

## 2.2 Making Changes

**Based on the equality issues you identified in 2.2 and 2.3, what changes did you make or do you intend to make in relation to the policy or decision in order to promote equality of opportunity?**

<i><b>In developing the policy or decision what did you do or change to address the equality issues you identified?</b></i>	<i><b>What do you intend to do in future to address the equality issues you identified?</b></i>
<p>Children and young people from ethnic minority backgrounds for example those from the Travelling Community and those who have newly arrived in the country (refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, unaccompanied children may be at increased risk of neglect due to cultural characteristics and difficulty in accessing available resources because of language barriers.</p>	<p>These have been acknowledged in the Strategy at section 3.3.</p>
<p><b>Dependents:</b> Children/young people who take on caring responsibilities for parent(s) due to mental ill-health or learning disability and/or siblings may be more vulnerable to neglect and their needs, need to be recognised.</p>	<p>This has been acknowledged within the Strategy at section 3.3.</p>
<p><b>Age:</b> There is a need to recognise that neglect affects all age-groups pre-school, primary school, post-primary and older adolescents and that each group will have specific needs that need to be addressed. However children under the age of 3 years suffer the most significant, permanent damage due to the fact there is significant brain development and growth which can be adversely affected if they are not nurtured. Also neglect is a factor for adolescents which can be misdiagnosed by</p>	<p>This has been identified in the Strategy at section 3.2, section 4 and section 7.</p> <p>This has been acknowledged in the</p>

professionals.	Strategy.
Children and young people who are disabled may be more vulnerable due to neglect of their needs.	This has been acknowledged in the Strategy at section 3.3.