

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

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	
Name of policy, service or function. If a policy, list any associated policies:	Early Years and Childcare Services including Children's Centres
Name of service and Directorate	Early Years and Childcare Services (including children's centres), Children and Young People's Services
Lead manager	Mary Smith
Date of Equality Analysis (EA)	21/01/2014
Names of those involved in the EA (Should include at least two other people)	Mary Smith Dorothy Smith Frances Hunt Paul Fitzpatrick Sue Wilson Zahid Qureshie Stuart Fletcher
<p>Aim/Scope (who the Policy /Service affects and intended outcomes if known) See page 7 of guidance step 1</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Rotherham has 22 Children's Centres which aim to provide integrated services for all children under five years of age and their families, particularly those most in need. These services include but are not limited to: early education and childcare provision, access to health services, information and advice, individual family support, parenting programmes, outreach services, adult learning, training and links to Job Centre Plus services. Therefore Children's Centres are tasked to provide access to universal and targeted services for all children, including but not limited to the following protected characteristic groups BME, workless households, teenage mothers, lone parents, children living in the most deprived areas (30% Super Output Areas), disabled parents, male carers and targeted fathers.</p> <p>Each Centre has a designated reach area although children and families can attend any children's centre in the borough. The centres regularly monitor who and who does not access services and the impact services have on improving outcomes for children and families particularly the most vulnerable. Users and non - service users are also consulted to inform and shape local service delivery plus increase engagement and access to services.</p> <p>Statutory definition of a Children's Centre</p> <p>A Sure Start Children's Centre is defined in the Childcare Act 2006 as a place or a group of places:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which is managed by or on behalf of, or under arrangements with, the local authority with a view to securing that early childhood services in the local authority's area are made available in an integrated way; • through which early childhood services are made available (either by providing the services on site, or by providing advice and assistance on gaining access to services elsewhere); and • at which activities for young children are provided. 	

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

It follows from the statutory definition of a children's centre that children's centres are as much about making appropriate and integrated services available, as it is about providing premises in particular geographical areas.

Centres identify, reach and help all families, especially those in greatest need of support, and have a particular emphasis on improving outcomes.

- Child development and school readiness
- Parenting aspirations and parenting skills
- Child and family health and life chances

A children's centre should make available universal and targeted early childhood services to children under 5 years of age and their families, either by providing the services at the centre itself or by providing advice and assistance to parents (mothers and fathers) and prospective parents in accessing services provided elsewhere.

This Equalities Analysis has been undertaken to identify the potential impact of proposed changes to children's centres delivery from 1st April 2015 which Cabinet agreed (15th January 2014) could go out to public consultation. This is an evolving EA, which will be monitored on a regular basis and have additional information added to it as required.

In determining this proposal implications relating to the Public Sector Equality Duty will be considered in all cases. These are :

(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.'

The proposal considered here will ensure that all equality considerations will be taken on board to help mitigate any disproportionate or negative impact on any "Protected characteristic" or our deprived communities. This is evidenced in our rationale to reviewing Children's Centre service provision to keep open the children centre buildings where there are more than 400 vulnerable children under 5 years of age (GP data 31.3.13) living in the 30% most disadvantaged super output areas as measured nationally by the Index of Multiple Disadvantage (IMD) 2010 locally. Also current usage data is available for each children's centre which shows data broken down by race, gender and disability. Any proposal adopted will continue to monitor usage to ensure equality in service delivery continues.

Further, equality monitoring of all consultees shows inclusivity in the consultation process by BME, women and disabled respondents that is more or less proportionate to the demographic profiles of the borough. The disaggregated data shows that there are significant number of BME and disabled respondents who agree with the two key questions (chosen centres and outreach provision). A more detailed analysis of the consultation process is contained in **Appendix A**

The Proposals – Children Centre services will continue to be delivered in all communities, particularly for those in most need. However in light of the significant budget reduction of

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

2.2m, services will be delivered differently by keeping 9 children’s centre buildings open and delivering outreach services to those communities where 13 children’s centre buildings are proposed to close. Expressions of interest will be sought from schools, staff, private and voluntary childcare providers and other organisations to take on the 13 buildings to continue delivery of childcare provision and children centre services. The 9 children centre buildings proposed to remain open will be clustered to form 7 designated Children’s Centres across the borough with an outreach service delivering services in all local communities.

It is proposed to create a Foundation Years’ Service with Children Centres working together with health partners, social care, voluntary sector, parents, schools and early education and child care providers, to continue to deliver services in local communities, which improves outcomes for all children under 5 and their families, particularly those in need of support. All partners will continue to deliver services for children aged 0-5 and their families within local communities. For example:

- Ante natal and post natal services
- Healthy Child Programme
- Free Early Education for 3 and 4 year olds
- Free early education for the vulnerable 2 year old

Outreach workers will continue to deliver services in those communities where buildings are proposed to close by using alternative venues and working in partnership with other service providers.

The Rationale - underpinning the proposals is to ensure that sufficient children’s centres are readily accessible in areas of highest need. The GP data* (31st March 2013) showing the number of children under fives living in the most 30% disadvantaged super output areas** (index of multiple deprivation 2010), was used to determine which buildings would be proposed to remain open and which proposed to close.

It is proposed to keep open the children centre buildings where there are more than 400 vulnerable children under 5 years of age living in the most disadvantaged areas (30% SOAs). When evaluated, this means having 7 children centre areas (incorporating 9 buildings) across the borough. It is proposed to extend the reach area of the 7 centres remaining open and to provide outreach services to those areas that do not have ready access to a main children’s centre building. By outreach we are referring to activities being delivered in other buildings within the local communities.

