

Template for Impact Assessment Level 1: Initial screening assessment

Subject of assessment:	SEND Sufficiency and relevant Capital Developments in Middlesbrough Schools for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities			
Coverage:	Service specific to Children's Services			
This is a decision relating to:	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Process/procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Review
	<input type="checkbox"/> Organisational change	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)		
It is a:	New approach:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Revision of an existing approach:	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is driven by:	Legislation:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local or corporate requirements:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Description:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key aims, objectives and activities – to facilitate the development of sufficient SEND provision and intervention • Statutory drivers – the Council has a statutory duty to secure the provision of suitable education provision for young people, including the provision of sufficient school places to meet demand, under the Education Act 1996 • Differences from any previous approach – The establishment of additional special school provision in Middlesbrough would allow the Council to commission more local school places and avoid having to place pupils in out-of-area school provision. The development of intervention provision and broader inclusion in mainstream schools will support children and young people to enjoy better inclusion in their school and home communities. • Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils and Parents of Pupils with Special Educational Needs; • Local ward members; • Tees Valley Education Trust; • Education and Skills Funding Agency; • Department for Education. • Intended outcomes – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of additional specialist places • Meet the needs and preferences of pupils with Special Educational Needs and prevention of escalation of needs to specialist requirements • Improve educational standards by ensuring that pupils with Special Educational Needs can secure a places in high quality settings • Reduce the requirement to secure school placements in out-of-area provision, reducing travel times for students and avoiding increasing costs of provision for Middlesbrough Council; 			

Live date:	Completion during Academic Year 23-24 for all projects included in decision
Lifespan:	There is no end date to the proposal and the changes are intended to be permanent.
Date of next review:	July 2024

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
	No	Yes	Uncertain	
Human Rights Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>There is no evidence to suggest that the decision would negatively impact upon any individual's human rights. The decision does facilitate these rights including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the right to an education. <p>The proposal will positively impact on this right, increasing education provision in the local area.</p> <p>Evidence used to inform this assessment includes analysis of projected demand and the local provision of places, alongside feedback from schools and parents in Middlesbrough.</p>
Equality Could the decision result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals with characteristics protected in UK equality law? Could the decision impact differently on other commonly disadvantaged groups?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requires that when exercising its functions the Councils must have due regard to the need to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. <p>In having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity, the Council must consider, as part of a single equality duty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic; taking steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it; and encouraging people who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation is low. <p>The Act requires that the needs of people with a disability are considered and that steps should be taken to take these into account. As this proposal relates to children with SEND, it is particularly relevant to the equality duties and the protected characteristics of age and disability. The proposal would have a positive impact on this group, increasing the availability of SEND school places within the borough, ensuring that more appropriate placements can be made and reducing the number of children required to travel greater distances to placements outside the borough, and facilitating more inclusion in mainstream settings.</p> <p>Evidence used to inform this assessment includes analysis of projected demand and the local provision of places, alongside feedback from schools and parents in Middlesbrough.</p>

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
Community cohesion Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town?*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The decision is a part of a larger piece of work being driven by the Council's educational partners to meet the needs of young people with SEND. No negative impact is anticipated. The proposal would impact positively on community cohesion, increasing the availability of school places in the town. Evidence used to inform this assessment includes analysis of projected demand and the local provision of places, alongside feedback from schools and parents in Middlesbrough.

Assessment completed by:	Judi Libbey	Head of Service:	Caroline Cannon
Date:	20 September 2022	Date:	20 September 2022
