

Title of proposal:				t						Description of potential mitigation
Early Help Strategy 2023-26 Referred to as EHS in the document	Age	Race	Sex	Gender reassignment	Disability	Religion or Belief	Pregnancy and Maternity	Sexual Orientation	Marriage and Civil Partnership	
Equality impact: (✓ all that apply. The assessment should also consider impact on council employees and carers where applicable)	>	~	~		*		•			
Description of impact:										
The impact of the EHS on the wellbeing and life-chances of Gateshead residents, with a focus on families with dependent children, would be positive because the EHS sets-out:										Positive impact – all progress subject to review.
<ul> <li>the vision and expectations which apply to providing help to vulnerable families from across the Gateshead early help system, and;</li> </ul>										



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a clear plan to improve family							
stability, reduce parental							
conflict, reduce youth crime							
and to increase access to							
locality-based support.							Positive impact – all progress subject to
							review.
Central to the EHS is the							
implementation of a Family Hubs and							
Start for Life model which will provide							
an all-age menu of support but with							
funded strands of support for new and							
expectant parents, including a focus on							
parenting, perinatal mental health and							
the parent-infant relationship, infant							
feeding and the home learning							
environment.							
Family Hubs will align closely with VCS							
organisations in our communities of							
highest need.							
nighest need.							
The EHS also adopts the Supporting							
Families Programme Outcomes							
Framework as the performance							
dashboard to measure progress							
achieved with families across a range of							
indicators.							Positive impact – all progress subject to
							review.
The impact on employees will be							
positive because the EHS relies upon an							



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agile/mobile working model for those in a frontline, key-working role and increased opportunities for integrated training and working across the early help system for the full early help workforce.							
Health impact: (eg physical, mental heal	th, wellbeing	, substance	misuse)				
The EHS will impact positively on health of a provides a strategic focus on early interested as the sets expectations around integration and reinforces the value of a whole-family a Examples of the above include Family Hullocation of maternity services, bereavem opportunities and support with food and The EHS also contributes a range of evident to improve family relationships between	vention d co-location pproach to pr bs hosting ad ent support, i home safety	of a joint H roviding inte ult mental h nfant feedin advice. terventions	ensive fami nealth supp ng sessions with famili	y suppor ort sessic leisure a es, using	ons, co- nd exer	rcise	See left – the EHS will provide a combination of intensive, whole-family support (using the Team Around the Family model), walk-in support based in localities (Family Hub model) and a wide range of direct partnership interventions focused on improving wellbeing.
Socio Economic impact: (eg neighbourho wealth)	od, ward, ar	a of depriv	ation, hou	sehold gr	oup, in	come,	
Family Hubs implementation will be based on existing Sure Start sites in our communities of highest deprivation. There will also be funding of/alignment with VCS organisations in communities where deprivation is highest. We will build further on existing locality models to improve access to food,						See left – LA services are provided without charge. Family Hubs will be based in our communities of highest need and aligned	



clothing, hygiene products and ensure that walk-in support is universal, free or (where fees apply	with VCS assets in areas where deprivation i
due to provider arrangements) as low cost as possible.	highest.
Core elements of the EHS offer are provided without charge.	
Environmental impact: (does the proposal impact on climate change and the Council's	
commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030? Is the proposal in line with the Council's	
Environmental Policy? Does the proposal increase natural resource use? Does the proposal	
increase waste? Does the proposal increase pollution? Does the proposal impact on wildlife? Does	
the proposal increase car use? Does the proposal increase energy use?)	
There is no known impact to the environment, including pollution levels and local eco-systems.	See left – no known impact; the EHS is likely to reduce vehicle use due to providing more
Implementation of Family Hubs will utilise existing buildings (ie) there are no new capital builds or	support in communities.
increased demands on utilities. Further deployment of LA staff to locality bases will likely reduce	
vehicle usage due to staff operating within smaller geographical areas.	
This will also impact of journey times for families looking to access support in their communities (ie) reduce the need to travel to access maternity services, for example.	
Cumulative impact: (consider impact based on successive budgetary decisions relating to the proposal or is the proposal part of wider budgetary considerations that may collectively have an impact on service users, and is potentially at odds with the Thrive agenda)	
The EHS directly contributes to the Thrive agenda and aims to deploy greater resource to our most	See left – increased focus on early
vulnerable residents at times, places and in ways where help is accessible. The case for early intervention and prevention to off-set the demand for higher-cost, specialist and statutory services	intervention and prevention will off-set medium to long-term costs.
is compelling. Where implemented effectively, the EHS will reduce the costs to the LA and wider partnerships of meet needs at crisis or pre-crisis level.	



Much of the funding for the key priorities is external (DLUHC, DWP, DFE, DHSC) and dependent on fulfilment of grant conditions, while partnership contributions to family support represent a significant element of the early help offer.

See left – national (external) funding makes a significant contribution to the system-wide offer (ie) the EHS can be delivered without 100% cost to the LA.

The EHS contributes directly to the:

- Gateshead Health & Wellbeing Strategy
- Gateshead SEND Strategy
- Gateshead Youth Justice Plan
- Gateshead Children and Young People's Strategy

Summary of consultation/data/research undertaken to inform the assessment: (eg feedback and engagement with service users, trade unions, employees, partners, public, benchmarking, case studies)

The EHS has been developed through use of the following self-assessment exercises:

- Early Help Systems Guide (DLUHC)
- Data Maturity Survey (DLUHC)
- Reducing Parental Conflict Planning Tool (DWP)
- Health Needs Assessment (Public Health to meet Family Hub and Start for Life milestone expectations)

Consultation has also been undertaken with:

- Partners from across the early help system, including Public Health, Youth Justice Service, Growing Healthy Gateshead
- Children's Social Care & Early Help Senior Management Team
- Strategic Director, Children's Social Care & Lifelong Learning
- Designated Safeguarding Nurse

**Signed:** Gavin Bradshaw – completing officer



<b>Date:</b> 11 April 2023	
Service Director: (approved) Date:	