Children’s Centre Buildings Proposed to Stay Open

Children’s Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA’s**
Arnold Children’s Centre	597
Aughton Early Years Centre	411
Coleridge Children’s Centre	970
Maltby Stepping Stones	727
Rawmarsh Children’s Centre	888
Rotherham Central	725
Swinton Brookfield Children’s Centre	636
Thrybergh Dalton Children’s Centre	610
Valley Children’s Centre	524

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

Children's Centre Buildings proposed to Close/Alternative Usage Options

Children's Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA's**
Cortonwood Children's Centre	211
Dinnington Children's Centre	352
Kimberworth Children's Centre	308
Marcliff Children's Centre	0
Meadows Children's Centre	206
Park View Children's Centre	345
Rockingham Children's Centre	261
Ryton Brook Children's Centre	67
Silver Birch Children's Centre	138
Sue Walker Children's Centre	0
Thorpe Hesley Children's Centre	0
Thurcroft Children's Centre	189
Wath Victoria Children's Centre	374

*Number of children under 5 years of age based on GP data as of the 31st March 2013

** Most disadvantaged 30% SOA areas as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010(IMD)

Please note in the table above, Marcliffe, Thorpe Hesley and Sue Walker Children's Centres show zero children living in the 30% SOA. Please note that in these areas children under 5 accessing the centre are from outside of the 30% SOA areas.

A public consultation has taken place from 3rd February until 30th April 2014. This included an online questionnaire, comments email section, Frequently Asked Questions, 13 formal public consultation events with parents across the borough and a stakeholder event on the 2nd April 2014 for key stakeholders/partners. It also included face to face sessions with interested parties as requested.

Following the analysis and outcome of the public consultation, a report will be prepared for the Cabinet meeting to be held on 18th June 2014.

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

Table 1 shows all Rotherham Children's Centres (with the buildings proposed to stay open highlighted) and the number of users accessing individual Centres by target/protected characteristics groups between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014.

Children's Centre Accessed	BME Children Seen	Workless Household Seen	Total Children Seen	30% SOA Children Seen	Teenage Mothers	Lone Parents	Disabled Parents	All Male Carers	Target Fathers
Rawmarsh	77	241	890	725	46	142	24	238	105
Aughton	73	135	742	258	25	96	19	221	49
Stepping Stones	40	304	722	510	32	168	21	181	98
Brookfield	25	147	696	475	24	67	15	117	38
Rotherham Central	337	301	682	596	27	119	27	161	127
Arnold	145	294	657	580	27	130	32	144	74
Coleridge	381	321	593	583	38	144	16	127	112
Valley	399	174	716	376	9	79	18	142	94
Thrybergh	39	228	560	521	27	101	11	122	60
Wath Victoria	53	172	661	348	19	116	44	158	58
Dinnington	34	165	601	270	30	92	17	125	43
Park View	35	163	436	309	17	77	16	127	44
Silver Birch	56	89	827	131	27	72	14	193	26
Kimberworth	87	112	565	362	14	65	11	87	39
Cortonwood	38	125	516	218	11	78	27	126	51
Sue Walker	33	57	421	12	12	39	23	65	18
Meadows	35	84	414	172	11	91	22	119	30
Marcliff	22	28	367	42	4	18	2	42	7
Thorpe Hesley	14	14	306	23	2	28	23	85	17
Rockingham	21	73	298	232	10	58	10	61	29
Thurcroft	9	104	274	172	16	43	3	73	28
Ryton Brook	5	19	172	28	2	14	2	13	4
Total Accessed Services (counted once)	1764	3002	10571	6278	375	1611	332	2543	1075
Total Accessed at proposed 'Open' Centres	1516	2145	6258	4624	255	1046	183	1453	757
% Accessed at proposed 'Open' Centre	86%	71%	59%	74%	68%	65%	55%	57%	70%

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

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? See page 7 of guidance step 2

The following equality information is available:

User data for each Children’s Centre broken down by the protected group characteristics is detailed in **Table 1** above and has been taken into consideration. It is also supplemented by data for the 30% most disadvantaged SOAs and the number of children under five living in the most disadvantaged SOAs which has been used as the rationale to keep open the centres with the highest number of under fives (over 400) living in the most disadvantaged 30% SOAs.

Children Centres are provided with annual baseline data and agreed targets from the Local Authority on engagement rates for the target groups in their reach area. The target groups include: teenage mothers, lone parents, BME (Asian, Pakistani and other BME), disabled parents, father/male carers, children under five living in workless households, all children under five living in the reach area, children under five living in 30% most disadvantaged SOAs.

They also have demographic information about each individual Children Centre reach area, the 11 Deprived Communities profiles, Rotherham Health profiles, CC quarterly monitoring reports (detailing take-up of services by different target groups), Early Years Foundation Service profile data, Ofsted judgements for Children Centres and Private and Voluntary and Independent early education and childcare providers. Centres also identify local community priorities eg domestic violence, substance misuse, mental health

Table 2 below shows details and analysis of the priority/protected characteristics groups that may be affected by the proposals.

