

Cabinet

Thursday, 28 September 2023, 10.00 am, County Hall

Membership

Councillors:

Cllr Simon Geraghty (Chairman), Cllr Marc Bayliss, Cllr Adrian Hardman, Cllr Marcus Hart (Vice Chairman), Cllr Adam Kent, Cllr Steve Mackay, Cllr Karen May, Cllr Richard Morris, Cllr Tracey Onslow and Cllr Mike Rouse

Appendices Supplement

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5	Worcestershire Strategy for Children and Young People with SEND 2023-2026 Environment and Equality Impact Assessments and Project Screening	1 - 20

Agenda produced and published by the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Alyson Grice (01905 844962)/Samantha Morris 01905 844963 email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website [here](#)

Date of Issue: Wednesday, 20 September 2023

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Environmental Sustainability Full Impact Assessment

Impact Assessment Id: #588

1.0 Screening Information

Project Name

Worcs Strategy for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities 2023-26

Name of Project Sponsor

Melanie Barnett

Name of Project Manager

Louise Butler

Name of Project Lead

Melanie Barnett

Please give a brief description of the project

In Worcestershire we want all children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities to be truly seen and respected as individuals and to be the best they can be. The purpose of this Strategy is to set out how we plan to deliver this vision through six key priorities .

Data Protection screening result

Does not need a full impact assessment

Equality and Public Health screening result

Will require a full impact assessment

Environmental Sustainability screening result

Will require a full impact assessment

1.1 Background and Purpose

Background and Purpose of Project?

To support your answer to this question, you can upload a copy of the project's Business Case or similar document. In Worcestershire we want all children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities to be truly seen and respected as individuals and to be the best they can be.

The purpose of this Strategy is to set out how we plan to deliver this vision through six key priorities . It will drive an ambitious programme of work that will be overseen by representatives of the accountable bodies through the All-Age Disability and SEND Partnership Board which reports to the Worcestershire' Health and Wellbeing Board . The Partnership Board will carefully monitor progress against the Strategy and related action plans which will outline the activity needed to realise our aspirations . We will also ensure that parent, carers, children, and young people are invited to comment on our progress on an annual basis throughout the period covered by the Strategy . The SEND Strategy will change the ways in which we work with children and young people with SEND and parents/ carers . It will involve greater integration of services and co-production of developments that will effectively:

- * Identify children and young people with SEND
- * Assess and meet the needs of children and young people with SEND, through the Graduated Response and Education Health and Care Needs Assessment for those who need it
- * Provide support and services that effectively meet needs and improves outcomes of those with SEND

Upload Business Case or Support documents

[65812 Worcestershire Strategy for CYP 2023-26 v04.pdf](#)

Project Outputs

Briefly summarise the activities needed to achieve the project outcomes.

A process of stakeholder engagement and consultation has been undertaken to create the strategy. We have also reflected on information from the following sources:

- * Feedback following the SEND revisit in November 2021
- * The Local Area SEND Written Statement of Action
- * Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) six-month review in September 2022, and
- * User feedback (parent carers, children and young people and educational settings)

We have also ensured that the priorities outlined in this Strategy align with other strategies describing work and developments across the local area partnership.

Project Outcomes

Briefly summarise what the project will achieve.

The development of the Worcestershire vision for SEND, changes needed, and priorities reflect the challenges highlighted by the SEND Review and the subsequent SEND and AP Improvement Plan: Right Support, Right Place, Right Time published on March 2nd, 2023 .

Is the project a new function/service or does it relate to an existing Council function/service?

Existing

Was consultation carried out on this project?

Yes

1.2 Responsibility

Directorate/Organisation

Worcestershire Children First

Service Area

All Age Disability

1.3 Specifics

Project Reference (if known)

N/A

Intended Project Close Date *

September 2026

1.4 Project Part of a Strategic Programme

Is this project part of a strategic programme?

Yes

An overarching screening has already been carried out for the following areas:

Not recorded

Upload previous impact assessment documents if available

No files uploaded

2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Could the project result in an increase in GHG emissions (including CO2)? No

Please be mindful that the Council has committed to reduce its GHG emissions to zero by 2050 and most projects are likely to have an impact on this target. This should be a key consideration in your project delivery and should be reviewed when completing the assessment.

Have you undertaken an assessment of the project to know if there will likely be an increase in GHG emissions? No

3 Resources

Will the project result in increased consumption of electricity, gas or other heating fuels? No

e.g. project may require use of additional buildings, lighting and heating in buildings, additional ICT equipment, etc.

