

<b>Title of EIA – Policy Proposal</b>		<b>Children’s Services Resources and Efficiency Review</b>
<b>EIA Author</b>	Name	<b>Sonia Watson on behalf of Sukriti Sen</b>
	Position	<b>Children and Education Improvement/ Services Programme Delivery Manager</b>
	Date of completion	<b>25 November 2024 updated 5 February 2025</b>
<b>Director</b>	Name	<b>Sukriti Sen</b>
	Position	<b>Director of Children and Education Services</b>
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Name	<b>Councillor Pat Seaman</b>
	Portfolio	<b>Lead Cabinet Member for Children and Young people</b>

PLEASE REFER TO [EIA GUIDANCE](#) FOR ADVICE ON COMPLETING THIS FORM

## SECTION 1 – Context & Background

### 1.1 In summary, what is the background to this proposal?

A Children’s Services Resources and Efficiency LGA Peer challenge was undertaken in October 2024. The Local Government Association (LGA) team was invited by the Council to review how Children and Education Services work and provide services, to children and young people to suggest improvements and to help determine potential opportunities to control and reduce costs, ensure efficiencies and maximise positive outcomes. The Peer challenge focus included:

- Cost of placements
- Structure, capacity and opportunities through integration
- Understanding and analysing costs and incorporating best practice
- Use of organisational capacity, resources and support

The LGA peer challenge team identified six recommendations to focus on, creating efficiencies and potentially reducing costs:

- Support a strengthened culture between children's and corporate services
- Consider an organisational review of children and education services to ensure joined-up approach and any efficiencies
- Have a member endorsed Transformation Plan approved annually at the time of the MTFs approval
- Unplanned entrants to care to be made by a strategic lead to promote accountability and ensure consistency of threshold
- Improve budget oversight
- Consider social work practice opportunities

The final report from the LGA was received at the end of November 2024, the Areas recommended for further consideration that could potentially reduce cost include:

- 1. An organisational review of children’s and education services to ensure a joined-up approach and identification of financial efficiencies through rationalisation of senior managers.**

## BUDGET SETTING 2025-26 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

2. Opportunities to focus targeted early help and intervention services to manage demand and enable intervention in families lives at the lowest levels possible.
3. Maximisation of payment by results grant opportunities through Supporting Families programme.
4. Planned withdrawal from services upon the cessation of grant funded projects with drawn up exit plans
5. Strengthened processes around children coming into care, placement decisions and funding
6. Continued challenge of partners to provide equitable contributions including for care packages
7. Seek to maximise digital opportunities

### **Update 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

An Action plan has been developed and worked up with senior leaders to respond to the LGA report. The plan provides further details and timescales for implementation.

## SECTION 2 – Consideration of Impact

*Refer to guidance note for more detailed advice on completing this section.*

In order to ensure that we do not discriminate in the way our activities are designed, developed and delivered, we must look at our duty to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conflict that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between two persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not

### **2.1 Baseline data and information**

#### **1. An organisational review of children's and education services to ensure a joined-up approach and identification of financial efficiencies through rationalisation of senior managers.**

Children's and Education Services integrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024. A key driver for integrating was to build on the significant improvements which have already occurred within both Children's and Education Services. A new Director (Sukriti Sen) joined in August 2024, providing the opportunity to review services. It will identify areas of duplication to reduce costs and provide efficiencies, strengthening our work with partners further to provide better outcomes for children and families.

## BUDGET SETTING 2025-26 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

### **Update 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

Specific service reviews have been completed or are in progress. A review of the Education management structure has been finalised which has re-aligned the areas of responsibility under the right management level. This was implemented from the beginning of February 2025. Staff are currently being consulted on the review of the new Emergency Duty Team (EDT) to be implemented in June 2025. IMPOWER, an External project team commenced in February 2025, to focus on children in care and deliver a number of interventions which improve outcomes for children and young people with the expectations that it will enhance outcomes for children and deliver savings and reduce costs. The project will be completed within six months.

Children and Education Services integrated workforce equates to 1,500 employees. Through the One Coventry Operating Model the service will review and ensure the best use of resources to remove any duplication of services and join up services across the Council. A review of job roles that are similar within services is also being undertaken to improve efficiencies and develop an integrated approach. A wider review of the Children and Education service will be undertaken after the ILACS Ofsted Inspection which is due this year.

Further details of specific impact on service users – children and young people and families and the workforce is unknown at this stage.

### **2. Opportunities to focus targeted early help and intervention services to manage demand and enable intervention in families lives at the lowest levels possible.** (baseline data from Early Help review EIA August 2023)

Early Help Services in Coventry are delivered through a collaborative effort involving various agencies, organisations, and teams with the early help system, overseen by the Early Help Partnership.

