

## Equality and Safety Impact Assessment

The **public sector Equality Duty** (Section 149 of the Equality Act) requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different people carrying out their activities.

The Equality Duty supports good decision making – it encourages public bodies to be more efficient and effective by understanding how different people will be affected by their activities, so that their policies and services are appropriate and accessible to all and meet different people’s needs. The Council’s Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) includes an assessment of the community safety impact assessment to comply with section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act and will enable the council to better understand the potential impact of the budget proposals and consider mitigating action.

<p><b>Name or Brief Description of Proposal</b></p>	<p>Approval from Cabinet of the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Strategy for 2013-2016.</p>
<p><b>Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)</b></p>	<p>The strategy sets out the vision for SEN services, gives details of the national and local context and presents the fifteen strategic objectives to improve services and the support provided to children and young people with SEN.</p> <p>Around 6,650 (23%) of school pupils in Southampton are identified as having Special Educational Needs, the majority can be supported with extra help within school. Around 670 children and young people (2.8% of all pupils) have a statement of SEN which sets out the support the local authority and schools will provide to support them, there is an absolute duty to provide the support set out in the statement.</p>
<p><b>Summary of Impact and Issues</b></p>	<p>The overall aim of the SEN Strategy is to provide coordination around the different workstreams needed to meet the new statutory requirements regarding the SEN system which come into force in September 2014. The impact of the SEN Strategy will be that the council does meet the statutory requirements within timescales.</p> <p>The government have made clear that all of the legal protections which families have through the current SEN system will continue. There will be additional protections around the health and social care provision which a child may need and which is detailed in the Education, Health and Care Plan.</p>

<b>Potential Positive Impacts</b>	Each of the fifteen strategic objectives within the strategy will contribute to different aspects of improving the provision available to support children or young people with SEN and to the efficient delivery of services.
<b>Responsible Service Manager</b>	Julia Katherine, Service Manager for Special Educational Needs and Principal Educational Psychologist
<b>Date</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2013

<b>Approved by Senior Manager</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

#### Potential Impact

<b>Impact Assessment</b>	<b>Details of Impact</b>	<b>Possible Solutions &amp; Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>Age</b>	The SEN Strategy applies to those aged between 0 and 25 years. The impact on them will be positive.	None required
<b>Disability</b>	All children and young people to whom the strategy is relevant will have SEN and/or a disability. The impact on them will be positive.	None required
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	None	
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	None	
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	None	
<b>Race</b>	None	
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	None	
<b>Sex</b>	None	

<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	None	
<b>Community Safety</b>	None	
<b>Poverty</b>	None	
<b>Other Significant Impacts</b>	None	