Years settings.</p> <p>Oral health promotion in residential, nursing care and special schools.</p>

Benefits:

Improvement of oral health in children and vulnerable adults

2. Note which groups may be affected by the policy, strategy, function or service. Consider how they may be affected, whether it is positively or negatively and what sources of information have been used to determine this.

(Please demonstrate consideration of all strands – Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or Belief, Sex and Sexual Orientation.)

Group Affected	What might be the effect?	Information to support this
Age	The current scheme is targeted towards children in general and towards elderly residents in residential and nursing homes. These are particularly vulnerable groups of individuals with regards to oral health. The removal of the scheme will therefore impact on these groups. However, given that existing projects can deliver some of the outcomes of the service and the training and knowledge gained from the service in recent years, it is likely that the impact will be minimal.	EYFS Statutory framework 2014 : “children know the importance for good health of physical exercise and a healthy diet....They manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully”
Disability	At present, the scheme specifically includes oral health training of staff who work in special schools. These are vulnerable groups of individuals, particularly with regards to oral health with more children attending special support schools having visible plaque when compared to children in mainstream schools. Removal of this service potentially risks increasing these inequalities. However, the staff within these schools and care homes have already received this training and can continue to implement this within their day to day practice without the need for ongoing training.	DPHEP Oral Health Survey of 5 and 12 year old children attending special support schools 2014
Gender Reassignment	The current service is aimed at children in generally, specifically 0-5 years old and those attending residential, nursing homes or special schools. Therefore the impact on this particular group should be neutral.	
Marriage and civil partnership	The current service is aimed at children in general, specifically 0-5 years old and those attending residential, nursing homes or special schools. Therefore the impact on this particular group should be neutral.	
Pregnancy and	The current service is aimed at children in	

maternity	general, specifically 0-5 years old and those attending residential, nursing homes or special schools. Therefore the impact on this particular group should be neutral.	
Race, Religion or Belief	The oral health promotion service is to be decommissioned. The overall impact of this is expected to be minimal and there is no evidence that any individual of a particular race, religion or belief will be particularly impacted by the discontinuation of this service.	
Sex and Sexual orientation	The current service is aimed at children in general, specifically 0-5 years old and those attending residential, nursing homes or special schools. Therefore the impact on this particular group should be neutral.	
Further Comments relating to the item:		
The proposal is for the Oral Health Promotion service to be decommissioned. Although the service will no longer be present, it is believed that existing projects can deliver some of the outcomes of the service, for example through the Children's Centres and Health visitors. In addition, knowledge gained through delivery of the service in previous years can ensure the key health messages are still delivered.		

3. Result	
Are there any aspects of the policy, strategy, function or service, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could contribute to inequality?	No
Please provide an explanation for your answer: This proposal is for the decommissioning of the existing Oral Health promotion service. However, some parts of the service will be provided through different projects. In addition, although some vulnerable groups are targeted through the current service, it is expected that staff can continue to provide some elements of this health promotion work from the training already received. Therefore, the impact will be minimal and it is not expected to result in further inequalities.	
Will the policy, strategy, function or service have an adverse impact upon the lives of people, including employees and service users?	No
Please provide an explanation for your answer: As detailed above, the overall impact of the decommissioning of this service is expected to be minimal.	

If your answers to question 2 have identified potential adverse impacts and you have answered 'yes' to either of the sections at question 3, then you should carry out a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment.

If a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment is required, before proceeding you should discuss the scope of the Assessment with service managers in your area. You will also need to refer to the Equality Impact Assessment guidance and Stage Two template.

4. Identify next steps as appropriate:	
Stage Two required	No
Owner of Stage Two assessment:	
Timescale for Stage Two assessment:	
Stage Two not required:	Yes

Name: Sarah Rayfield

Date: 23/10/2015