Will the project reduce energy needs and result in reduced consumption? No

e.g. disposal of WCC property assets

Will the project require additional water resources leading to an increase in water consumption? No

e.g. increased use of water through construction processes

Might there be a decrease in water consumption? No

e.g. will the project involve water saving measures or initiatives

Will the project result in the use of other resources, materials or minerals? No

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

4 Transport

Will the project result in more people needing to travel? No

e.g. will there be additional cars on the road

Have alternative transport modes been considered? No

e.g. could use be made of public transport/walking/cycling etc.

5 Waste

Is there likely to be an increase in waste as a result of the project? No

e.g. construction waste, packaging waste etc.

Have opportunities to prevent, minimise, reuse or recycle waste been identified and considered? No

e.g. will recycling facilities be available as part of the project

6 Wildlife and Biodiversity

Will there be any negative impacts on the natural environment? No

e.g. will the project involve removal of green space/trees; have wildlife surveys been considered; result in enhancements to green infrastructure; increased biodiversity opportunities etc.?

Has a preliminary ecological appraisal been undertaken? No

Has there been consideration of statutory assessments? No

e.g. Sustainability Appraisals, Strategic Environmental Assessments and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening?

N.B. This is a matter of legal compliance - All plans and projects (including planning applications) which are not directly connected with, or necessary for, the conservation management of a habitat site, require consideration of whether the plan or project is likely to have significant effects on that site. This consideration – typically referred to as the ‘Habitats Regulations Assessment screening’ – should take into account the potential effects both of the plan/project itself and in combination with other plans or projects.

7 Pollution to land/air/water

Is there a risk of pollution to the local environment? No

e.g.

- will there be surface water run-off or discharge into local water source?
- will there be any impact on local water quality?
- will any waste water require treatment?
- is there the potential for spillage of chemicals?
- is there the potential for emissions to air from combustion processes resulting in poor air quality?

8 Resilience to climate risks

Could climate risks affect your project? No

N.B. some projects may be more sensitive to future changes in the climate e.g. hotter and drier summers; milder and wetter winters; increased likelihood of extreme weather events. These climate risks may affect project delivery and should be considered at the early stages of project development.

Has the impact of extreme weather events on the project been considered? No

e.g. heat waves and flooding.

Is there a business/project continuity plan in place to ensure climate risks are minimised? No

e.g. can you ensure that the project is resilient to climate risks and can continue to deliver on outcomes.

Could the project exacerbate climate risks? No

e.g. increase flood risk or worsen temperature extremes in the locality.

Will the project result in the use of other resources, materials or minerals? No

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

9 Historic Environment

Have you checked with the WCC Historic Environment team as to whether there are any impacts on the Historic Environment (negative or positive)?

No

Check every development with the Historic Environment Team at the planning stage of each project. Further assessment may be required depending on the nature and scale of development. There may also be design options that would negate any need for further assessment (and lessen costs), or even opportunities to enhance heritage assets or their setting through the development.

Does the development have the potential to result in any impacts to the historic environment or opportunities for enhancement?

No

If yes, then further assessment will be required. This could take the form of a watching brief during groundworks if the potential is clearly understood and relatively low, or a more comprehensive desk-based and/or field investigation prior to development.

10 Procurement

Could any procurement associated with the project have a detrimental environmental impact? No

e.g. procurement of goods from overseas that have to be shipped; use of unsustainable materials or materials that cannot be recycled at the end of their use?

Is there likely to be increased Greenhouse Gas emissions from products purchased for the project? No

e.g. carbon emissions from transport and manufacturing

Will you be able to make use of sustainable products? No

e.g. recycled, local, ethical etc.

Have you considered the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012? No

All major contracts let by the Council (those of more than £100,000 in total value) will be expected to deliver a meaningful contribution to our vision of Social Value in the county. The Act requires us to consider how the services we commission and procure might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the local area.

– please see: [Social Value](#)

11 Declaration

I have confirmed that to the best of my knowledge that the information I have provided is true, complete and accurate

I have confirmed that I will make sure that Environmental Sustainability has been and continues to be considered throughout the project life cycle and should circumstances change in the project a further Environmental Sustainability Assessment Screening will be carried out.

