

EQUALITY IMPACT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

Directorate	Children's Services
Service Area	Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) – including the Short Breaks offer
Service/policy/function being assessed	Initial consultation for the development of the SEND Strategy and Short Breaks Review
Which borough (s) does the service/policy apply to	Wandsworth
Staff involved in developing this EINA	Katie McElligott Jill Teape Bill Sinnott Paul Williamson
Date approved by Directorate Equality Group (if applicable)	
Date approved by Policy and Review Manager All EINAs must be signed off by the Policy and Review Manager	25 th July 2024
Date submitted to Directors' Board	

1. Summary

Please summarise the key findings of the EINA.

We are developing a new three-year SEND Strategy for Wandsworth, to launch in 2025. This will include our vision for SEND services in the borough, our key priorities for the future, and the actions we plan to achieve in order to provide outstanding services to our children, young people, and families.

We want to ensure that this strategy reflects the needs and priorities of those it represents, which is why we will be consulting our young people, families, and professionals, to ensure we collate their feedback to shape our new strategy. Following this, we will share a draft with residents later in the year to feed back on.

We are also reviewing our current Short Breaks offer, which gives children and young people with SEND the chance to spend time away from their families, gain independence, learn new skills, and have fun with friends. Short Breaks also give parents and carers of children and young people with SEND the chance to have a "break" from their caring responsibilities to rest, spend time with their other children, or to enjoy a leisure activity themselves.

Wandsworth Council funds a variety of short breaks for children with SEND, including:

- A wide range of activities and clubs for children and young people with SEND.
- Direct Payments for families to secure support for their child's care.
- Support packages to provide care at home and in the community.

We will be consulting with the same cohort of young people, families, and professionals to gather their views on Short Breaks in order to shape our new offer.

The data below shows that there are significantly more males aged 0-25 with SEND than females (70.3% compared to 29.7% with EHCPs), and only 34% of our resident EHCP population are White, compared to 69% nationally. There is also a high percentage of looked after children with EHCPs (37.9%) and SEN support (25.2%).

For our short breaks cohort, there were 742 service users during the 22-23 financial year and 2738 short breaks commissioned, with an average of 67 hours per service user. Of this cohort, 67% of service users were male, and 40% of the service users were White. The short breaks service is used most by the 11-15 age group, with the 6-10 age group shortly behind.

The outcome of this EINA shows there is no significant adverse outcomes for individuals and groups with protected characteristics. While there might be perceived negative outcomes due to potential changes resulting from the new strategy and Short Breaks review, we will implement change management tools and methods (e.g. engagement with local families) to ensure mitigation.

2. Evidence gathering and engagement

a. What evidence has been used for this assessment? For example, national data, local data via DataRich or DataWand

Evidence	Source
Pupil data	Schools Census Data
EHCP data	Wandsworth Resident Data
National data	DfE national dataset
National and local data	DataWand
Refugee data	DfE data

b. Who have you engaged and consulted with as part of your assessment?

This EINA is being developed as part of our initial engagement and consultation.

3. Analysis of need

Protected group	Findings																																									
Age	<p>The strategy will be aimed at children and young people between 0 and 25, which means this age group will be most impacted.</p> <p>In the 2021 ONS census, the Under 25s population in Wandsworth was 88,215, i.e. 27% of all residents, compared to 30% in London and 29% in England. A further breakdown by age range is set out below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Age Range</th> <th colspan="2">Wandsworth</th> <th colspan="2">London</th> <th colspan="2">England</th> </tr> <tr> <th>No. of residents</th> <th>% of population</th> <th>No. of residents</th> <th>% of population</th> <th>No. of residents</th> <th>% of population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0 - 4</td> <td>18,704</td> <td>5.7%</td> <td>528,956</td> <td>6.0%</td> <td>3,076,950</td> <td>5.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 - 9</td> <td>16,908</td> <td>5.2%</td> <td>531,493</td> <td>6.0%</td> <td>3,348,700</td> <td>5.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 - 14</td> <td>15,678</td> <td>4.8%</td> <td>535,442</td> <td>6.1%</td> <td>3,413,327</td> <td>6.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 - 19</td> <td>13,081</td> <td>4.0%</td> <td>489,386</td> <td>5.6%</td> <td>3,218,893</td> <td>5.7%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Range	Wandsworth		London		England		No. of residents	% of population	No. of residents	% of population	No. of residents	% of population	0 - 4	18,704	5.7%	528,956	6.0%	3,076,950	5.4%	5 - 9	16,908	5.2%	531,493	6.0%	3,348,700	5.9%	10 - 14	15,678	4.8%	535,442	6.1%	3,413,327	6.0%	15 - 19	13,081	4.0%	489,386	5.6%	3,218,893	5.7%
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20 - 24	23,844	7.3%	589,185	6.7%	3,414,452	6.0%
Total	88,215	26.9%	2,674,462	30.4%	16,472,322	29.2%

This data shows that the largest age range within this group is 20-24 (7.3% - slightly higher than both London at 6.7% and England at 6.0%), followed by 0-4 (5.7% - slightly lower than London at 6.0% but slightly higher than England at 5.4%).

