

Policy or action disability impact assessment record sheet

Policy or Action Title: AS12. Review Eligibility Criteria Project			
Policy Action owner Name & Title: Elaine O'Brien –Head of Strategic Commissioning and Partnerships		Date: 24.01.11	
Type of assessment	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
		✓	
<p>Is this a policy or an action? Please state:</p> <p>A review of the Council's Policy on eligibility criteria.</p> <p>The aim of the review is to focus Adult Social Care resources on the most vulnerable people with presenting needs. The review of this policy is also supported by enabling projects eg. reablement.</p>			
<p>What are the positive or negative effects that the policy or action will have on disabled people?</p> <p>Those people who have lower levels of risk to their independence may no longer receive social care support:</p> <p><u>Comments from Learning Disability People's Parliament</u> – There was a concern from learning disabled people that if they could no longer get services they could afford then they would stay at home become lonely and depressed and lose confidence. If fewer people used services, it may be that staff or activity stopped and this was a worry.</p> <p>Concern with the fact that if they could not afford services they would have less choice. Also Parents and carers may have to give up work because of the lack of affordable support. Social isolation was a concern.</p> <p>There was a concern that if staff they currently know are lost, they would be scared as they have developed relationships with their workers.</p> <p><u>Comments from disabled persons consultation</u></p> <p>Said that a lot of people who have lower level needs will not meet the criteria and added that some users with higher level needs will now fall into lower level need category. He went on to say that people already living independently will be affected more.</p> <p>Also the bulk of those people's parents are in 60's/70's/80's so there will be a</p>			

substantial impact on elderly carers.

Disabled people are people and therefore will experience the same effects of the cuts that everyone else experiences, plus the impacts of disability specific cuts too.

Comments from Older Person's consultation

Intervention at the lowest end of care means increased quality of life and slows down the need for further intervention later on. Be careful cutting at this end when the costs will be felt further down the line. Keeping people in their own homes but without support or transport can mean isolation and loneliness, this is a huge issue and needs to be addressed not made worse.

A meeting with Lauren Robinson and Gordon Pybus as a source of disability expertise on 25 November, identified that a type 2 DEIA would be required. A further meeting is planned for 9 February with Lauren Robinson and Gordon Pybus to seek views on the action plan for the DEIA's for adult social care projects

Until the project is confirmed by the Transformation Board and Cabinet consultation with individuals will not be undertaken so as not to raise anxiety levels amongst those groups who may be affected

What evidence supports this?

Comments from general public at Talking Together events held on 8th and 16 November

Consultation with disabled people on 16 November

Consultation with older people on 15 November

It is planned that further evidence will be collected once the proposal has been approved by the Transformation Board and Cabinet via:

Questionnaire on the Darlington Borough Council Website

Discussion with established groups of older and disabled people

Targeted discussions with individuals who may be affected, as part of their care review

Who was involved?

Darlington Association on Disability

Older and disabled people at consultation events

Members of the Learning disability People's Parliament

Once approved by the Transformation Board and Cabinet, further involvement in the Disability Equality Impact Assessment will include:
 People who currently receive adult social care
 Carers of people who currently receive adult social care
 General public who may require adult social care in the future

What action will you take as a result of the impact assessment?

Adult social care resources will be focussed on the most vulnerable people with presenting needs.
 It is proposed that individual care reviews will be carried out for the people who will be affected, and the positive/negative impacts of the proposals will be identified and recorded.
 It is part of the project proposal that this will be done on a rolling programme and will be completed by April 2012

How and when will this action be monitored?

The Adult Social Care transformation team have mapped out the individuals likely to be affected by the proposals, so that when their care/support needs are reviewed, any possible multiple impacts from other proposals can be identified, and consideration is given as to whether these can be mitigated.

The introduction of reablement will also be closely monitored to demonstrate the promotion of self care and independence rather than reliance on services.

Updates will be provided to the Disability Equality Steering Group

Please tick as many of the following as the policy or action will achieve.

Promote equality of opportunity	
Eliminate unlawful discrimination	
Eliminate disability-related harassment	
Promote positive attitudes towards disabled people	✓
Encourage participation by disabled people in public life	✓
Take steps to meet disabled people's needs	✓

