EQIA Submission – ID Number Section A

EQIA Title

Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2026-30

Responsible Officer

Paul Wilson - CY EDSEN

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)

Nicholas Abrahams - CY EDSEN

Type of Activity

Service Change

No

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

Nο

Commissioning/Procurement

No

Strategy/Policy

Strategy/Policy

Details of other Service Activity

No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Children Young People and Education

Responsible Service

Education and SEND

Responsible Head of Service

Nicholas Abrahams - CY EDSEN

Responsible Director

Christine McInnes - CY EDSEN

Aims and Objectives

The aim of the Plan is to:

- provide an overarching framework for determining when and where education may be needed in the future. The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent sets out the forecast number of children and young people in Kent and breaks this down to smaller geographical areas (districts and planning groups) to show where there may be a need for more or fewer places.
- Set out the principles which will be used to consider and evaluate individual proposals which might come forward (be commissioned) to address any identified shortage or surplus of places in a locality.

Summary of the outcome of the analysis:

No change is required. The evidence suggests that there is no potential for discrimination and all appropriate measures have been taken to advance equality and foster good relations between the protected groups.

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?

Yes

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

The equality impact assessment for the Commissioning Plan is carried out at two levels; First, in respect of the Commissioning Plan itself, to assess whether the commissioning principles and guidelines may have an impact (either positive or negative) on any protected groups and if so what action, if any, should be taken to amend the Plan or to mitigate the negative impacts. The second, a more detailed analysis of the impacts on any protected group arising from individual education consultation proposals is conducted contemporaneously through the Plan period.

This assessment deals solely with the first of these two levels, with consultation completed with high level stakeholders consulted to ensure the Plan is drafted collaboratively. This process incorporates meetings with District and Borough Council Leaders and CEOs/Planning Officers, along with School Governor and Headteacher briefings for each district. This consultative activity will be completed prior to the adoption of the Plan by KCC Cabinet committee in January 2026.

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

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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

No

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

The overarching nature of the Commissioning Plan means that this equalities impact assessment is at a strategic level, rather specifically covering the various local commissioning schemes. In broad terms, the Plan focuses on the positive impacts for all children and young people, particularly the most vulnerable pupils and those with SEND. It provides a vehicle through which individuals and groups can make their voices heard regarding both current education provision and future proposals. An equality impact assessment will be completed as part of each individual consultation process that follows on from the Commissioning Plan. This assessment indicates that the plan will have either neutral or positive impacts on pupils within the protected groups.

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?

No

Details of negative impacts for Age

Not Applicable

Mitigating Actions for Age

Not Applicable Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions - Age Not Applicable 20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability Are there negative impacts for Disability? No **Details of Negative Impacts for Disability** Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Disability Not Applicable **Responsible Officer for Disability** Not Applicable 21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex Are there negative impacts for Sex No **Details of negative impacts for Sex** Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Sex Not Applicable **Responsible Officer for Sex** Not Applicable 22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender No Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender Not Applicable Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender Not Applicable 23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race Are there negative impacts for Race No **Negative impacts for Race** Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Race Not Applicable **Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race** Not Applicable 24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief No Negative impacts for Religion and belief Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Religion and belief Not Applicable Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief Not Applicable 25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation

No **Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation** Not Applicable **Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation** Not Applicable **Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation** Not Applicable 26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity No **Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity** Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity Not Applicable Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity Not Applicable 27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships No **Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships** Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships Not Applicable **Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships** Not Applicable 28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities No **Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities** Not Applicable Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities Not Applicable **Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities** Not Applicable