

## 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

**Title:** SEND Hub progress update

**Directorate:**  
CYPS

**Service area:**  
Commissioning, performance and quality

**Lead person:**  
Helen Sweaton

**Contact:**  
Helen.sweaton@rotherham.gov.uk

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

**If other, please specify**

### 2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

The report screens the activities undertaken in progressing the use of Eric Manns building to provide a SEND Activity Hub in the Town Centre that will allow the Council to improve our offer of recreational activities for children and young people with SEND.

### 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.

## APPENDIX 1

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		

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).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

Equality and diversity has been considered at all key stages of the development of the SEND hub.

## APPENDIX 1

- **Key findings**

In Rotherham 20.4% of pupils have either a statutory plan for Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND), known as an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), or are receiving SEND support (previously known as school action and school action plus). This compares to an average of 17.1% across all England Authorities.

Rotherham Council Plan outlines the Council's ambition for every child to fulfil their potential and a commitment to ensuring children and young people have fun things to do and safe places to go. The Council is also committed to addressing inequalities to ensure no child is left behind, for children and young people with special educational needs and/ or disabilities and their families, the SEND Hub provides access to a safe place to go in the Town Centre, which also helps to make the rest of the Town centre accessible.

- **Actions**

Work in partnership with Rotherham parent carer forum to develop the SEND Hub. This will support both the Council and the RPCF to deliver their objectives by providing a safe disability friendly space in the Town Centre. It will encourage young people with SEND to reach their full potential by developing their skills, allowing them to become more independent, confident, and part of their community.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	April – June 2024
--	-------------------

Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	July 2024
--	-----------

Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Sonya Chambers
---	----------------

### 5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Helen Sweaton	Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Quality	July 2024
Cary-Anne Sykes	Assistant Director, Property and Facilities	July 2024

### 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.

APPENDIX 1

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>	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
<b>Report title and date</b>	SEND Hub progress update
<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>	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
<b>Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement</b> <a href="mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk">equality@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	30 <sup>th</sup> July 2024