In October 2023, a review of the early help services, led to the implementation of a new management and workforce structure. The Early Help Offer, is a city-wide system/network of services, agencies and teams supporting children, young people and their families (0-19 years and up to aged 24 if young adult has SEN). Support for those children and families identified in need of early help is provided via a single agency (RHRT2 – Right Help Right Time level 2)) or by means of targeted multiagency early help (RHRT3 – Right Help Right Time Level 3), mostly led by the Early Help practitioners based in Family Hub teams.

Working with families more intensively, utilising relational restorative practice approach, greater performance with sustained outcomes for more children and families can be achieved and in doing so reduce the number of children and families escalating into statutory intervention.

### **Update 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

The new Children’s Wellbeing and School Bill was published on 18 December 2024 and aims to change the law to better protect children and raise standards in education. Changes will ensure children can remain with their families by shifting the focus of the children’s social care system to early support, support more children to live with kinship carers or in fostering families and fix the care market to tackle excessive profiting: putting children’s needs first. Key aspects of the reforms are the transitioning to a family help service and the introduction of Multi-Disciplinary Child Protection Teams. The reforms set out to rebalance the children’s social care system to improve outcomes for children in care, care leavers and families. The changes will be implemented at pace, the service is working with the Department for Education to scope and understand this further.

The new threshold document ‘Effective Support for Children and Families in Coventry’ is being finalised with partners and will launch in April 2025.

### **3. Maximisation of payment by results grant opportunities through Supporting Families programme.**

## BUDGET SETTING 2025-26 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

The target for Supporting Families claims is set each year. The recent government announcement stated that they have paused the payment by results for this year, to consider the future of the supported families programme. Therefore, Coventry was given the remaining allocation of the money 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 for the period 2024/25. The service will still be required to evidence claims against targets for meeting the need of our most vulnerable children and families.

Formal notification of plans for 2025/26 are unknown at this stage, although it is anticipated that the funding will continue. If there is a cessation of the grant, then this will have a huge impact upon our early targeted intervention and our strategy to intervene in the lives of families at the lowest levels.

#### **4. Planned withdrawal from services upon the cessation of grant funded projects with drawn up exit plans**

There is a recognition that when applications for grant funding are made to the DfE which are time bound, there needs to be an exit strategy once the grant ends. These will form part of the consideration with regards to the viability of a bid before the applications are submitted.

The withdrawal of grant funded projects will be reviewed further to manage the impact of services/ service users in a planned way, though there may be a negative impact on those children and families who are no longer able to receive support through funded projects.

#### **5. Strengthened processes around children coming into care, placement decisions and funding**

The service will strengthen processes around children coming into care so that Strategic Leads will be the only ones responsible for making such an important decision. Strategic Leads will also have the oversight of panel processes and the follow through of decisions made.

A dip sample of new admissions to care was completed in the summer 2024. The purpose of the dip sample activity was to review the circumstances and decision making regarding new admissions to care due to a significant increase in the number of children and young people entering care during the period 1 May 2024 to 31 July 2024.

Children's Services performance data confirmed that between 1 May 2024 and 31 July 2024, 88 children and young people entered the care of the local authority, resulting in an average of 29.4 children or young people entering care each month. The report has identified recommendations to strengthen practice and processes but what was concluded is that the majority of those children and young people reviewed in the dip sample, most of them were appropriate.

Our plans to increase the number of Children's Residential homes will also support children and young people staying in Coventry, especially for our challenging young people. The proposed new homes will help to strengthen processes for children entering care, reducing the costs of placements in the future.

#### **6. Continued challenge of partners to provide equitable contributions including for care packages**

Children and Education Services will review and explore opportunities where it believes partners should be contributing more. Below are a few examples where we are pursuing this.

Historically Coventry Safeguarding Children's Partnership and Adult Board has been funded by the Local Authority, Police and the Integrated Care Board in disproportionate amounts. The LA paid 73% of the costs in 2023/24, ICB 19% and Police 8%. The service is working with partners to agree additional contributions from partners to ensure

## BUDGET SETTING 2025-26 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

more equitable – requesting a three-way split to ensure children and young people receive the right help and support needed across the partnership.

In partnership with the ICB & Warwickshire County Council, the service has commissioned an independent review of existing joint policies and procedures, alongside the review of a number of children where there have been differing views of eligibility for Continuing Health Care. The aim is to improve joint working practices, agree eligibility criteria for assessments and to ensure a holistic response to meeting individual’s needs. It is considered that this will result in the Council being able to access more funding for children with disabilities and complex needs from health on an ongoing basis.