Age Group of EHCPs	England	London	Wandsworth
Under 5	4.6%	5.0%	4.2%
Age 5 to 10	32.7%	35.4%	35.5%
Age 11 to 15	36.4%	33.3%	33.7%
Age 16 to 19	20.1%	19.0%	19.7%
Age 20 to 25	6.2%	7.4%	6.9%

As we can see above, the distribution of age group amongst EHCP residents are broadly similar to both national and London averages, however in both Wandsworth and London as a whole, the age 5-10 group are most represented, whereas nationally the 11-15 age range is more prominent.

Disability

There are 42,292 pupils in Wandsworth schools, with 4,492 recorded as having SEN Support (*School Census, Jan 2024*). Resident data shows 3,009 active Education, Health & Care Plans (EHCPs).

6.2% of our school populations (i.e. our population in schools, not resident population) has an EHCP (8th highest nationally), compared to 4.8% nationally and for stat neighbours. However, this is heavily impacted by our status as a large net importer of Special School students. Our overall SEN Support population is 14.4% (51st highest nationally), compared to 13.6% nationally and 13.8% for stat neighbours.

DfE Data (2023) breaking down SEN Support by education settings is set out below.

Education Setting	% of pupils receiving SEN support (2023 – DfE)		
	Wandsworth	London	England
Nursery School	21.7	20.1	17.0
Primary School	13.9	12.6	13.5
Secondary School	12.9	11.1	12.4
Special School	0.7	2.1	1.0

This data shows that Wandsworth has a higher proportion of pupils receiving SEN Support compared to London and England in each setting (excluding special schools). The largest cohort receiving SEN support is at nursery school (21.7% compared to 20.1% in London and 17% in England).

Sex	For those with EHCPs, 70.3% are male and 29.7% are female (<i>School Census, Jan 2024</i>). This means that any changes will impact more males than females. For our Short Breaks cohort in 2022-2023, 67% were male and 33% female.																																																																								
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Religion and belief, including non belief	The most prominent religion amongst the Under 25s population is Christian (39%), shortly followed by non-religious (34%). 16% of our 0-25 population are Muslim, compared to 10% of the overall population.																																																																								
Sexual orientation	Not known.																																																																								
Socio-economic status (to be treated as a protected characteristic under Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010)	<u>Deprivation</u> On the ONS's deprivation measures, Wandsworth is the 3rd least deprived borough in London. Using the 2019 Indices of Deprivation and the ONS Census 2021 data, an estimated 8,544 children are living in deprivation, with the most deprived wards for children being:																																																																								

<p>Include the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deprivation (measured by the 2019 English Indices of Deprivation) • Low-income groups & employment • Carers • Care experienced people • Single parents • Health inequalities • Refugee status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roehampton (estimated 1,131 children living in deprivation) • Battersea Park (estimated 648 children living in deprivation) • Falconbrook (estimated 643 children living in deprivation) <p><u>Low-income Groups & Employment</u></p> <p>DWP data (2021/22) shows us that the percentages of children under 16 living in families with Absolute or Relative Low Income in Wandsworth are both below London and England figures:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Wandsworth</th> <th>London</th> <th>England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>% of children Living in families with Absolute Low Income</td> <td>8.5%</td> <td>12.0%</td> <td>14.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% of children Living in families with Relative Low Income</td> <td>10.7%</td> <td>15.0%</td> <td>19.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In addition, local data shows that in 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.4% of 16-25s with an EHCP were undertaking an apprenticeship, compared to 0.6% for stat neighbours and 0.6% nationally. • 0.7% of 16-25s with an EHCP were undertaking a traineeship, compared to 0.7% for stat neighbours and 0.3% nationally. • 0.9% of 16-25s with an EHCP were undertaking a supported internship, compared to 2.5% for stat neighbours and 1.1% nationally. <p><u>Carers</u></p> <p>Only 0.1% of the Wandsworth school population are known to be young carers, compared to 0.3% in London and 0.6% nationally.</p> <p><u>Care Experienced People</u></p> <p>Local data shows that in June 2022, the percentage of looked after children with EHCPs was 37.9%, compared to 38.3% for stat neighbours and 30.2% nationally. The percentage of looked after children with SEN Support was 25.9%, compared to 25.2% for stat neighbours and 27.2% nationally.</p> <p><u>Single Parents</u></p> <p>6% of households in Wandsworth are lone parent households with dependent children, however this is lower than regional and national averages.</p> <p><u>Health Inequalities</u></p> <p>From Census 2021 data, the percentage of children not in good health is 2.2%, compared to 2.8% at a national level. This is broken down by cluster as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battersea – 2.4% • Roehampton – 2.2% • Tooting – 2.1% <p>Local data also shows that as of May 2023, there is a total of 2,401 children claiming Disability Living Allowance, broken down by cluster as follows:</p>		Wandsworth	London	England	% of children Living in families with Absolute Low Income	8.5%	12.0%	14.7%	% of children Living in families with Relative Low Income	10.7%	15.0%	19.2%
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roehampton – 948 • Battersea – 742 • Tooting – 711 <p><u>Refugee Status</u> In March 2023, 11% of the looked after children population are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (26 individuals) and the majority of looked after children are 10+ years (69%) which is linked to a particularly high level of need for this age group (Department for Education, 2023).</p>
Across groups i.e older LGBT service users or Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic young men.	Where possible, we have included data across groups above e.g. race / ethnicity of children with EHCPs.