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

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Priority / Target Group	Demographic Information	Children's Centre data	Public Consultation (ref Appendix 1)	Analysis and Comments
BME Families (with children aged under 5 years)	15.9% of children aged under 5 in Rotherham are from a BME group. 80% of these children live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 86% of children from a BME group who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open	7.8% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation described themselves as being of a BME group. 62% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 64% agreed with the outreach proposals.	The majority of children from a BME group live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centre buildings are proposed to close. Take up of services by this group will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Families living in households dependent on workless benefits (with children aged under 5 years)	27.7% of children aged under 5 in Rotherham live in a household dependent on workless benefits. 61% of these children live in an area where	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 71% of children living in a household dependent on workless benefits who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	This group was not identified as part of the public consultation. However they are a priority target group for Children's Centre delivery and access is monitored on a quarterly basis as part of the Children's Centre Performance	The majority of children living in a household dependent on workless benefits live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where

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

	the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.		Cycle.	Centres buildings are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Families living in 30% most disadvantaged SOAs (with children aged under 5 years)	55% of children aged under 5 in Rotherham live in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA. 71% of these children live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 74% of children living in a 30% most disadvantaged area who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	45.6% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation live in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA. 51.7% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 62.3% agreed with the outreach proposals.	The majority of children living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Teenage Mothers	3% of mothers with children aged under 5 years in	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 68% of teenage mothers who accessed	11% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation were	The majority of teenage mothers live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access

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

	Rotherham are teenage mothers. 61% of teenage mothers in Rotherham live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	aged under 25 years. 44.5% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 72.5% agreed with the outreach proposals.	a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close. Teenage parents are a priority group for centres. The take up of services will continue to be monitored quarterly to ensure that teenage parents continue to access universal and targeted services where appropriate. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Lone Parents (with children aged under 5 years)	15% of parents of children aged under 5 years in Rotherham are lone parents. 60% of lone parents in Rotherham live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 65% of lone parents who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	This group was not identified as part of the public consultation. However they are a priority target group for Children's Centre delivery and access is monitored on a quarterly basis as part of the Children's Centre Performance Cycle.	The majority of lone parents live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a

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

				quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Disabled Parents (with children aged under 5 years)	1.2% of parents with a child aged under 5 years in Rotherham are a disabled parent. 57% of disabled parents with children under 5 years live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 55% of disabled parents who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	6.9% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation described themselves as being disabled or having a long term limiting illness or condition. 46.7% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 54.2% agreed with the outreach proposals.	The majority of disabled parents live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. Particular attention will be given to the Wath Victoria reach area which has a high number of disabled parents in comparison to other centres to ensure they continue to have access to services.
Male carers within target groups (with children aged under 5)	69% of male carers (within target groups) with children under 5 years live in an area where the local	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 70% of male carers (within target groups) who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at	6.9% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation were male. 52% of these respondents agreed	The majority of male carers within target groups live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open Under this proposal for the future of

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

	Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	with the proposed closures. 59% agreed with the outreach proposals.	Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Faith/religious or other beliefs	Whilst not a specified target group for Children's Centres the service will aim to provide equality of access to all faith/religious or other belief groups.		Responses were returned from the following faith communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36% Christianity • 26% No religion or belief • 4% Other • 0.8% Islam • 0.2% Hinduism • 0.2% Humanism • 0.1% Buddhism • 0.05% Sikhism 	There will be equality of impact across all groups, therefore it is not considered that this group will be more disadvantaged than any other. Children's Centres will continue to contribute towards supporting community cohesion.
Sexual orientation	Whilst not a specified target group for Children's Centres the service will aim to provide equality of access to people of all sexual orientation.		No information has been collected	The proposals will impact equally across people of all sexual orientation.

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

Pregnancy and Maternity	No data is currently available	No information has been collected	All Children's Centres will continue to work closely with midwives and health visitors to support access to "pre and post birth" maternity services, including health visiting. These services will form an integral part of the Foundation Years Service the core service offer.
Marriage and Civil Partnerships	No data is currently available	No information has been collected	The proposals will impact equally across married people, those in civil partnerships and non-married people

Please also note the following information:

- Children's Centres have a duty to work with identified target groups to improve outcomes for children and families. This is closely monitored by the local authority on a quarterly basis. It is also challenged through Ofsted Children Centre inspections
- The proposal is to keep open Children Centre buildings in the most disadvantaged areas and deliver outreach services to vulnerable families living in other areas to minimise the impact of closing centre buildings.
- GP data as at 1st April 2013 (includes all children aged under 5 years registered with a Rotherham GP) shows that:
 - 84% of all BME children in Rotherham live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 73% of all children living in households dependent on workless benefits live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 84% of all children living in a SOA within the 30% most disadvantaged nationally live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 66% of all Rotherham children live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
- In addition:
 - 74% of disabled parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 72% of teenage mothers with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 71% of lone parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open

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

Individual centres undertake local consultation with the community, service users and non-users to identify need. They also evaluate and review current services and revise delivery in light of feedback received. Centres produce local plans to address under-represented and targeted groups which identify the centre's priorities and required actions. These are monitored by the CC Advisory Boards and the Local Authority (LA) on a quarterly basis. The LA also completes an annual challenge meeting with each centre which reviews performance, value for money and outcomes/impact for children under five and their families, including but not limited to the following protected characteristic groups BME, workless households, teenage mothers, lone parents, children living in the most deprived areas (30% Super Output Areas), disabled parents, male carers and targeted fathers.

Ofsted Performance of Rotherham Centres demonstrates the impact centres have had on improving outcomes for all children under five, particularly for the targeted groups.

Of the 20 Children's Centre inspections completed by March 2014, 85% have been judged to be good or outstanding: 16% Requiring Improvement (RI) and 0% Inadequate. Rotherham's Children Centre performance continues to be very good, and very high when compared to both other LA's performances in the Yorkshire and Humberside region, and that against the national average figures. As of October 31st (latest national data set) Rotherham's performance was as above with the exception that 84% of Centres inspected were judged Good or better. The national average as of 31st October 2013 was 68% good or better; 30% RI and 2% inadequate. As of October 31st in the Yorkshire and Humberside region Children 71% were judged Good or better; 30% RI and 0% inadequate. Out of 15 LA's in the Yorkshire and Humberside region, Rotherham is 3rd joint highest with regard to the percentage of centres achieving a Good Ofsted outcome and 9 other LA's in the region have higher numbers of Centres being judged as Requiring Improvement

Children accessing Children's Centres in Rotherham are gaining a very positive start to their development and the support that their parents/families are receiving.