Discussions have been held with the ICB and the Transformation Lead for Children and Young People’s Mental Health Services, under Rise- managed by Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust (CWPT), regarding an integrated model to support children and young people at risk of admission to tier 4, or A&E due to mental health and emotional wellbeing concerns. Representatives from the ICB & Warwickshire have visited the HOPE service based in Surrey, with the view to replicate a similar service in our area.

A pilot of the day/ crisis element of the service commenced in July 2024 and will run for 9 months, whilst further discussions continue to explore the use of Doe Bank Lane Childrens Home, to emulate the extended service run by HOPE.

Increased funding from the ICB via the independent review relies on the ICB accepting the outcome of the review and participating in further work to address the issues highlighted in the report, to ensure children and young people receive a consistent decision on eligibility and are not disadvantaged.

### **7. Seek to maximise digital opportunities**

Coventry is continuing to experience challenging times which has changed the way services are provided and delivered. This has resulted in a greater need for creativity, commercialisation and working with partners to develop shared outcomes to deliver the Council’s priorities through the One Coventry Plan and Coventry Transformation Plan which will transform delivery to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of services working differently to embrace new approaches and technology and encourage diversity at all levels.

There is a continuous drive to consider ‘smarter ways of working’ which will also ensure best value and the best outcomes for children and their families. Maximizing digital opportunities will have a positive impact on service users – to support children and young people and families access services more efficiently.

The full impact of the above proposals will not be known until full details are developed further and implemented.

### **2.2 On the basis of evidence, complete the table below to show what the potential impact is for each of the protected groups of residents/service users**

- Positive impact (P),
- Negative impact (N)
- Both positive and negative impacts (PN)
- No impact (NI)
- Unknown impact (UI)

**BUDGET SETTING 2025-26**  
**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)**

Protected Characteristic	Impact type P, N, PN, NI, UI	Nature of impact and any mitigations required
Age 0-18	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UI</li> <li>2. PN</li> <li>3. P</li> <li>4. N</li> <li>5. P</li> <li>6. UI</li> <li>7. UI</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unknown impact.</li> <li>2. More children and families will benefit from the right support at the right time and interventions will be delivered in a timely way to improve their outcomes. For some children and families will need more than a low level of support.</li> <li>3. More children and families receive support to services funded through funding streams.</li> <li>4. Negative impact on families receiving services through funded grant where this is removed and offer not provided.</li> <li>5. Children in care aged 10 –18, who have been identified as having emotional, behavioural difficulties, will be able to live in Coventry near to their families, friends and communities and received continuity of care and services.</li> <li>6. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>7. Unknown Impact.</li> </ol>
Age 19-64	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UI</li> <li>2. PN</li> <li>3. P</li> <li>4. PN</li> <li>5. P</li> <li>6. P</li> <li>7. UI</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unknown impact.</li> <li>2. More children and families will benefit from the right support at the right time and interventions will be delivered in a timely way to improve their outcomes. For some children and families will need more than a low level of support.</li> <li>3. More children and families receive support to services funded through funding streams.</li> <li>4. Positive impact for families receiving services through funded grant, negative impact on families where this is removed and offer not provided</li> <li>5. Through the work of the Staying Close Project, care leavers will receive continuity of care and support from the same carers who looked after them until the age of 18. This supports a better transition into adult services. Additional jobs will be created within the city, recruiting carers that reflect the diversity of the children we care for and in the communities, they live in.</li> <li>6. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>7. Unknown Impact.</li> </ol>
Age 65+	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UI</li> <li>2. NI</li> <li>3. NI</li> <li>4. NI</li> <li>5. NI</li> <li>6. NI</li> <li>7. NI</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>2. No Impact.</li> <li>3. No impact.</li> <li>4. No impact.</li> <li>5. No impact.</li> <li>6. No impact.</li> <li>7. No impact.</li> </ol>
Disability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UI</li> <li>2. UI</li> <li>3. P</li> <li>4. PN</li> <li>5. P</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>2. Unknow impact.</li> <li>3. More children and families receive support to services funded through funding streams.</li> </ol>