12 Application Details

Last Updated Date Time

21/08/2023 14:29:05

Screening Submitted Date Time

21/08/2023 13:27:41

Last Reopened Date Time

No Date Recorded

Full Impact Submitted Date Time

21/08/2023 14:29:05

Approved/Rejected Date Time

No Date Recorded

Current User Dashboard Request Status

Submitted

13.0 People with access to the original screening

[Louise Butler \(LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk\)](mailto:LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

13.1 People with access to this environmental sustainability assessment

[Louise Butler \(LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk\)](mailto:LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

14 Direct Questions

No Questions Asked

Equality and Public Health Full Impact Assessment

Impact Assessment Id: #588

1.0 Screening Information

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Worcs Strategy for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities 2023-26

Name of Project Sponsor

Melanie Barnett

Name of Project Manager

Louise Butler

Name of Project Lead

Melanie Barnett

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Is the project a new function/service or does it relate to an existing Council function/service?

Existing

Was consultation carried out on this project?

Yes

1.2 Responsibility

Directorate/Organisation

Worcestershire Children First

Service Area

All Age Disability

1.3 Specifics

Project Reference (if known)

N/A

Intended Project Close Date *

September 2026

1.4 Project Part of a Strategic Programme

Is this project part of a strategic programme?

Yes

An overarching screening has already been carried out for the following areas:

Not recorded

Upload previous impact assessment documents if available

No files uploaded

2 Organisations Involved

Please identify the organisation(s) involved:

Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust

Worcestershire County Council

Details of contributors to this assessment:

Name	Melanie Barnett
Job title	Director All-Age Disability 0-25
Email address	mbarnett1@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

3.0 Who will be affected by the development and implementation

Please identify group(s) involved:

Service User

Staff

Communities

3.1 Information and evidence reviewed

What information and evidence have you reviewed to help inform this assessment? *

In producing this Strategy, we have reflected on information from the following sources:

- * Feedback following the SEND revisit in November 2021
- * The Local Area SEND Written Statement of Action
- * Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) six-month review in September 2022, and
- * User feedback (parent carers, children and young people and educational settings)
- * The Government SEND review March 2022

3.2 Summary of engagement or consultation undertaken

Who and how have you engaged, or why do you believe engagement is not required? *

- * Children and young people, parent carers
- * Educational settings
- * Integrated Care System - Worcestershire
- * Social Care Colleagues

3.3 Summary of relevant findings

Please summarise your relevant findings. *

Please refer to page 6 of the SEND strategy which is the impact evaluation and findings.

Since our last Strategy, we have worked closely with parent carers, CYP and partners to understand what needs to change regarding our approach to SEND to improve in Worcestershire . We have embedded co-production in our approach to SEND strategic change and have consulted to agree the priorities for the next three years . As such, we have listened carefully to the experiences of our service users to ensure it is their experiences which determine our next steps .

4 Protected characteristics - Equality

Please consider the potential impact of this activity (during development & implementation) on each of the equality groups outlined below. **Please select one or more impact box(es) below for each equality group and explain your rationale.** Please note it is possible for the potential impact to be both positive and negative for the same equality group and this should be recorded. Remember to consider the impact on e.g. staff, public, patients, carers etc. who are part of these equality groups.

Age

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

Outcomes for young people with SEND are improved as a result of effective planning, preparation for adulthood and better coordination of service delivery to ensure positive transitions as they progress through their education.

Disability

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

- * Identification and assessment of SEND is timely and effective
- * There is sufficient and effective SEND provision
- * There is awareness and understanding of SEND within local communities
- * Outcomes for young people with SEND are improved as a result of effective planning, preparation for adulthood and better coordination of service delivery to ensure positive transitions as they progress through their education
- * CYP with autism achieve positive outcomes and the support required to enable this is in place
- * Emotional health and wellbeing is actively promoted for CYP with SEND and their families and effective, targeted, and specialist support is available for those CYP at risk of, or experiencing difficulties

Gender reassignment

Potential neutral impact selected

Explanation of your reasoning:

It is not anticipated there will be any impact on this protected characteristic.

Marriage and civil partnerships

Potential neutral impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

It is not anticipated there will be any impact on this protected characteristic.

Pregnancy and maternity

Potential neutral impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

It is not anticipated there will be any impact on this protected characteristic.

Race including travelling communities

Potential neutral impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

It is not anticipated there will be any impact on this protected characteristic.

Religion and belief

Potential neutral impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

It is not anticipated there will be any impact on this protected characteristic.

Sex

Potential neutral impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

It is not anticipated there will be any impact on this protected characteristic.

Sexual orientation

Potential neutral impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

It is not anticipated there will be any impact on this protected characteristic.

