

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 proposals and consider mitigating action.

<b>Name or Brief Description of Proposal</b>	Children and Young People’s Strategy 2022 - 27
<b>Brief Service Profile (including number of customers)</b>	
<p>The aim for the Children and Young People Strategy is to set out Southampton’s vision of mobilising all council services and partner agencies to improve outcomes for all children and young people in the city.</p> <p>The Children and Learning Service at Southampton City Council, along with engagement from key stakeholders have agreed the new vision for children and young people in the city, which is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want all children and young people in Southampton to get a good start in life, live safely, be healthy and happy and go on to have successful opportunities in adulthood.</li> </ul> <p>The Children and Young People’s Strategy 2022 – 2027 will translate this vision into tangible improvements for children and young people in Southampton within an aim to work collectively and drive forward the council’s Child Friendly ambition.</p> <p>The Children and Young People Strategy translates the Child Friendly Southampton aspiration into four headline priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good start in life</li> <li>• Live safely</li> <li>• Be happy and healthy</li> <li>• Learn and achieve</li> </ul> <p>In order to achieve the outcomes presented within the headline priorities, the service and partners are also developing eight strategic plans:</p>	

- Early Years
- Early Help
- Youth Justice
- Participation
- Corporate Parenting
- Education
- Special Education Needs and Disabilities
- Emotional and Mental Health Wellbeing

Southampton has around 259,843 residents in Southampton and children and young people aged 0 to 24 make up 36.4% (94,605) of the population.

### Summary of Impact and Issues

The Children and Young People Strategy aims to provide a strategic direction for Southampton to improve the outcomes for children and young people. The strategy has been co-produced with input from over 200 children across schools and youth projects and from parents, the service, Special Educational Needs and Early Help forums.

The strategy will aim to have a positive impact on all children, young people and their families who live, work, and visit Southampton. Data shows that Southampton as a city remains high for levels of deprivation, poverty and has challenges with community safety but the strategy will look to review the statistics and work in a collective way to overcome issues the city faces. In order to achieve this the strategy will focus on:

- Early intervention, prevention, and inclusion
- Relationship based work
- Locality Working
- A skilled and stable workforce

### Potential Positive Impacts

The draft strategy does not reflect a change to policy, processes or practice within the Children and Learning Service. The documents have been reviewed and updated by staff at Southampton City Council and partner organisations in the city to ensure that they provide a clear strategic leadership position on outcomes for children and young people.

The strategy is expected to enhance community safety, health and welling outcomes and provide children and young people with positive opportunities to develop. It is expected that all those in Southampton that work with children, young people and families will use the strategy to collectively better the lives of those they work with.

<b>Responsible Service Manager</b>	Stuart Webb, Quality Assurance Unit Manager, Children and Learning
<b>Date</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
<b>Approved by Senior Manager</b>	Robert Henderson, Executive Director, Children and Learning.
<b>Date</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Potential Impact

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
<p><b>Age</b></p>	<p>The strategy aims to improve outcomes for children and young people aged from pre-birth to 18 years and up to 25 years for care leavers and adults with special educational needs and disabilities.</p> <p>Southampton has 259,843 residents</p> <p>Children between the ages 0 to 4 make up 5.8% of the population. Young people aged between 15 and 24 make up 19.7% of the population.</p> <p>20.1% of children in Southampton aged under 16 are in low income families, compared to the national average of 17.0%</p> <p>20% of all dependent children in Southampton aged under 20 are in low income families, compared to the national average of 17%</p>	<p>The strategy includes a clear focus on making Southampton a Child Friendly City, increasing opportunities for our children and young people.</p> <p>The ‘Good start in life’ and ‘Learn and achieve’ strategic priorities include a range of priorities designed to improve equalities and opportunities to further children and young people’s aspirations and achievements.</p> <p>The council’s levelling up agenda and commitment to equality is a clear theme throughout the strategy.</p> <p>The overarching strategy is underpinned by a series of strategic plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years</li> <li>• Early Help</li> <li>• Special Educational Needs and Disabilities</li> <li>• Youth Justice</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Corporate Parenting</li> <li>• Participation</li> <li>• Emotional and Mental Health Wellbeing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>18% of children in need have a disability</p> <p>9% of children with child protection plans have a disability.</p> <p>15% of looked after children have a disability</p> <p>Number of children with Education Health and Care Plans.</p>	<p>The service response to children with disabilities is covered within the ‘Good start in life’, ‘Live safely’, ‘Happy and healthy’ and ‘Learn and achieve’ priorities.</p> <p>The overarching strategy is underpinned by the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategic Plan.</p>