Policy Documents

DfE Sure Start Statutory Guidance April 2013

Ofsted Framework for the inspection of Sure Start Children's Centres April 2013

DfE/DOH Supporting Families in the Foundation Years

Graham Allen, Frank Field, Marmot, Munro, Dame Tickell reviews

EYFS framework

Best Practice for a Sure Start: The Way Forward for Children's Centres, Report from the All Party Parliamentary sure Start Group, July 2013

The Foundation Years: preventing poor children becoming poor adults, Frank Field, Dec 2010

Supporting Families in the Foundation Years, Frank Field, 2010

Conception to age 2 -The Wave Trust June 2013

Birth and Beyond, DH, 2011

Rewiring Public Services, Children's Services, LGA, 2013

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

Evidence for the Frontline, Alliance for Useful Evidence, Dr. Jonathan Sharples, 2013
 Integrated Commissioning Strategy for Early Years services for children with additional needs 2008-2011, Devon County Council, 2008
 The Tail, How our schools fail one child in five: what can be done, Marshall, 2013
 Strategic toolkit for planning integrated working, 4Children, 2010
 Bright Futures: local children local approaches, LGA, 2013
 Report of the Children and Young People’s Health Outcomes Forum, The CYP Forum, 2012
 The State of the State 2013, In Search of Affordable Government, Deloitte and Reform, 2013
 NCB Collection of Essays 2013 -14

The research and evidence base from the above documents will be used to inform the creation of Rotherham Foundation Years Service across health, social care and education services.

<p>Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings) See page 7 of guidance step 3</p>	<p>Statutory Public consultation 3/2/14 – 30/04/14 including parents, stakeholders, general public, staff.</p> <p>For dates and times of events see Appendix B</p> <p>Press and other media communications</p> <p>Public can make their views known through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> † In person at a Children’s Centre of their choice ✉ CCConsultation@rotherham.gov.uk 🌐 www.rotherham.gov.uk enter “have your say on children’s centres closures” in the search engine <p>Additional Meetings Held</p> <p>CC Leaders/Lead Teachers - 3rd February 2014</p> <p>CC Leaders/Lead Teachers - 5th February 2014</p> <p>CC Leaders/Lead Teachers - 6th March 2014</p> <p>CC Executive Headteachers 3rd February 2014</p> <p>Chairs and Vice Chairs of Governing Bodies 3rd February 2014</p> <p>Dinnington School Governing Body (request for meeting) 20th February 2014</p> <p>Health Partners – Foundation Years draft vision and principles – 14th February 2014</p> <p>Learning Communities Representatives – 13th March 2014</p> <p>Deprived Communities Team Meeting – 2nd April 2014</p>
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RMBC - Equality Analysis Form for Commissioning, Decommissioning, Decision making, Projects, Policies, Services, Strategies or Functions (CDDPPSSF)

	<p>SES Briefing - 7th April 2014</p> <p>Parish Councillors meeting – 15th April 2014</p> <p>Wider Stakeholder Event – 2nd April 2014</p> <p>Key themes from the full public consultation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transport issues including cost and access of transport to go to the buildings proposed to stay open plus geographical borough wide spread of the buildings proposed to stay open might mean that some areas of the borough would have difficulty in accessing a centre building. The LA is not required to provide a Centre building in walking distance. However, they are required to provide access to services locally. The impact of this concern raised may be lessened by ensuring the continuation of the early years outreach service delivery is maintained in each local area. • the possible impact if childcare provision does not continue in those areas where a building is proposed to close on a child’s development and impact on parents continued employment if they cannot access childcare. It is envisaged that alternative providers will be identified to continue the daycare provision. • Rationale does not cover those areas of vulnerability outside of the disadvantaged 30% super output areas. It was commented that vulnerability is not just related to where you live but also to personal circumstances. The outreach service and proposed Foundation Years Service will mitigate this through delivering services in local communities. • Centre buildings are fit for purpose. Other suitable venues may not be available in local communities. Without a centre building people felt they may become isolated. This will be monitored to take any required action. <p>Summary of main findings from full public consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents really value the quality of services, the support they and their children receive from experienced staff across Rotherham’s Children Centres, especially the baby clinic service; stay
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RMBC - Equality Analysis Form for Commissioning, Decommissioning, Decision making, Projects, Policies, Services, Strategies or Functions (CDDPPSSF)

	<p>and play and childcare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents value that the Children Centre buildings are ‘fit for purpose’ and provide a welcoming community hub. • Respondents consider that organisations/services work well in partnership to deliver services. • The majority of respondents do not agree to the proposal to close children Centre buildings. • Respondents are concerned about the impact of the proposed reduction in the number of Children Centre buildings will have on their own and their children’s ability to access the remaining centres proposed to stay open, including the most vulnerable children and families and; fairness of geographical distribution; and communities feeling isolated. • Respondents questioned the rationale used and felt that other criteria should also be considered to decide which centres are proposed to remain open and those proposed to close. • The majority of respondents agree to the proposed outreach service, but have concerns about the effectiveness and quality of the service if delivered from other buildings in a local community.
<p>Engagement undertaken with staff about the implications on service users (date and group(s)consulted and key findings) See page 7 of guidance step 3</p>	<p>The following meetings took place: 28.1.14 Budget Position meeting with Early Years and Childcare Service 20.1.14 Budget Position meeting with Lead Teachers 30.1.14 Budget Position meeting with Unions 3rd February – 30th April weekly update meetings with Unions as required throughout the consultation period Staff have also attended the public consultation meetings and fed their views on the proposals into the consultation process Appropriate Local Authority HR Staff consultation on outcome of 18.6.14 Cabinet meeting and its impact on staff will begin once the final option has been decided by Members. This will involve consultation period of at least 30 days.</p>