5 Characteristics - Public health

Other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

Our development work in the next three years aims to ensure that effective identification and assessment of SEND takes place as early as possible, so that appropriate support can be put in place, enabling CYP to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Health inequalities

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

Our development work in the next three years aims to ensure that effective identification and assessment of SEND takes place as early as possible, so that appropriate support can be put in place, enabling CYP to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Social and economic

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

Our development work in the next three years aims to ensure that effective identification and assessment of SEND takes place as early as possible, so that appropriate support can be put in place, enabling CYP to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Physical health

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

Our development work in the next three years aims to ensure that effective identification and assessment of SEND takes place as early as possible, so that appropriate support can be put in place, enabling CYP to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Mental health and wellbeing

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

Our development work in the next three years aims to ensure that effective identification and assessment of SEND takes place as early as possible, so that appropriate support can be put in place, enabling CYP to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Access to services

Potential positive impact selected.

Explanation of your reasoning:

Our development work in the next three years aims to ensure that effective identification and assessment of SEND takes place as early as possible, so that appropriate support can be put in place, enabling CYP to achieve the best possible outcomes.

6 Actions to mitigate potential negative impacts

You have confirmed that there are no negative impacts for equality protected characteristics and public health characteristics.

7 When will you review this equality and public health estimate(EPHIA)?

March 2025 - halfway through the timespan of the strategy

8 Declaration

The following statement has been read and agreed:

- All public bodies have a statutory duty under the Equality Act 2010 to set out arrangements to assess and consult on how their policies and functions impact on the 9 protected characteristics: Age; Disability; Gender Reassignment; Marriage & Civil Partnership; Pregnancy & Maternity; Race; Religion & Belief; Sex; Sexual Orientation
- Our Organisation will challenge discrimination, promote equality, respect human rights, and aims to design and implement services, policies and measures that meet the diverse needs of our service, and population, ensuring that none are placed at a disadvantage over others
- All staff are expected to deliver and provide services and care in a manner which respects the individuality of service users, patients, carers etc, and as such treat them and members of the workforce respectfully, paying due regard to the 9 protected characteristics

I confirm to the best of my knowledge that the information I have provided is true, complete and accurate

I confirm that I will make sure that Equality and Public Health have been and continue to be considered throughout the project life cycle and that, if circumstances change in the project, a further Equality and Public Health Impact Assessment Screening will be carried out.

8 Application Details

Last Updated Date Time

21/08/2023 14:21:17

Screening Submitted Date Time

21/08/2023 13:27:41

Last Reopened Date Time

No Date Recorded

Full Impact Submitted Date Time

21/08/2023 14:21:17

Approved/Rejected Date Time

No Date Recorded

Current User Dashboard Request Status

Submitted

9.0 People with access to the original screening

[Louise Butler \(LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk\)](mailto:LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

9.1 People with access to this equality and public health assessment

[Louise Butler \(LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk\)](mailto:LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

10 Direct Questions

No Questions Asked

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Project Screening

Impact Assessment Id: #588

1. Your Details

Name of person completing screening assessment

Louise Butler

Job Title

Business Officer

Directorate

Worcestershire Children First

Service Area

All Age Disability

Email Address

LButler@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Connection to project (e.g. project manager)

Project support

2. Project Summary

For the purposes of the impact assessment screening, we will refer to the activity or area being assessed as a project.

Project Name

Worcs Strategy for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities 2023-26

Name of Project Sponsor

Melanie Barnett

Name of Project Manager

Louise Butler

Name of Project Lead

Melanie Barnett

Project Reference (if known)

N/A

Please give a brief description of the project

In Worcestershire we want all children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities to be truly seen and respected as individuals and to be the best they can be. The purpose of this Strategy is to set out how we plan to deliver this vision through six key priorities .

3. Data Protection

We need to establish if the proposal involves processing personal data. Personal data is information that relates to an identified or identifiable individual.

Name of Information Asset Owner

Tina Russell

Senior officer responsible for the project's information assets

Does the project, any project work stream or project outcome involve any personal data? Some examples of personal data are given below. **No**

Appearance:

photograph, physical description

Basic Identifiers:

name, date of birth, age, biometric data, ethnic origin, gender, genetic data, race, sex

Contact Details:

address, email address, home phone number, mobile phone number, postcode

ID Number:

National Insurance Number, driving licence number, NHS number, online identifier, other general identifier

Employment:

work related training/awards

Financial:

income/financial/tax situation

Lifestyle:

health or social care, living habits, marital status, philosophical beliefs, political opinions, religion, sex life, trade union membership

Technology:

login/username, device MAC address (wireless network interface), device IMEI number, IP Address, location data (travel/GDPS/GSM data), website cookies

As you answered 'No', please explain your reasoning below:

The project is the creation of the strategy and therefore does not contain any unique, identifiable data.

