

## EQIA Submission – ID Number

### Section A

**EQIA Title**

Targeted Short Breaks

**Responsible Officer**

Steve Lusk - CED SC

### Type of Activity

**Service Change**

No

**Service Redesign**

No

**Project/Programme**

No

**Commissioning/Procurement**

Commissioning/Procurement

**Strategy/Policy**

No

**Details of other Service Activity**

No

### Accountability and Responsibility

**Directorate**

Children Young People and Education

**Responsible Service**

Strengthening Independence Service

**Responsible Head of Service**

Sharon Howard - CY LDCYP

**Responsible Director**

Kevin Kasaven - CY SCS

### Aims and Objectives

Targeted Short Breaks are preventative family support services aimed at families with a disabled child or young person to allow them to have a break from caring. They provide disabled children and young people with the opportunity to have fun and learn while doing activities in a new environment outside of the home. They provide a chance to spend quality time within their community with other children and young people who may have similar life experiences, helping to build friendships and connections beyond the family. For parents and carers, Short Breaks provide regular planned breaks from caring responsibilities, allowing time to pursue other activities, education, chores and spend time with other members of the family.

Targeted Short Breaks offer a variety of activities and support for disabled children and young people who present on a spectrum of need from mild to complex, including learning and physical disabilities, sensory disabilities, neurodivergent.

Short Breaks have two key aims:

- To give parents or carers of disabled children or young people a break from caring responsibilities.
- To enable disabled children and young people to have social opportunities and join in with safe, fun, and interesting activities, whilst developing autonomy and independence as they grow.

The objectives of the grants programme are:

- Opportunity to develop and test alternate models of support for children and young people with neurodiversity and those with more complex needs.
- Opportunity to develop and test alternate models of Short Breaks.
- Opportunity to incorporate improvements that have been identified through the development of the Short Break strategy. For example, projects that strengthen independence and transition to adulthood.
- Grants promote continued strong relationships with providers, which will be essential for the implementation of the Short Breaks strategy.
- Contribute to financial stability to Voluntary Community Social Enterprise sector.

## 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?**

No

**Have you consulted with stakeholders?**

Yes

**Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?**

Parent and Carers  
Disabled Children and Young People  
Social Care Practitioners  
Representatives of the Integrated Health Board  
Kent County Council Early Help Services

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

Yes

**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**

Positive impact for parents and carers to receive a break from caring.

The commissioning activity will provide positive impacts for disability by focussing on increasing opportunities for children and young people who are neurodiverse.

The commissioning activity will provide positive impacts for disability by focussing on increasing opportunities for children and young people who have complex needs.

Enabling disabled children and young people to be included within their communities

## Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

### 19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

#### Are there negative impacts for age?

Yes

#### Details of negative impacts for Age

There are currently gaps in services for the age range 0-5. This has improved somewhat over the past 2 years when we specifically commissioned services to close this gap. However, we need to further commission services as services are sporadic across the districts.

#### Mitigating Actions for Age

We are including special schools with this engagement exercise and will also provide support in how they could provide Short Breaks within their local communities by offering the school provision and resources.

#### Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age

steve Lusk

### 20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability

#### Are there negative impacts for Disability?

Yes

#### Details of Negative Impacts for Disability

Through analysis of several sources of data neurodiversity is identified as the highest primary need and is predicted to increase in line with the national trend. This has improved somewhat over the past 2 years when we specifically commissioned services to close this gap. However, we need to further commission services as services are sporadic across the districts.

#### Mitigating actions for Disability

The grants prospectus will identify the requirement to provide service for neurodiverse children and young people and those complex needs.

#### Responsible Officer for Disability

steve lusk

### 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

Yes

#### Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender

Currently the available Short Break offer tend to engage for more boys than girls. Short Break data submitted by Short Break providers show that boys take two thirds of Short Break attendance. Although there is evidence to suggest there are disabled boys than girls that are disabled with Kent; the activities

delivered via Short Breaks leads us to form the hypothesis that the activities on offer are more likely to engage and be more appealing to boys.
<b>Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Within the commissioning exercise, via the prospectus we will specify activities that will seek to engage all genders. We will work with Short Break providers and CYP to co-produce what activities will be engaging for all genders.
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Steve Lusk
<b>23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Race</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Race</b>
By comparing Kent Census data on Kent district level data captured in 2021 to social care case work numbers on those who's status is disabled on Liberi. Data does correspond with the ethnicities reflected in caseloads in that predominantly (89.4%) children and young people across Kent are white.  Using Census data we identified that some districts have a higher population of ethnicity diversity; the top three being Dartford, Gravesham, and Maidstone. We know that Dartford and Gravesham border London and Maidstone is the County town. Liberi case load data on ethnicity is in line with the county trend in that Dartford, Gravesham and Maidstone caseloads show the highest levels of ethnic diversity. National intelligence via UK Poverty Report 2022 and National Trends Ethnicity and Child Poverty UK Parliament indicates that nationally in-work poverty (families in employment) rates are higher for people from an Other Asian, Black/African/Caribbean/Black British and Other ethnic groups. Pay has also contributed to higher poverty rates for minority ethnic groups in the UK with many workers from a minority ethnic background having lower wages than white British workers. Children in Bangladeshi and Pakistani households were the most likely to live in low income and material deprivation out of all ethnic groups.
<b>Mitigating actions for Race</b>
The Short Break dashboard does not currently gather data on the ethnicity of those children and young people attending activities. We will now add ethnicity to the data capture to allow us to assess that ethnicity reflects the current picture across the districts.  Currently we advise Short Break providers that they should charge £2.50 an hour for each CYP attending a Short Break. We also advise to have a concessionary for parents who are in receipt of benefits. We need to review this as we are aware that many families maybe living in poverty while in full time employment.
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race</b>
Steve Lusk
<b>24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>

Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Yes
<b>Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Location of activities can prove difficult for carers to transport their child to.
<b>Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Engagement with parent/carer forums to ensure that barriers are identified and addressed in the grants process. The grants will aim to promote an equitable distribution of services across the County.
<b>Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities</b>
steve lusk