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The Analysis

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. This list is not exhaustive - see guidance appendix 1 and page 8 of guidance step 4

Children's Centres identify, reach and help all families, especially those in greatest need of support, and have a particular emphasis on improving outcomes in:

- Child development and school readiness
- Parenting aspirations and parenting skills
- Child and family health and life chances

- Children's centres should make available **universal and targeted early childhood services** either by providing the services at the centre itself or by providing advice and assistance to parents (mothers and fathers) and prospective parents in accessing services provided elsewhere.
- Children's centres are as much about making appropriate and integrated services available, as they are about providing premises in particular geographical areas.

Target groups for centres: refer to the groups and families the centre identifies as having needs or circumstances that require particularly perceptive intervention and/or additional support.

The target groups will vary according to the centre's identification of its community and their needs but in any particular centre may include but not be limited to:

- lone parents, teenage mothers and pregnant teenagers
- children from low income backgrounds
- children living with domestic abuse, adult mental health issues and substance abuse
- children 'in need' or with a child protection plan
- children of offenders and/or those in custody
- fathers, particularly those with any other identified need, for example, teenage fathers and those in custody
- those with protected characteristics, as defined by the Equality Act 2010
- children who are in the care of the local authority (looked after children)
- children who are being cared for by members of their extended family such as a grandparent, aunt or older sibling
- families identified by the local authority as 'troubled families' who have children under five
- families who move into and out of the area relatively quickly (transient families), such as asylum seekers, armed forces personnel and those who move into the area seeking employment or taking up seasonal work
- any other vulnerable groups or individual families including those young children and families identified as at risk of harm by other services – such as adult social care, schools, police, and health services.

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The proposal is to continue to meet the above need as the services provided will continue to be delivered but in a different way or at a different location if a centre building is closed. This will be through the delivery of outreach services and existing local early years services such as health visiting and early years and childcare services at suitable local venues in local communities if a centre building is closed. **Table 1** (referred to previously) details the number of each targeted group which each CC provides services to

The proposed Foundation Years Service will work within the framework of a strategic leadership team for the CC cluster which includes representation from education, health and early help/social care. The leadership team will share information and data plus target setting to provide a coherent, holistic and integrated approach to universal and targeted early childhood service delivery from pre- conception to 5. This will ensure better targeted resources to meet children and family's needs to improve outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable, within the context of community based services

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

In addition to Appendix 1, Table 1, Table 2 the following themes were identified.

Transport, geographical location, pattern and usage of centre buildings.

- Some children and families may not access remaining CC buildings and services resulting in poorer outcomes for children and families and increased pressure on higher need services such as social care. Not all families in need of services necessarily live in the 30% most disadvantaged SOAs.
- Increasing the size of reach areas for the proposed 7 designated children's centres may result in each Centre leader being responsible for an increase engagement by the centre of children under 5 and their families within and outside the 30% SOAs
- Capacity of the CC workforce available to cover the increased reach areas.
- geographical distribution of the CC buildings proposed to remain open is focused on the 30% most disadvantaged SOAs and therefore concentrated in the centre of the borough.

The above will be addressed by monitoring take - up of services on a quarterly basis, particularly by targeted groups. It is envisaged that the Foundation Years Service will improve workforce capacity by partners and service providers working together to meet the needs of children and families. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Service, Children's Centres and other partners will take appropriate measures to address this.

Day-care Provision

The majority of children's centres across the borough operate day care provision. The operation of such day care needs to be considered in light of the LA statutory duty to secure sufficient early education for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. This particularly applies to the need to secure good quality (as judged by Ofsted) early education for vulnerable 2 year olds. In many cases the children's centre day care is already fulfilling this function, and is included within the LA sufficiency report.

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Children could be at risk of not achieving good outcomes, resulting in fewer children reaching expected attainment levels at the age of 5 years. Parents may not be able to continue work if the childcare provision is not available and there are no alternative sources of provision or providers. This means that the early education and day care provision needs to continue therefore expressions of interest are being encouraged from schools in the first instance and then from staff/ the private and voluntary sector to continue to run the childcare provision.

The following additional risks have been identified;

- As the main source of income is likely to be Early Education Funding, there is risk of the provision losing funding if it does not maintain a good or better Ofsted outcome
- The close working relationship between day care staff and family support in a centre may be affected, resulting in a fragmented service for vulnerable families, thus reducing the impact of such work
- The opportunity to prioritise places in day care for vulnerable children may be affected, potentially leading to such vulnerable children being unable to access local Early Education Funded provision
- The outcome of children's centre inspections could be adversely affected by the quality of the day care which is within the children's centre building, if such day care does not maintain the high quality currently offered
- The ability to maintain good quality provision may be reduced if children's centre leaders are not directly responsible for the day care (100% of children's centre day care is currently judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted)
- Children's delay in readiness for school and narrowing the gap in attainment outcomes at the age of 5.

The above will be addressed by continuing to monitor the sufficiency and quality of services and early education and childcare provision, including take-up of services and impact on outcomes for children and families, particularly the most vulnerable. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Services will take appropriate measures to address this.

