EQIA Submission – ID Number Section A

EQIA Title

Home to School Transport Policy for 4-16

Responsible Officer

Craig Chapman - CY EPA

Type of Activity

Service Change

No

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

No

Commissioning/Procurement

No

Strategy/Policy

Strategy/Policy

Details of other Service Activity

Νo

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Children Young People and Education

Responsible Service

Fair Access

Responsible Head of Service

Craig Chapman - CY EPA

Responsible Director

Christine McInnes - CY EPA

Aims and Objectives

KCC's Transport Policy is currently expressed via a combination of formal statutory duties, dedicated member decisions and parental operational guidance. Children Young People and Education (CYPE) directorate seeks to combine these separate information streams into a cohesive Transport Policy, to ensure full transparency and provide a single reference point for decision making.

In bringing this documents together, KCC is not changing assessment criteria or significantly altering its application. Rather, the policy seeks to reduce the administrative burden placed on some families when securing free school transport, by streamlining decision making. As such, the potential for negative outcomes for pupils with protected characteristics as a result of these improvements remains very low.

More broadly, KCC's main transport processes and assessment criteria are based on national legislation and have been continually refined to take into account the latest statutory guidance and insights from Local Government and Social Care Ombudsmen decisions. This too minimises the potential for unreasonable negative impacts for pupils with protected characteristics.

Section B - Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes

It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?

Yes

Is there national evidence/data that you can use?

Yes

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

No

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

Public consultation planned for January 2023.

Stakeholders include:

- Parents and guardians of mainstream and SEND pupils
- Pupils
- Schools and further education providers, including governing bodies
- Bus Operators
- District and Borough Councils
- Parish and Town Councils
- Kent PACT
- Parent carer forums
- Information, Advice and Support Kent (IASK)

Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?

Nο

Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?

Yes

Section C – Impact

Who may be impacted by the activity?

Service Users/clients

Service users/clients

Staff

No

Residents/Communities/Citizens

Residents/communities/citizens

Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?

Yes

Details of Positive Impacts

Formalising the policy will ensure that all Kent residents, including those with protected characteristics, have a single reference point to understand their legal entitlement to free school transport. KCC works with parental groups to ensure supporting guidance is easily accessible and provides direct staff support where necessary to lower the barrier for inclusion.

The policy centralises school transport support for all Children In Care within the same framework, ensuring that pupils that do not automatically qualify against national criteria are not required to undertake separate application processes to receive the proper support from KCC as their corporate parent.

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?

No. Note: If Question 19a is "No", Questions 19b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Details of negative impacts for Age

Not Completed

Mitigating Actions for Age

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age

Not Completed

20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability

Are there negative impacts for Disability?

No. Note: If Question 20a is "No", Questions 20b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Details of Negative Impacts for Disability

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Disability

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for Disability

Not Completed

21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex

Are there negative impacts for Sex

No. Note: If Question 21a is "No", Questions 21b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Details of negative impacts for Sex

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Sex

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for Sex

Not Completed

22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender

No. Note: If Question 22a is "No", Questions 22b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Not Completed

23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race

Are there negative impacts for Race

No. Note: If Question 23a is "No", Questions 23b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Race

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Race

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race

Not Completed

24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief

Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief

No. Note: If Question 24a is "No", Questions 24b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Religion and belief

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Religion and belief

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief

Not Completed

25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation

Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation

No. Note: If Question 25a is "No", Questions 25b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation

Not Completed

26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity

Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity

No. Note: If Question 26a is "No", Questions 26b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity

Not Completed

27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships

Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships

No. Note: If Question 27a is "No", Questions 27b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships

Not Completed

28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities

Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities

No. Note: If Question 28a is "No", Questions 28b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval

Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities

Not Completed

Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities

Not Completed

Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities

Not Completed