

RMBC - Equality Analysis Form for Commissioning, Decommissioning, Decision making, Projects, Policies, Services, Strategies or Functions (CDDPPSSF)

<p>Under the Equality Act 2010 Protected characteristics are age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexuality, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity. Page 6 of guidance. Other areas to note see guidance appendix 1</p>	
<p>Name of policy, service or function. If a policy, list any associated policies:</p>	<p>Home to School Transport Policy 2018</p>
<p>Name of service and Directorate</p>	<p>Community Safety & Streetscene Regeneration & Environment</p>
<p>Lead manager</p>	<p>Martin Raper – Head of Service Streetscene</p>
<p>Date of Equality Analysis (EA)</p>	<p>21st September 2017</p>
<p>Names of those involved in the EA (Should include at least two other people)</p>	<p>Andrew Barker – Fleet Transport Manager Julia Russell – Passenger Services Manager</p>
<p>Aim/Scope</p> <p>This Equality Impact Assessment refers to the consultation stages of proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy for 2018. The proposals impact upon children, young people and vulnerable adults who currently are, or in future may be eligible for home to school/college transport assistance organised by the Council because they meet eligibility criteria</p>	
<p>What equality information is available? Include any engagement undertaken and identify any information gaps you are aware of. What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics?</p> <p>This Equality Impact Assessment refers to the consultation stages of the proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy for 2018. Information is being gathered during the consultation process on feedback provided by customers and stakeholders on the proposed changes. Once the consultation period has completed information will be used to determine any changes to the Home to School Transport Policy 2018 and a separate Equality Impact Assessment will be completed during the process.</p>	

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Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings) See page 7 of guidance step 3

The consultation period opens on 25th September 2017 and runs until 10th November 2017. During this time a number of drop in sessions and group presentations are being held across the borough at various locations. These include RMBC sites, Stakeholder sites. Customer Service Centres and Special Education Schools.

Key customers for consultation are parents and carers who's children qualify for transport assistance through the Council's current policy and statutory duties.

Key stakeholders for consultation are schools, academies, colleges and head teachers and governing bodies where children and young people are placed who may qualify for transport assistance.

This list is not exhaustive and the Council requests that all customers, service users and stakeholders in relation to home to school transport assistance are invited to submit feedback.

The following drop in sessions were held in autumn 2017:

2 October at Rotherham Parent Carer Forum

4 October at Aston CSC/Library

9 October at Riverside House CSC/Library

10 October at Swinton CSC/Library

30 October at Riverside House CSC/Library

1 November at Riverside House CSC/Library

These were attended by parents, carers and some extended family representatives of children and young people.

School based sessions were also held with families and most of them had children who use the contracted transport journeys. These were in autumn 2017:

3 October at Abbey School

5 October at Kelford School

6 October at Hilltop School

27 October at The Willows School

RMBC's Customer Service Centre helpline had 84 telephone contacts and the Passenger Services Team had 27 follow up telephone contacts from parents and carers.

The key findings from these consultation session have

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	<p>been attached to the report for consideration by Cabinet on 11 December 2017.</p>
<p>Engagement undertaken with staff about the implications on service users (date and group(s) consulted and key findings)</p>	<p>During the consultation period the engagement is with customers and stakeholders. Senior Managers and Directors within service areas affected by proposed changes have been in dialogue through a Corporate Transport Board.</p> <p>Following the consultation period feedback on proposed changes will be discussed at the Board for decisions to be made on implementation.</p>
<p>The Analysis</p>	
<p>How do you think the Policy/Service meets the needs of different communities and groups? Protected characteristics of age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexuality, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity. Rotherham also includes Carers as a specific group. Other areas to note are Financial Inclusion, Fuel Poverty, and other social economic factors.</p> <p>As of January 2017, there were over 44,700 children and young people attending state funded schools in Rotherham. From these numbers, 2113 attend Rotherham school sixth forms. In July 2017 there were 1,699 children who had an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN). There are over 5,900 children who need a lower level of support around SEN. There are over 900 children living in Rotherham on the children’s disability register. In January 2017 there were 624 children attending Rotherham special schools and 142 children attending a pupil referral unit within Rotherham.</p> <p>Access to transport assistance is not determined by gender, race, religion or belief but disability is a protected characteristic that is used to assess entitlement. This includes physical disabilities, mental health issues, learning difficulties, progressive conditions, visual impairment and hearing impairment.</p> <p>Eligibility for transport is assessed through an individual’s application process. The type of additional need/SEN and disability forms part of this assessment. The Council must meet a statutory requirement to ensure that Home to school transport is provided and free for all children and young people who qualify under the age of 16.</p> <p>For those young people over the age of 16 and attending further education provision there is a contributory charge towards daily transport. For those families who meet the low income threshold criteria this is currently free of charge.</p> <p>This entitlement would remain; it is the type of the provision which forms the basis of the proposed changes.</p>	

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Specific elements of these proposals impact upon

- Children under 16
- Children 16-18
- Adults 18+ accessing home to college transport

Analysis of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service:

See page 8 of guidance step 4 and 5

Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Group? Identify by protected characteristics **Does the Service/Policy provide any improvements/remove barriers?** Identify by protected characteristics

This Equality Impact Assessment refers to the consultation stages of the proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy for 2018. A separate EIA will take place following the consultation process if changes to the policy are to be made. The Council will consider all feedback from customers and stakeholders following the consultation process. This feedback will be key information towards any decisions made on changes to the Home to School Policy for 2018.

What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? Identify by protected characteristics

This Equality Impact Assessment refers to the consultation stages of the proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy for 2018.

The Council is seeking feedback from customers and stakeholders to determine what affects these proposed changes would have on community relations.

Current and proposed future changes to policy will adhere to the Equality Act 2010 and the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014.

Please list any **actions and targets** by Protected Characteristic that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment and ensure that they are added into your service plan.

Website Key Findings Summary: To meet legislative requirements a summary of the Equality Analysis needs to be completed and published.

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Equality Analysis Action Plan - See page 9 of guidance step 6 and 7

Time Period

Manager: Martin Raper..... Service Area: Streetscene..... Tel:.....

Title of Equality Analysis: Consultation on Home to School Transport Policy 2018

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic.

List all the Actions and Equality Targets identified

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics (A,D,RE,RoB,G,GI O, SO, PM,CPM, C or All)*	Target date (MM/YY)
Any proposed future changes to home to school transport policy will need to adhere to the Equality Act 2010 and the Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014.	Disability	March 2018
Any proposed future changes to post 16/further education transport will need to take into account the new statutory guidance for local authorities issued by the Department for Education October 2017.	Disability	March 2018

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Name Of Director who approved Plan		Date	
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***A = Age, C= Carers D= Disability, G = Gender, GI Gender Identity, O= other groups, RE= Race/ Ethnicity, RoB= Religion or Belief, SO= Sexual Orientation, PM= Pregnancy/Maternity, CPM = Civil Partnership or Marriage.**

Website Summary – Please complete for publishing on our website and append to any reports to Elected Members, SLT or Directorate Management Teams

Completed equality analysis	Key findings	Future actions
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Completed equality analysis	Key findings	Future actions
<p>Directorate:</p> <p>Function, policy or proposal name:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Function or policy status: (new, changing or existing)</p> <p>Name of lead officer completing the assessment:</p> <p>Date of assessment:</p>		