Early Intervention and Prevention

There are at present 15,427 under 5's living in Rotherham. Of which 8,539 (55%) live in 30% SOA and below. The impact of closing 13 buildings will result in 6,830 children under 5 and their families living in Rotherham having no access to a CC building in their local community. Of which 2,451 children and their families living in 30% SOA and below would have no access to a CC building in their local community. **Table 1** shows details of the number of each targeted group which each CC provides services to.

The following additional risks have been identified;

- Reduced opportunities for work with children and their families, particularly most vulnerable. This will lead to a potential increase in poor outcomes for children and families and the need for higher levels of support and crisis interventions from specialist services such as social care resulting in a potential increased cost to the council.
- Reduction in local access to jointly delivered CC services such as health, early education and childcare provision, family support, training information and advice

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services; particularly for the most vulnerable and hard to reach families who are most in need of help and those families who will be affected by the pressures of the current economic climate.

- Families may be reluctant to travel to Centre buildings outside their local community and therefore may not take up services, particularly those who are vulnerable or hard to reach.
- There will be a potential loss of the local Children's Centre identity within some communities which could result in families, particularly the most vulnerable not knowing where to go to seek support or accessing services.

The above should be mitigated by the proposal to continue to the delivery of outreach to appropriate local communities as outreach workers will deliver services at other community venues if a centre building is closed. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Service will take appropriate measures to address this.

The Foundation Years Service will work within the framework of a strategic leadership team for the CC cluster which includes representation from education, health and early help/social care. The leadership team will share information and data plus target setting to provide a coherent, holistic and integrated approach to universal and targeted early childhood service delivery from pre- conception to 5. This will ensure better targeted resources to meet children and family's needs to improve outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable, within the context of community based services.

Quarterly monitoring of take - up of services, particularly by targeted groups will be undertaken. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Service, including Children's Centres and other partners will take appropriate measures to address this.

Meeting Ofsted inspection requirements regarding levels of performance and outcomes for children and families

There is a potential risk of not meeting the following Ofsted benchmarks for a centre to be judged good or better as a result of Children Centre reach areas being increased if centre buildings are closed. The Ofsted benchmarks include but are not limited to the following

- A minimum of registering 85% of families with under-fives in each of the children centre reach areas which includes targeted groups
- A minimum of sustaining contact with 65% of targeted groups of children and families (including workless households and 30% SOA's)

This would need to be addressed through robust joint Foundation Years Leadership across health, early years, children's centres, schools, early help/social care, private and voluntary childcare providers and the voluntary sector. Agreed information and data sharing protocols, monitoring and performance management frameworks would need to be in place.

In response to the outcomes from the recent public consultation an additional option 2 has been put forward to Cabinet for consideration.

This is in terms of the number of centre buildings proposed to close, in order that a more even geographical distribution is achieved, enabling more children and families, including the most vulnerable, to more readily access a children's centre building.

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On the basis of the rationale used throughout the public consultation; where Centre buildings are proposed to remain open (if they have more than 400 children living in the 30% most deprived SOA), the proposal should be reconsidered to include enabling a further 3 Children Centre buildings to remain open. This would support respondents concerns regarding travel and equity of geographical spread of proposed centre buildings in some areas across the Borough

The additional proposed Centres to remain open are Wath Victoria Children's Centre building, (374 children living in the most 30% SOA); Dinnington Children's Centre building (352 children living in the most 30% SOA) and Park View Children's Centre building (345 children living in the most 30% SOA. These three Children's Centres are the next Centres which have the highest number of children living in the 30% most deprived SOA.

If **option 2** was chosen, this would result in one or more Children's Centre building being located in each of the individual 7 Health locality team areas, and 7 Area Assembly boundaries. This addresses some respondents' views regarding the need to align Children's Centre buildings to both Health and Area Assemblies. If Dinnington Children's Centre building remained open, this would mean that each of the 11 deprived neighbourhood communities would have a Children Centre building. If Wath Children's Centre building remained open this would take into consideration the particularly high prevalence of disabled parents in the Wath area.

If Cabinet decide to increase the number of Centre buildings from 9 to 12, it would raise the number of families and children able to access a Children's Centre building in their locality, including the most vulnerable, as follows:-

In the period 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014:

- 10,571 Rotherham children aged under 5 years accessed Children's Centre services in at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 59% of those children seen accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 75% if the 3 additional centres were to remain open

- 6,278 Rotherham children aged under 5 years living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 74% of those children seen living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%

- 3,002 Rotherham children aged under 5 years and living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre.
 - 71% of those children seen living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%

In relation to targeted groups and the areas where they live as of 1st April, 2013

- 80% of all BME children in Rotherham live in an area where a Children's Centre

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building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%, if the 3 additional centres were to remain open.

- 61% of all children living in households dependent on workless benefits live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 73%.
- 71% of all children living in a SOA within a 30% most disadvantaged nationally live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%.
- 61% of disabled parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 74%.
- 61% of teenage mothers with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 72%.
- 58% of lone parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 71%.

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

Centres have a role in promoting community cohesion by offering valuable services to parents during early childhood which potentially could help the child develop and gain the best start in life. Further, children's centres offer these services to all communities under one roof and this often serves to break down cultural barriers and promote a sense of belonging for all. This will continue and will be monitored as part of the ongoing performance management processes

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: January 2014 to March 2015

Manager: Mary Smith

Service Area: Early Years

Tel:.....


