

Summary Fair Treatment Assessment (FTA)

Area for Assessment:		
Name of service or function etc	Solihull's Strategy for Disabled Children	
Which Service does this affect?	Children and Young People's Trust	
Is this a new, existing or revised function?	New policy covering existing functions	
Summary of findings:		
Main conclusions on the likely impact of the function on different equality groups (protected characteristics):		
<p>Through the mapping and consultation stage of developing this strategy and action plan, views were sought from parents and staff as to their experiences and what was working well and not so well. The action plan is now addressing those issues through integrated working monitored by the Disabled Children's Project Board.</p> <p>Clearly given the focus of the strategy it was expected that impact may be mainly focussed on possible lack of fair treatment due to disability. Whilst that is primarily the case the completion of this piece of work shows that within that focus of disability there are still additional adverse impacts on disabled children and young people. Clearly disabled children and young people are all individuals and not a homogeneous group but the Fair Treatment Assessment shows that there are negative impacts related to age. There are issues of inclusion for children and young people at mainstream schools, in mainstream activities and in accessing short break care.</p> <p>In recent years Solihull has received specific grants to support disabled children and young people, most recently short breaks under the Disabled Children's Access To Child Care (DCATCH) project. The latter funding will cease in March 2011 and whilst it is expected that there will be short breaks money it is not clear how much this will be and whether it will be ring fenced. Core budgets within the Council also support many services and again whilst there is uncertainty over the level of funding for this area of work it is evident, based on current spending that considerable resources are being spent on supporting disabled children /young people and their families.</p> <p>The Disabled Children's Action Plan brings together the priorities around this area of work and will need to address what services need to be de-commissioned, re-commissioned and newly commissioned and how partners can more effectively join up services to meet families' needs.</p>		
Actions:		
Actions identified to address negative impacts identified or to better promote equality, human rights, cohesive and sustainable communities and safeguarding issues		
Action	Outcome	Timescale
Collection of data against disability types by one of the DCATCH projects.	Better understanding of what services are being delivered to support children and families with differing disabilities will lead to more effective strategic planning	April 2011

The management and governance of the strategy and the implementation of the Disabled Children's Action Plan	Integrated strategy in place with measurable outcomes, which is monitored and reviewed regularly	March 2013
A more joined up approach to responding to additional, emerging identified needs of children with disabilities.	Rigorous and robust gap analysis in place with actions to meet un met need	March 2013
The support of disabled children and young people to enable them to lead the development of services.	Disabled children and young people actively involved in deciding, shaping and delivering services	March 2013
The development of one joined up cycle of needs analysis, consultation, commissioning, provision and impact assessment of services for disabled children	Integrated commissioning plan in place that secures services that demonstrate impact on outcomes for children and young people	March 2013
Date Assessment Signed Off	January 2011	