**BUDGET SETTING 2025-26**  
**EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)**

	6. UI 7. UI	4. Positive impact for families receiving services through funded grant, negative impact on families where this is removed and offer not provided 5. Children in care with a disability will have the opportunity to reside in Coventry close to family, friends, communities and support services. This ensures a continuity of care and support. 6. Unknown Impact. 7. Unknown Impact.
Gender reassignment	1. UI 2. UI 3. UI 4. UI 5. P 6. UI 7. UI	1. Unknown Impact. 2. Unknown Impact. 3. Unknown Impact. 4. Unknown Impact. 5. Those who wish to go through, or are going through gender reassignment, will be fully supported to do so. Remaining in Coventry City may reduce any disruption to services that can support with gender reassignment. 6. Unknown Impact. 7. Unknown Impact.
Pregnancy and maternity	1. UI 2. UI 3. UI 4. UI 5. NI 6. UI 7. UI	1. Unknown Impact 2. Unknown Impact 3. Unknown Impact 4. Unknown Impact 5. Unknown Impact 6. Unknown Impact 7. Unknown Impact
Race (Including: colour, nationality, citizenship ethnic or national origins)	1. UI 2. UI 3. UI 4. UI 5. P 6. UI 7. UI	1. Unknown Impact 2. Unknown Impact 3. Unknown Impact 4. Unknown Impact 5. Children from ethnically, racially and culturally diverse backgrounds will be able to stay connected to their families, friends and communities and will be able to continue to access places of worship, groups and support services. 6. Unknown Impact. 7. Unknown impact.
Religion and belief	1. UI 2. UI 3. UI 4. UI 5. P 6. UI 7. UI	1. Unknown Impact. 2. Unknown Impact. 3. Unknown Impact. 4. Unknown Impact. 5. Children are supported to practice the religion of their choice if they wish to do so. Carers support children to explore belief systems and understand the advantages and disadvantages to these. 6. Unknown Impact. 7. Unknown Impact.
Sex	1. UI 2. UI	1. Unknown Impact. 2. Unknown Impact.

**BUDGET SETTING 2025-26  
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. UI</li> <li>4. UI</li> <li>5. P</li> <li>6. UI</li> <li>7. UI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>4. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>5. Homes are of mixed gender and children will be supported in relation to gender identity.</li> <li>6. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>7. Unknown Impact.</li> </ul>
Sexual orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UI</li> <li>2. UI</li> <li>3. UI</li> <li>4. UI</li> <li>5. P</li> <li>6. UN</li> <li>7. UI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unknown Impact</li> <li>2. Unknown Impact</li> <li>3. Unknown Impact</li> <li>4. Unknown Impact</li> <li>5. Carers support children to explore their sexual orientation if they wish to do so and they are supported in whatever choices they make in this respect.</li> <li>6. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>7. Unknown Impact.</li> </ul>
Care-Experienced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UI</li> <li>2. UI</li> <li>3. UI</li> <li>4. UI</li> <li>5. P</li> <li>6. UI</li> <li>7. UI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>2. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>3. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>4. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>5. Children in care will benefit from this proposal for strengthened processes around children coming into care, placement decisions and funding.</li> <li>6. Unknown Impact.</li> <li>7. Unknown Impact.</li> </ul>

**2.3 Will there be any potential impacts in relation to health and/or digital inequalities?  
Please think about issues such as socio-economic groups, areas of deprivation etc**

The council works with statutory partners including health, police and wider partners in the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) to provide to improve health equity for children, young people and their families.

The council works in partnership with other services to promote sustainability of services.

**Positive impacts**

These proposals aim to utilise a proportionate universalism resource allocation. This approach enables the services to support families and give every child the best start in life to achieve their potential, providing support at the right time, which may also reduce future costly interventions. The proposals will enable the council to continue to provide cost effective and evidence-based interventions, to protect services and improve health equity.

There is a bank of evidence which highlights the benefits and impact of early intervention across the system including social care, early years, education, health and employment outcomes. This is further evidenced



## BUDGET SETTING 2025-26 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

from the research commissioned by the Association of Directors of Childrens Services Phase 9 of the Safeguarding Pressures published at the beginning of January 2025.

Children in care and children in care with a disability are a group that are known to be more likely to experience health inequalities. This proposal will:

- provide opportunities for children with disabilities and complex needs to have more access to homes to meet their needs and ensure continuity of care and support, improving health equity.
- provide the opportunity for person centred local care by providing local capacity for this cohort of children to reside in Coventry close to their family, social networks and community, and access local amenities, improving health equity.

### **Negative impacts**

A potential negative direct impact on potential staff job roles that are directly impacted by an organisational review, this also may potentially impact employees financially and may also impact their mental health and wellbeing.

A potential negative indirect impact on ceasing grant funded programmes once ended may lead to the ending of an intervention for children, young people and their families which supports the Marmot principles, impact groups of people more significantly who are known to face the biggest health inequalities, and experience barriers to accessing services. This potential unintended outcome may widen the gap if services are likely to end and the activities are no longer available.