Data gaps

Data gap(s)	How will this be addressed?
Data on protected characteristic groups – gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marriage & civil partnership, and pregnancy & maternity.	As part of ongoing service development there 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.
SEND-specific data for protected characteristic groups – religion & belief, deprivation, carers, single parents, and refugee status.	These areas will be considered alongside other characteristic groups as part of the development of the strategy, particularly what they mean for children and young people with SEND.

4. Impact

Protected group	Positive	Negative
Age	<p>The new strategy will aim to positively impact children and young people aged 0-25 years with SEND, ensuring they can access services which meet their needs, in their local area.</p> <p>The Short Breaks Review will focus on access to sports, activities, youth clubs, personal care, and overnight respite for children with SEND.</p>	<p>There may be a risk that any changes resulting from the new strategy or review are perceived as negative as they are embedded.</p> <p>It is anticipated that these will be minimal as the purpose of the strategy and review is to improve the Local Area services for children and young people with SEND. We will also be engaging closely with key stakeholders to ensure that the strategy is co-produced with young people, families, and</p>

		professionals to reduce any potential or perceived negative impacts.
Disability	<p>The new strategy will aim to positively impact all children and young people with SEND.</p> <p>The Short Breaks Review will aim to build on the existing short breaks offer to ensure that short breaks are comprehensive and accessible to all families in support of the outcomes listed above.</p>	As above.
Sex	The new strategy will aim to positively impact all children and young people with SEND, as specified above, regardless of gender.	As above.
Gender reassignment	N/A	N/A
Marriage and civil partnership	N/A	N/A
Pregnancy and maternity	N/A	N/A
Race/ethnicity	<p>The new strategy will aim to positively impact all children and young people with SEND, as specified above, regardless of race / ethnicity.</p> <p>However, special consideration will be given to those from a global majority background to ensure awareness and sensitivity to specific cultural needs.</p> <p>The Short Breaks Review will seek to address any barriers to access to short based on race or ethnicity.</p>	As above.
Religion and belief, including non belief	The new strategy will aim to positively impact all children and young people with SEND, as specified above, regardless of religion or belief.	N/A
Sexual orientation	N/A	N/A
Socio-economic status (to be treated as a protected characteristic under Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010) Include the following groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deprivation (measured by the 	<p>The new strategy will aim to ensure access for all children and young people to services, opportunities and activities.</p> <p>Special consideration will be given to children and young people from low-income families, as well as young carers and those who are care</p>	N/A

<p>2019 English Indices of Deprivation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-income groups & employment • Carers • Care experienced people • Single parents • Health inequalities • Refugee status 	<p>experienced, and to ensure alignment with programmes and initiatives such as the Cost-of-Living Programme, Community Spaces, and the Play Charter to ensure inclusive access for all.</p>	
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5. Actions to advance equality, diversity and inclusion

Action	Lead Officer	Deadline
Consult with key stakeholders on the development of the strategy	Katie McElligott / Jill Teape	1 st round: Summer 2024 2 nd round: Late 2024
Consult with key stakeholders on the Short Breaks Review	Paul Williamson	Summer 2024
Update this EINA in light of consultation outcomes	Katie McElligott / Jill Teape	Late 2024

6. Further Consultation

Consultation planned	Date of consultation
Initial consultation on the strategy and Short Breaks review will be carried out via an online survey and focus groups with key stakeholders. This will include children, families, parents, carers, and professionals.	Summer 2024
Further consultation will be carried out on the draft strategy and the recommendations of the short breaks review in late 2024, via the same methods.	Late 2024