Title of Equality Analysis:

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)
Complete statutory public consultation on the proposals	All	3 rd February to 30 th April 2014
Hold a wider stakeholder event to consult on proposals to create a Foundations Years Service	All	2 nd April 2014
Analysis of public consultation to feed into Cabinet paper	All	May to June 2014
Report presented to Cabinet to agree decision	All	18 th June 2014
HR Staff Consultation on the impact of the model for Children's Centres from 1 st April 2015 and analysis of feedback	All	July to September 2014
Options on buildings proposed to close taken forward to engage alternative providers to continue to run the centre buildings	All	June 2014 - February 2015
Recruitment of staff to new structure	All	September 2014 – January 2015
A more in-depth and detailed feasibility study would need to be completed	All	July 2014 – January

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Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics (A,D,RE,RoB,G,GI O, SO, PM,CPM, C or All)*	Target date (MM/YY)
to identify which buildings were already accessed by families and the areas where the families lived in to further identify potential risk of families, particularly the most vulnerable, of not accessing the main centre buildings due to transport issues or the distance families would have to travel.		2015
A mapping exercise should be undertaken to identify which buildings are available in local communities and their suitability to deliver quality early years services, the level of early years/foundation years workforce available and the availability of resources.	All	July 2014 – January 2015
A full implementation plan and communication strategy will be developed to advise all users of their nearest Children’s Centre under the new model and how they can continue to access services. This will be monitored to ensure that the new model does not have an adverse or disproportionate impact on target groups/protected characteristics and we continue to deliver an equitable service to all existing and potential users, particularly those most in need.	All	January – March 2015
New structure in place and operational	All	1 st April 2015
Name Of Director who approved Plan		Date 12.6.14

*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.

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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
<p>Directorate: Children and Young People's Services</p> <p>Function, policy or proposal name: Children Centres</p> <p>Function or policy status: Changing (new, changing or existing)</p> <p>Name of lead officer completing the assessment: Mary Smith</p> <p>Date of assessment: 21st January 2014</p>	<p>1. Children's Centres already deliver universal and targeted services to target groups which include but are not limited to the protected characteristics groups. Centres and the Local Authority monitor uptake of services by all children under 5 and their families, particularly the most vulnerable and the targeted groups.</p> <p>2. There is some level of interest from partners who would like to explore taking on the daycare and or the children's centre services in centre buildings proposed to close.</p> <p>3. A more in-depth and detailed feasibility study would need to be completed to identify which buildings were already accessed by families and the areas where the families lived in to further identify potential risk of families, particularly the most vulnerable, of not accessing the main centre buildings due to transport issues or the distance families would have to travel.</p>	<p>1. Amend current performance and monitoring processes to fit the new model. (September 2014 – February 2015)</p> <p>2. Implement the buildings options process for buildings proposed to close to engage alternative providers to continue to run the centre buildings from 1st April 2015. (June 2014 - February 2015)</p> <p>3. Complete an in-depth and detailed feasibility study (July 2014-July 2015)</p>

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

Completed equality analysis	Key findings	Future actions
	<p>4. A mapping exercise should be undertaken to identify which buildings are available in local communities and their suitability to deliver quality early years services, the level of early years/foundation years workforce available and the availability of resources.</p> <p>5. A full implementation plan and communication strategy will be developed to advise all users of their nearest Children's Centre under the new model and how to continue to access services. This will be monitored to ensure that the new model does not have an adverse or disproportionate impact on target groups/protected characteristics.</p>	<p>4. Mapping exercise to be undertaken to address the key findings (July 2014 – January 2015)</p> <p>5. Implementation plan and communication strategy undertaken to address the key findings (January 2015 – March 2015)</p> <p>New structure to be in place and operational from 1st April 2015</p>

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

Appendix A - Children's Centre Proposed Closure Consultation Response Form Further Analysis on Equalities Data

We asked respondents if they would like to answer some equal opportunities questions. 81% said yes, but some people did not answer all questions. The results in this report are expressed as a % of those who responded to each question.

A majority of respondents were female aged 25-34 years. 9% of respondents were disabled or had a limiting long term illness/condition. 9% were carers. 90% were white British followed by 2.8% Asian or Asian/British Pakistani. 53% were Christian followed by 38.4% with no religion or belief.

Gender

91% of respondents were female and 9% were male.

46.7% of females agreed with the chosen centres compared with 52% of males.

60.8% of females agreed with the proposal for outreach compared with 59% of males.

To the question 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' the top 4 responses were the same for each gender:

31% females selected 'I will not use a children's centre at all' compared with 28% of males.

14% of females selected 'don't know' compared with 18% of males.

13% of females selected 'I will use the children's centre services less often' compared with 14% of males.

12% of females selected 'no impact' compared to 16% of males.

So the percentage responses from males and females were very similar. The biggest difference was that a higher percentage of males said it will have no impact.

BME Groups

90.1% of respondents were British and 9.9% were all other ethnicities (BME).

Of those BME 62% agreed with the proposed closures. This is a significantly higher percentage than the overall survey response which was 43%.

64% of those BME agreed with the outreach proposals. This was a slightly higher percentage than the overall survey response, which was 58%.

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' the top 4 responses were:

22% selected 'I will not use children's centres at all', which is 12% lower than the overall survey response to this question.

20% selected 'don't know', which is 5% higher than the overall survey response.

15% selected 'I will use children's centres less often' and 12% said 'no impact' which are both similar to the overall responses.

So in comparison to the overall survey response, a higher percentage of BME agreed with the proposed closures whilst a similar amount agreed with outreach. A higher percentage of non-BME said that they wouldn't use children's centre services at all than those who were BME. A higher percentage of the BME didn't know what the impact will be on them.

Young People – Under 25 years old

14% of respondents to this question were under the age of 25.

44.5% of those under 25 years disagreed with the proposed centres. This is very close to the overall survey response of 43%.

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72.5% of those under 25 years agreed with outreach. This is significantly higher than the 58% of the overall survey that agreed, which suggests that more of the younger group are agreeable to the idea of using outreach services.

