

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This should be carried out during the development stage of a new project, strategy, policy or service or when you are reviewing an existing project, strategy, policy or service.

By understanding and meeting people's differing needs we can provide more effective services.

Name and brief description of project, strategy, policy or service being assessed

Keep Safe Extension

This is an extension of the previous Pilot Scheme that covered Braintree town only and is now being extended across the whole of Braintree District.

The aim of the Keep Safe scheme is to stop bullying and abuse of people who are vulnerable within the Braintree District. It will involve the following:

The Keep Safe Scheme involves people with a learning disability carrying a small card with them, with information about themselves and people who can be contacted if they need help.

Keep Safe Stickers will be placed in the windows of premises (these would be public places shops, libraries and leisure centres etc) that have been identified by people with a learning disability, showing people who are vulnerable that it is a place they can go to ask for help and support. The staff in the Keep Safe venue will be able to assist anyone who goes to them for help, by assisting them to access a telephone and to make a call on their behalf if necessary. The phone numbers will be on the Keep Safe Card they are carrying.

Information used to analyse the impact on people affected by the project, strategy, policy or service

State who will be affected, the relevant information you are using to assess how it will affect them, note any relevant consultation, surveys, etc,

The Keep Safe Scheme is aimed at people who have a learning disability and live in the Braintree District: Mencap conducted a survey of people with a learning disability, and found that nearly nine out of ten respondents have experienced bullying in the last year. In particular, Mencap found that two-thirds are bullied on a regular basis and almost one-third suffer from bullying on a daily or weekly basis. Mencap suggests that the bullying of people with a learning disability is institutionalised throughout society.

(Living in Fear 2009)

The Be Safer 'Your Voice Survey' shows statistically that a majority of adults with a learning disability want some kind of safe place to go when they are out and about. (Extracted from Be Safer Project Survey 8th June 2011)
 The Braintree District currently has 547 adults registered with Essex County Council as having a learning disability. And receive support from the Adults Health & Community Wellbeing Team (ECC) and the Health Authority. Braintree District has the third highest Learning Disability Population in Essex

BDC survey results 140 respondents Dec 2011, outlines that local people with a Learning Disability want to extend the Keep Safe Scheme throughout the whole of the Braintree District.

The following table shows the number of Braintree specific Safeguarding referrals to the Essex Safeguarding Adults Board for 2010/2011. These are for clients with a primary category of learning disability.

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Cumulative
Total LD cases in Braintree	25	19	17	25	86
Emotional	3	2	2	4	11
Financial	6	1	0	4	11
Medical	7	7	2	0	16
Neglect	2	4	3	6	15
Physical	4	3	8	6	22
Sexual	3	2	2	4	11

During a presentation from Jane Dellow PIP Hertfordshire & Adults with Learning Disability, on the 2nd Feb 2011 to the Braintree District Hate Crime panel members, evidence was identified within the presentation photos and testimonials from People with a Learning Disability, that they felt safer since the Keep Safe Scheme was introduced in shops in Hertford, people with a Learning Disability helped to present the presentation gave examples of real life experiences. This highlighted that proactive measures do help vulnerable people and give them confidence when accessing local amenities. Other councils include Devon Cornwall Gloucestershire and Northamptonshire who have also implemented variations of the Keep Safe Scheme have reported that people feel safer in when accessing the community.

Braintree town centre has piloted the Keep safe scheme and due to its successful implementation further funding has been secured for the extension of the scheme to cover the whole of the Braintree District.

District Councils are subject to a number of duties contained within legislation, guidance, and case law in relation to the safeguarding of vulnerable adults. This includes those with learning disabilities. Aspects of a duty of care can be found in guidance, policies, legislation and common law including the Government document, 'No Secrets', 2000.

The 2009 Government Hate Crime Action Plan recognise the lives of people with a learning disability are still constrained by experience of abuse and neglect, and they may not feel safe in their local communities having been victims of hate crime.

Braintree District Council officers have engaged with over 100 local people with a learning disability, we have asked for their views on the Keep Safe project and acted on their suggestions.

Braintree residents have also been involved with the design of the logo and the supporting materials for the project. Such is the success of the Keep Safe Scheme, Essex County Council & The Be Safer Group (CAVS) fully supports Keep Safe and would like this to be replicated across the County.

Use the information above to assess the impact of your project, policy, strategy or service on people from the following protected groups: (these are defined by the Equality Act 2010)

Protected Group		Positive Impact/ Benefit	Negative Impact/ Disadvantage	Explanation – State how
Age	Children 0-16		No risk identified at this time. But are not included in the Keep Safe.	Children and young people up to the age of 15 years are excluded from this scheme. Young students who are in the transition from children's services into adult services will now be able to join the Keep safe Scheme. The target audience is for all adults (over 18) with a learning disability. Due to the success of the pilot we are now in a position to offer this scheme to the whole of the district. The longer term aim is to extend this scheme to all vulnerable people; therefore discrimination will be almost totally removed.
	Young People 17-25	Yes		
	Ages 26-59	Yes		

	Older People 60+	Yes		
Disability Include disabled people and/or carers	Blind/Partially Sighted	Yes		
	Deaf/Hearing Impaired	Yes		
	Wheelchair user/mobility difficulties	Yes		
	Learning Difficulties	Yes		
	Mental Health Difficulties	Yes		
Gender	Men	Yes		
	Women	Yes		
	Transgender	Yes		
	Pregnancy & Maternity impact	Yes		
	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Yes		
Race	White	Yes		
	Asian	Yes		
	Black	Yes		
	Mixed Dual Heritage	Yes		
		Yes		
Religion/Belief	Buddhist	Yes		
	Christian	Yes		
	Hindu	Yes		
	Jewish	Yes		
	Muslim	Yes		
	Sikh	Yes		
	Other – please specify	Yes		
Sexual Orientation	Lesbian Gay men Heterosexual Bi-sexual	Yes		

Other (optional)	Use to define Impact on any groups specific to this Strategy, Policy or Function not listed above.	Yes		
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If you identified any negative impacts above then either:

(a) Your proposal, policy or service is treating people from a protected group above less favourably because of their age, disability, gender, race, religion, or sexual orientation

or

(b) Your proposal, policy or service is intended to treat everyone equally but, unintentionally, people from a protected group above can be particularly disadvantaged or treated less favourably than other others ✓

PLEASE TICK WHICHEVER APPLIES

If you ticked (a) this is direct discrimination, which is illegal and you cannot proceed

If you ticked (b):

- 1. Can any negative impacts be minimized or removed? If so state what changes you will make.**
- 2. If you cannot minimize or remove negative impacts they must be justified and you must state your justification**

Young students who are in the transition from children's services into adult services will now be able to join the Keep safe Scheme. And we hope to integrate the Keep Safe scheme into lesson plans within the school environment. The target audience is for all adults (over 18) with a learning disability. Due to the success of the pilot we are now in a position to offer this scheme to the whole of the district.

If you identified any positive impacts is there anything further you can do to increase or extend the positive benefits? If so state what changes you will make

The longer term aim is to extend this scheme to all vulnerable adults; therefore discrimination will be almost totally removed

Completed By: Christine Robb

Approved By (Senior Manager) Helena Goodwin

Service: Community Services

Date : 06/02/2012

Each service should retain the signed copy of the Assessment.

An electronic copy should be sent to angve@braintree.gov.uk for publication on the Council's website – this is a requirement to ensure that we meet our statutory duties under the Equality Act 2010.