**SSA EQUALITY IMPACT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS**

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| **Directorate** | **Children’s Services** |
| **Service Area** | **Special Needs, Disability and Psychology** |
| **Service/policy/function being assessed** | **ASD Pathway and service design** |
| **Which borough (s) does the service/policy apply to** | **Wandsworth** |
| **Staff involved** | **Head of Special Needs, Disability and Psychology** |
| **Date approved by Policy and Review Manager** |  |

**SUMMARY**

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| * It is proposed to consult parents / carers and other key partners and stakeholders on proposals to re-design the specialist services to support children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This builds on previous consultation regarding key priorities.
* The proposed new service
	+ creates a more streamlined pathway
	+ provides greater access to post-diagnostic support
	+ brings together a multi-disciplinary team to ensure that support is more co-ordinated
* As males are more highly represented in the cohort of young people identified with ASD they would be more positively impacted by the introduction of this change to the service and pathway. Parents may be concerned about the potential changes because they are used to the current service delivery models and this is why there will be a period of stakeholder consultation prior to definitive proposals being presented to the Education and Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June 2019
* Although the staff base for some staff within the service may change the location of delivery of services to services users will remain the same
* It is also anticipated that black and black British children and young people would be more highly represented in the cohort with ASD and therefore they would also be more positively impacted by the proposed changes to the model.
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1. **Background**

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| * The number of children and young people being diagnosed with ASD has increased significantly in the last five years, and the borough is moving from diagnosis levels of 1:100 per child population to 1:50. Although a similar pattern has been in seen in other boroughs, this exceeds the nationally reported expectations.
* Consultation with parents / carers and professionals in 2017/18 indicated that there are concerns about the level of support and intervention available to children and families post diagnosis, to enable them to understand the implications of having ASD and develop strategies to cope.
* The proposals on which it is now intended to consult have been drawn up to
	+ Provide a single specialist service in the borough
	+ Provide a more streamlined pathway for assessment and support which ensures appropriate access to and involvement of universal services close to where the child lives
	+ Provides improved access to specialist post diagnostic support
* An aim of providing more effective post-diagnostic support is to reduce the risk of school placements breaking down and to reduce the risk of families not being able to cope leading to the potential of children being placed in residential settings.
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1. **Analysis of need and impact**

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| **Protected group** |  |
| **Disability** | The table below indicates the increase in the number of children with ASD in Wandsworth over the last 9 years. Until five to six years ago it was accepted that Wandsworth was in line with other areas which had a prevalence of ASD of one in 100 of child population. This has shifted now to one in 50. The service change will specifically benefit the proportion of the population identified as having ASD.

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| **2009-10** | **2010-11** | **2011-12** | **2012-13** | **2013-14** | **2014-15** | **2015-16** | **2017-18** |
| 495 | 563 | 586 | 631 | 672 | 729 | 860 | 1205 |

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| **Age** | This report relates to young people aged between 0 and 19 and therefore that proportion of the population will specifically benefit from the changes. |
| **Gender (sex)** | More males are identified with ASD than females. This is recognised in national data. The table sets out the male / female prevalence compared to the population. These service changes will therefore benefit more males than females.

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|   | Males | Females |
| With ASD | 82% | 18% |
| Population | 48%  | 52% |

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| **Race/****ethnicity** | As children / young people with ASD are currently supported by multiple teams it has not been possible to pull together a single dataset to analyse race/ethnicity however school census data provides a guide to the race/ethnicity of Wandsworth young people identified with Special Educational Needs (SEN) who are receiving support at the SEN Support stage or the Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) stage. There is a slightly higher percentage of Black and Black British pupils with SEND than in the general school population and a slightly lower percentage of Asian and Asian British. These data have been drawn from the May 2018 School Census