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' 42.5% selected 'I will not use a centre at all'. This is 8% higher than the overall survey responses.

14% will use less often, 13.5% selected 'no impact' and 12% selected 'don't know'. However, 14.5% selected multiple answers which included using other centres, alternatives or will use less often. Therefore, less than half will not use at all but the remaining will use an alternative or say it will have no impact.

Disability or Long Term Limiting Illness or Condition

120 people responded to say that they are disabled.

Of those 46.7% agreed with the chosen centres. This is slightly higher percentage agreeing with the proposed centres than the overall survey response of 43%.

54.2% people agreed with the outreach proposals. This is a slightly lower than the overall survey response of 58%.

So similar numbers of disabled people disagree with the chosen centres but do agree with outreach. In both of these questions, the numbers are nearly a 50/50 response, and are close to the figures from the overall survey response.

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?', the highest response was 'I will not use centres at all' from 33.3% of respondents which is close to the overall survey response rate of 34.34%.

15% said no impact compared with 10.64% of the overall survey response

14.1% will use CC's less often compared with 17.72% of the overall survey response

5.8% will use an alternative compared with 13.19% from the overall response

However, 16.6% (19) people ticked multiple options which included using an alternative, using another centre or using less often. 10% didn't know and 4% said 'other'. So 51.7% will use some kind of alternative, other centre or say it will have no impact. 33% say they will not use at all. 11% didn't know and 4% said other.

So in comparison to the overall response, similar percentages agree with the chosen centres and outreach proposals and say that they will not use a centre at all. However, a higher percentage of those with a disability said it will have no impact but a lower percentage will use an alternative.

Religion or Belief

Of all of the responses to this question, the largest groups were: 53% Christianity 38.5% no religion or belief, 6.5% other. 2% were other named religions or beliefs.

Overall, 53.6% of those who had some kind of religion or belief disagree with the chosen centres. This is not too far from the overall survey response of 57%.

Of those with a religion or belief, 60.5% agree with outreach proposals and of those without a religion or belief 62% agree. Again these are both very close to the overall survey response percentage of 58%

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' the highest numbers for reasons selected were:

27% of those with a religion or belief will not use a centre at all compared to 36% of those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 34%.

14.7% of those with a religion or belief selected 'don't know' compared to 14.2% of those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 14.78%.

13.95% of those with a religion or belief will use a centre less often compared to 11.81% those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 17.72%.

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12.72% of those with a religion or belief selected 'no impact' compared to 13.56% those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 10.64%

So those with a religion or belief answered in similar percentages to those without and to the overall response rate. The largest difference was with those who said they will not use a centre at all. A higher percentage of those without a religion or belief will not use a centre at all.

Summary:

In summary, these are the greatest differences coming out of the survey responses for the particular groups detailed above:

The responses from males and females were very similar. The biggest difference was that a higher percentage of males said it will have no impact.

A higher percentage of BME agreed with the proposed closures than the overall response rate and less of the BME group said that they wouldn't use a children's centre at all.

A higher rate of those under 25 years old agreed with outreach than the overall survey response. This suggests that more of the younger group are agreeable to the idea of using outreach services. However, when asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' a higher percentage of those under 25 years old selected 'I will not use a centre at all' than the overall survey response rate.

A higher percentage of disabled respondents said that the closures will have no impact compared with the overall survey response but a lower percentage said that they will use an alternative if centres close.

A higher percentage of those without a religion or belief will not use a centre at all compared to those with a religion or belief. However, this is a similar percentage to the overall survey responses.

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

Appendix B - Children's Centres Public Consultation Meetings Held

Date/Time	Children's Centres	Venue
Thursday 6 th February 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Rockingham Professional Development Centre Roughwood Road Wingfield Estate Rotherham, S61 4HY
Monday 17 th February 2014 6.00pm - 7.00pm	Coleridge	Clifton Comprehensive Middle Lane Rotherham S65 2SN
Wednesday 12 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Rawmarsh Thrybergh/Dalton Silver Birch Marcliff	Rawmarsh Community School Haugh Road Rawmarsh Rotherham S62 7GA
Thursday 20 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Brookfield Wath Victoria Cortonwood	Wath Comprehensive School Sandygate Wath upon Dearne Rotherham S63 7NW
Tuesday 25 th March 2014 4.00 – 5.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Ferham Primary School Ferham Road Rotherham S61 1AP
Thursday 27 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Valley Arnold	Clifton Comprehensive Middle Lane Rotherham S65 2SN
Monday 31 st March 2014 6.00pm – 7:00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Thurcroft Infant School Locksley Drive Thurcroft Rotherham S66 9NT
Wednesday 2 nd April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Rawmarsh Thrybergh/Dalton Silver Birch Marcliff	Flanderwell Primary School Greenfield Court Flanderwell Rotherham S66 2JF
Thursday 3 rd April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Wales High School Storth Lane Kiveton Park Sheffield S26 5QQ
Monday 7 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Maltby Stepping Stones Dinnington Ryton Brook	Dinnington Community Primary School School Street Dinnington Sheffield, S25 2RE
Tuesday 8 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall Rosegarth Avenue Aston Sheffield S26 2DD

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

Wednesday 9 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Maltby Stepping Stones Dinnington	Maltby Craggs Community School Strauss Crescent Maltby Rotherham, S66 7QJ
Monday 28 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Rockingham Professional Development Centre Roughwood Road Wingfield Estate Rotherham, S61 4HY
22.4.14 10.00 am -11am	Meadows Children Centre	Catcliffe Parish Hall

A Foundation Years practitioners and wider stakeholder consultation event took place on 2nd April 2014