4. Equality

We need to determine whether the project could affect residents and/or Council staff because they share any of the Protected Characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010 namely Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage/Civil Partnership, Pregnancy, Race, Religion/Belief, Sex and Sexual Orientation.

Does the project relate to an area where data/research indicates that inequalities are already known to exist? Yes

Could this project have any effect on, service delivery or usage, other aspects of daily life or community participation levels for people because they belong to any of the groups below?

Age Yes

e.g. a person belonging to a particular age group (for example 18 – 30-year olds).

Disability Yes

e.g. A person has a disability if she or he has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

Gender Re-Assignment No

e.g. The process of transitioning from one gender to another.

Marriage/Civil Partnership Status No

e.g. Marriage is a union between a man and a woman or between a same-sex couple. Same-sex couples can also have their relationships legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'. Civil partners must not be treated less favourably than married couples (except where permitted by the Equality Act).

Pregnancy/Maternity No

e.g. Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

Race No

e.g. Refers to the protected characteristic of race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.

Religion or Belief No

e.g. Religion refers to any religion, including a lack of religion. Belief refers to any religious or philosophical belief and includes a lack of belief. Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

Sex No

Sexual Orientation No

e.g. Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes.

Health Inequalities Yes

e.g. Any preventable, unfair & unjust differences in health status between groups, populations or individuals that arise from the unequal distribution of social, environmental & economic conditions within societies.

5. Public Health

We also want to understand if the project will have any impacts on public health.

The social, economic, cultural and physical environment in which people live their lives has a significant effect on their health and wellbeing. Although genetics and personal behaviour play a strong part in determining an individual's health, good health starts where we live, where we work and learn, and where we play.

Improving public health requires taking a broader view of the conditions that create health and wellbeing, from how we plan and develop our urban spaces and places, to the opportunities for employment, recreation, and social connection available to all who live in them.

Health inequalities are the preventable, unfair and unjust differences in health status between groups, populations or individuals that arise from the unequal distribution of social, environmental and economic conditions within societies, which determine the risk of people getting ill, their ability to prevent sickness, or opportunities to take action and access treatment when ill health occurs.

Could the project have an impact on any of the following factors?

Social and Economic Yes

e.g. culture, social support (neighbourliness, social networks/isolation), spiritual participation, employment opportunities.

Physical Health Yes

e.g. physical activity is expected to increase, influenza vaccination uptake increase

Mental Health & Wellbeing Yes

e.g. benefits to children's mental health, benefits to adult carer wellbeing.

Access to Services Yes

e.g. access to (location/disabled access/costs) and quality of primary/community/secondary health care, child care, social services, housing/leisure/social security services; public transport, policing, other health relevant public services, non-statutory agencies and services.

5. Environmental Sustainability

We want to understand if the project activity and project outcomes will have an impact on environmental sustainability. Please be mindful that the Council has committed to reduce its emissions to net-zero by 2050 and most projects are likely to have an impact on this target. This should be a key consideration in your project delivery and should be reviewed when completing these screening documents.

Could this project have an impact on the categories listed below?

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions (including CO2) No

e.g. increased GHG emissions as a result of project implementation, which may also be linked with efficient use of resources in WCC buildings; transport; emissions from waste; and procurement.

Efficient Use of Resources No

e.g. consumption of energy resources, water, electricity, gas and heating fuels.

Transport Yes

e.g. number of people travelling, alternative transport modes.

Waste No

e.g. increase in waste generated or an increase in waste recycling.

Wildlife and Biodiversity No

e.g. impacts on the natural environment or enhancements to the natural environment.

N.B. This refers to any direct or indirect modifications to landholdings, including but not limited to removal of vegetation, alteration or demolition of buildings or modification of watercourses or lighting (not limited to just green space/trees).

Pollution to Land or Water No

e.g. risk of pollution to the local environment.

Pollution to Air No

e.g. risk of pollution to air, activity which may adversely affect air quality or increase emissions to air

Resilience to climate change No

e.g. risks of extreme weather and climate impacts on the project.

Historic Environment No

e.g. impacts on Historic Environment or enhancements of the Historic Environment.

Procurement No

e.g. could procurement associated with the project result in an increase of natural resources (such as long-distance shipping of goods); could use be made of local resources or work forces to support delivery of the project.

7. Results of Screening

Data Protection	Does not need a full impact assessment
Equality and Public Health	Will require a full impact assessment
Environmental Sustainability	Will require a full impact assessment

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