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|  | **SEN Support** | **EHCP** |  **Total in Wandsworth School** |
| Asian or Asian British | 654 (14.6%) | 218 (12.9%) | 5947 (17.4%) |
| Black or Black British | 1146 (25.5%) | 452 (27%) | 7309 (21.4%) |
| Mixed | 678 (15%) | 230 (13.7%) | 4331 (12.7%) |
| Other | 187 (4.2%) | 57 (3.4%) | 1565 (4.6%) |
| White | 1717 (38.3%) | 673 (40%) | 13929 (40.8%) |
| Refused/Not Obtained | 72 (1.6%) | 30 (1.8%) | 578 (1.7%) |
| Unknown | 32 (0.7%) | 17 (1%) | 473 (1.4%) |
| **Total** | **4486** | **1677** | **34132** |

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding |
| **Gender reassignment** | **Not known**  |
| **Marriage and civil partnership** | **Not applicable** |
| **Pregnancy and maternity** | **Not applicable** |
| **Religion and belief, including non belief** | **Not known**  |
| **Sexual orientation** | **Not known**  |

**Data gaps**

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| **Data gap(s)** | **How will this be addressed?** |
| **Data on the protected characteristics of young people accessing travel assistance is not currently collated and analysed** | An expectation of the newly developed service will be a requirement to maintain a comprehensive data set including appropriate information on protected groups but the main focus will be on gender / age / ethnicity / disability and where appropriate data on sexual orientation |

1. **Impact**

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| **Protected group** | **Positive** | **Negative** |
| **Age** | The previous consultation indicated that parents of children over the age of 9 years had a higher level of concern about access to services post diagnosis. The proposals to implement more effective post-diagnostic support should have a positive impact for this age group.There is a perception currently of long waits for diagnosis. The proposals are intended to ensure that children can access support during the period of assessment and that the process of specialist assessment leading to diagnosis should be more timely. This relates particularly to those children being assessed by the paediatricians / speech and language therapists aged between 0-8. Children over the age of 8 will continue to access specialist assessment from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services where the time frame has been more contained | There is a risk with any service change that it might be perceived as negative because it is anticipated that there will be changes of staff and there will be a period of implementation when the service is not fully in place. It is anticipated that this would have an impact across all protected groups but steps would be taken to reduce the potential for any negative impact through having interim plans for existing service users  |
| **Disability** | As the re-design is intended to benefit children with ASD by enabling greater access to post-diagnostic support the expectation is that the proposals will have a positive impact for children / young people with these needs. These include better support for families * through training
* through targeted interventions both in settings and in situations of significant need in the home environment
* through more multi-disciplinary working
 | As above |
| **Gender (sex)** | Boys are more likely to have ASD than girls and therefore will benefit from the positive impacts outlined in the age and disability sections | As above |
| **Race/ethnicity** | Black and Black British children are more likely to be identified with SEND and therefore ASD. They therefore will benefit more from the positive impacts outlined in the age and disability sections | As above |
| **Gender reassignment** | data not currently collected. The positive impacts outlined above will impact on all young people accessing the service regardless of their belief or lack of belief  | As above |
| **Marriage and civil partnership** | N/A |  |
| **Pregnancy and maternity** | N/A |  |
| **Religion and belief, including non belief** | data not currently collected. The positive impacts outlined above will impact on all young people accessing the service regardless of their belief or lack of belief  | As above |
| **Sexual orientation** | No dataThe positive impacts outlined above will impact on all young people accessing the service regardless of their sexual orientation | As above |

1. **Actions**

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| **Action** | **Lead Officer** | **Deadline** |
| * To consult with parents / carers / young people and other key stakeholders on the proposals for the service re-design
 | Andy Fish | April 2019 |
| * To update this EINA in the light of the consultation outcome
 | Carol Payne | May 2019 |
| * To bring the outcome of the stakeholder consultation back to the June cycle of ECSOSC for decision.
 | Carol Payne | June 2019 |
| * To undertake staffing consultation based on the finally agreed service design
 | Garratt Park School  | Sept 2019 |
| * To ensure that during the consultation and subsequent period of planning and preparation for the re-designed service, the current teams (Garratt Park Advisory Service / Early Years Advisors) continue the service delivery for this cohort of children and young people
 | Carol Payne | March2019 |
| * To develop comprehensive data set for monitoring the service
 | Head of Service | March 2020 |

**5. Consultation**

A consultation will be undertaken with key stakeholders using a survey and focus group approach. The outcome of the consultation will be brought back to the Education and Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June 2019.