Impact Assessment	Details of Impact	Possible Solutions & Mitigating Actions
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	No impacts identified	N/A
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	No impacts identified	N/A
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	No impacts identified	N/A
<b>Race</b>	<p>Southampton has 259,843 residents, and 22% of the population are non-White British.</p> <p>Southampton is a diverse city with 150 languages spoken in our schools and 12 % of the population do not speak English as their main language.</p> <p>In 2019, the median hourly pay for those in the White ethnic group was £12.40 per hour compared with those in ethnic minority at £12.11 per hour – a pay gap of 2.3%.</p>	<p>The strategy sets out how we intend to bring local people to quality jobs, including expanding adult learning provision to areas and groups most in need, including those to which English is a second language.</p> <p>The strategy sets out ambitions to further equality in employment including leveraging HR capability from key employers across the city to ensure fair access to employment opportunities for local communities, particularly from under-represented groups.</p>
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	No impacts identified	N/A
<b>Sex</b>	No impacts identified	N/A
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	No impacts identified	N/A
<b>Community Safety</b>	<p>Deprivation is linked to crime rates, with crime included as one of the indices of multiple deprivation (IMD).</p> <p>Crime deprivation worsened by 13 places between 2015 and 2019. Southampton has 59 LSOAs within the 10% most deprived in England (42 in 2015) and zero LSOAs in the 10% least deprived (zero in 2015).</p>	<p>Contextual safeguarding is a distinct element under the 'Live safely' strategic priority.</p> <p>The youth justice strategic plan underpins the overarching strategy.</p>
<b>Poverty</b>	IMD 2019 ranked Southampton 55th (where 1 is the most deprived) out of 317 local authorities.	This strategy is an opportunity to improve outcomes for children, young people, and their

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	<p>People who commute into Southampton earn £43 more per week on average than residents</p> <p>Life expectancy is 6.7 years less in the most deprived parts of the city compared to the least deprived areas, with intergenerational worklessness being high in some areas.</p>	<p>families with direct benefits to all our communities, especially those who are most disadvantaged and will therefore have a positive impact.</p> <p>Reducing inequality is a consistent theme through all four strategic priorities.</p>
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	<p>All health and wellbeing issues in Southampton tend to develop throughout childhood and early adulthood, with progressively worse outcomes compared to National averages. These issues peak in young people in relation to obesity, educational attainment, mental health, and A&amp;E attendances, including unintentional and deliberate injuries.</p> <p>Mental health has worsened during the pandemic and there has been a significant peak in children and young people seeking mental health support.</p> <p>In terms of physical health, due to the partial closure of schools, early years settings, clubs, and activities it is likely that there will be a rise in childhood obesity, particularly amongst more economically deprived children.</p>	<p>The 'Happy and healthy' Strategic priority is underpinned by the following strategic plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years</li> <li>• Early Help</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Special Educational Needs and Disabilities</li> <li>• Youth Justice</li> <li>• Corporate Parenting</li> <li>• Participation</li> <li>• Emotional and Mental Health Wellbeing</li> </ul>
<b>Other Significant Impacts</b>	<p>Looked after Children and care leavers are a group where the council and partners have corporate parenting responsibility.</p>	<p>These children and young people are a focus within the strategic priorities; supported by the Corporate Parenting Strategic Plan.</p>