

## PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
<b>Title:</b> Decision to vary the 0-19s Integrated Public Health Nursing Service (IPHNS) contract with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) for the continuation of provision of Family Hub activity.	
<b>Directorate:</b> Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	<b>Service area:</b> Public Health
<b>Lead person:</b> Michael Ng, Operational Commissioner – Public Health	<b>Contact:</b> Michael.ng@rotherham.gov.uk
Is this a:	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Strategy / Policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Service / Function</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>
<b>If other, please specify:</b> Commissioned Service	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The decision to vary the 0-19s Integrated Public Health Nursing Service (IPHNS) contract with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) for the continuation of provision of Family Hub activity for 2026/27
As described in the Cabinet Paper of 13 February 2023 ( <a href="#">link</a> ) Rotherham Council accepted the Family Hubs and Start for Life Grant. The grant was made available to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council by Department of Education (DfE) and

Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) as one of the 75 Local Authorities that were selected.

This Officer Decision continues the Family Hubs activity previously delivered under a previous variation (VA-02) for a further 12 months to maintain continuity of early intervention and staffing within the 0–19 Service. The decision is required to continue the delivery of mandated universal and targeted support aligned to the Healthy Child Programme, including developmental reviews and infant feeding support.

### 3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community?		X
Could the proposal affect service users?		X
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics?		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?		X
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		X
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices?		X

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

As described in the Cabinet Paper of 13 February 2023 ([link](#)) Rotherham Council accepted the Family Hubs and Start for Life Grant. The grant was made available to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council by Department of Education (DfE) and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) as one of the 75 Local Authorities that were selected.

On the 25 February 2025 the government announced a further one year extension of the Family Hubs and Start for Life Services [\(link\)](#). This extends funding for the period 1 April 2026 until 31 March 2027.

The Council has an existing contract for the 0-19 Children's Nursing Services (IPHNS) which is provided by The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT). TRFT is the Council's sole provider of this service, and the activities detailed above fall within the scope of the current contract on a targeted basis. Therefore, the universal provision can only be delivered through the existing IPHNS contract.

The service activities are already being delivered by TRFT and there are no changes. This is a continuation of service, therefore there will be no further impact.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6**.

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4**.

#### 4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made.

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>How have you considered equality and diversity?</b></li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Key findings</b></li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Actions</b></li> </ul>	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	N/A
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	N/A
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	N/A

#### 5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Michael Ng	Operational Commissioner	23/3/26
Hannah Walshe	Commissioning Officer	23/3/26
Emily Parry-Harries	Director of Public Health	

## 6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to [equality@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk) For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

<b>Date screening completed</b>	23/3/2026
<b>Report title and date</b>	Decision to vary the 0-19s Integrated Public Health Nursing Service (IPHNS) contract with The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) for the continuation of provision of Family Hub activity.
<b>If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication</b>	Officer Decision April 2026
<b>Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement</b> <a href="mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk">equality@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	20/4/26