

Name of proposal/policy	To increase focus on statutory services, in particular social care, and tertiary prevention services	Budget number (if applicable)	
Service area responsible	All	Cabinet meeting date	12 th September 2017
Name of completing officer	Emma Gadsby	Date EqIA created	7 th September 2017
Approved by Director / Assistant Director	Dr Paul Blantern	Date of approval	8 th September 2017

The Equality Act 2010 places a 'General Duty' on all public bodies to have 'Due regard' to:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advancing equality of opportunity
- Fostering good relations

We do this by undertaking equality impact assessments (EqIAs) to help us understand the implications of policies and decisions on people with protected characteristics – EqIAs are our way of evidencing this.

All assessments must be published on the NCC equalities web pages. All Cabinet papers where an EqIA is relevant **MUST** include a link to the web page where this assessment will be published. If you require assistance in getting your EqIA published, please contact equalities@northamptonshire.gov.uk

PART 1

Description of current provision/policy and main beneficiaries/stakeholders

As well as providing the full range of statutory services, NCC currently provides a range of discretionary services which are designed to act as primary preventations to reduce or eliminate the need for someone to access services at a later date. These include primary prevention services that NCC has commissioned First for Wellbeing to deliver, along with programmes such as the small grants programme, which aims to build social capital within the voluntary and community sector.

Description of proposal under consideration/development

The financial pressures facing NCC are such that the September 2017 Cabinet paper recommends that the Council increases its focus on statutory services and interventions which have an immediate and quantifiable impact on service provision to support people who are likely to need statutory interventions in the near future (tertiary prevention), as opposed to investing in primary prevention which may not see an impact for a number of years.

In order to fully assess what this change in focus would look like, it will be necessary to carry out further work on what refocusing on statutory and tertiary prevention services means in terms of services that might cease or be refocused.

Data used in this Equality Impact Assessment (general population data where appropriate but each EqIA should contain information on people who use the service under consideration – if this is not applicable to your proposal then you probably do not need to do an EqIA)

Data Source (include link where published)	Please summarise what the data tells us – for example “X number of people use this service, X are male, Y are female etc”
Data will be sourced from relevant services within First for Wellbeing, Public Health, NASS, Children, Families & Education and the Place Directorate with regard to current non-statutory services and primary prevention	To be confirmed

Tick the relevant box for each line	Based on the above information, what impact will this proposal have on the following groups?			
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
Sex				✓
Gender Reassignment				✓
Age				✓
Disability				✓
Race & Ethnicity				✓
Sexual Orientation				✓
Religion or Belief (or No Belief)				✓
Pregnancy & Maternity				✓
Human Rights (Please see articles in toolkit)				✓
Other Groups (rural isolation, socio-economic exclusion etc)				✓

Initial impact	
Explain your findings above	Actions identified to mitigate, advance equality or fill gaps in information
<p>At the time of the Cabinet meeting, it has not been possible to ascertain exactly what refocusing on statutory services and tertiary prevention might look like, and therefore what the impact might be.</p> <p>However, it is fair to say that most, if not all, groups with protected characteristics, would be affected by this. In many cases, primary prevention services are designed to be universal, to prevent anyone needing to access services in the future.</p> <p>The current budgetary pressure due to under-funding from Central Government means that we need to re-direct resources where the need is most acute and immediate. The impact of this shift will be that those with low level needs might need to access different services, in a different way, or in different locations.</p>	<p>If the proposal to increase focus on statutory services, in particular social care, and tertiary prevention services that help to prevent people entering higher cost placements until necessary for their safety and wellbeing is agreed by Cabinet, work will continue to develop that model of service delivery and what that might look like for service users.</p> <p>The safety net of statutory services and tertiary prevention will be available for those who need it, but it is acknowledged that this shift will result in a reduction in discretionary services.</p> <p>More detail on what this means will form part of the October Medium Term Financial Planning Cabinet Paper, which will also provide more information on how the Council plans to engage with service users and providers on this change in focus.</p>

The most vulnerable service users will always be protected by the statutory duties that fall to the Council.	
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Do you need to undertake further work (e.g. consultation, further equality analysis) based on the impact and actions identified above? If yes, set this out below and then carry out the work and complete Part 2

As set out above.

PART 2 – if required

Consultation, follow up data and information gathered from actions identified above

	What does this information tell us?

Final impact analysis (taking the findings from Part 2 into account) – including review date if required