Some of our children and young people may experience financial and skill barriers to accessing digital devices and data. Consideration should be given how we can ensure that we take action to prevent young people and families that do not access front line services and how they can access suitable digital resources (devices and data) in an equitable and culturally sensitive way to prevent potentially widening gaps.

Children and families, the service support may experience digital inequalities as they may not have access to digital technology, which could have an impact in relation to how they access support services.

### **3.0 Will there be any potential impacts on Council staff from protected groups? If yes complete the table below.**

The below is Children's and Education Services workforce data.

Protected Characteristic	Number of Employees impacted in percentage	Impact type P, N, PN, NI, UI	Nature of impact and any mitigations required
Age 16 -18	2.8%	UI	Impact not known.
Age 19-64	94.5%	UI	Impact not known.
Age 65+	2.7%	UI	Impact not known.
Disability	5.8%	UI	Impact not known.

**BUDGET SETTING 2025-26  
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)**

Gender reassignment	Not known.	UI	Impact not known.
Pregnancy and maternity	Not known.	UI	Impact not known.
Race (Including: colour, nationality, citizenship ethnic or national origins)	White Eng/Welsh/Scot/Nr Irish/British: 57.9% Unknown: 9.4% Asian/Indian: 7.4% Black/African: 6.7% Other white background: 3.8% Black Caribbean: 1.9% Asian Pakistani: 1.9% Mixed white/Black Caribbean: 1.3% Mixed white Asian: 1.1% Asian Bangladeshi: 1.1% White Irish: 0.9% Other black background: Asian Chinese: 0.8% Other mixed background: 0.7% Arab: Less than 10 employees Mixed White/Black African: Less than 10 employees Other Ethnic Background: Less than 10 employees	UI	Impact not known.
Religion and belief	Christian: 34.4% No religion: 26.4% Unknown: 21.7% Muslim: 6.8% Prefer not to state: 3.9% Sikh: 3.1% Hindu: 1.9% Any other: 1.5% Buddhist: Less than 10 employees Jewish: Less than 10 employees	UI	Impact not known.
Sex	Female: 84.3% Male: 15.7%	UI	Impact not known.
Sexual orientation	Straight/Heterosexual: 69% Unknown: 23.6% Prefer not to say: 4.6% Gay or Lesbian: 1.5% Bisexual: 1.3% Prefer to self-describe: Less than 10 employees	UI	Impact not known.

**4.0 How could you monitor and evaluate the effect of this proposal?**

## BUDGET SETTING 2025-26 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Each of 7 proposals above are in the early stage of development, more detailed EIA will be developed further at implementation stage. This will ensure the service examines potential impact of service users in a rigorous way. Separate EIA's will be completed for specific reviews within Children's and Education services.

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Action Planning</b>	
<b>Issue Identified</b>	<b>Planned Actions</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
	An Action Plan has been developed and worked up to respond to the LGA peer challenge recommendations – actions and timeframes are being finalised.	Timeframes will be stated for each action – within the plan.
	A number of projects are in progress – with saving targets identified for 2024/25 – these are monitored through One Coventry Transformation Board monthly – as part of the MTFs proposals.	As per Transformation Board plan – all highlight reports – include target dates.

### 6.0 Completion Statement

**The potential equality impact of this proposal is as follows:**

- No impact has been identified for one or more protected groups
- Positive impact has been identified for one or more protected groups
- Negative impact has been identified for one or more protected groups
- Both positive and negative impact has been identified for one or more protected groups
- The potential impact of all proposals 1-7 this proposal on protected groups is not yet known

The potential impact of the proposals below remains unchanged following the consultation.

Division	Proposal	Initial Assessment	Initial Analysis
Children's	<b>An organisational review of children's and education services to ensure a joined-up approach and identification of potential financial efficiencies through rationalisation of senior managers.</b>	Impact unknown at this stage	The impact of this proposal is not yet known and will be revisited once the service has been reviewed, and further details are available to inform the potential impact on the workforce in Children's.
	<b>Opportunities to focus targeted early help and intervention services to manage demand and enable intervention in families lives at the lowest levels possible.</b>	Both positive and negative impact	More children and families will benefit from the right support at the right time, with interventions will be delivered in a timely way to improve their outcomes. However, vulnerable children and families needing targeted intervention that cannot

**BUDGET SETTING 2025-26  
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)**

			be diverted to lower levels or universal services may be impacted.
	<b>Maximisation of payment by results grant opportunities through Supporting Families Programme.</b>	Positive	The service is not required to meet the 60% and above claims target this year in relation to the Supporting Families programme. This is positive for children and families as the support currently received will not be impacted.
	<b>Planned withdrawal from services upon the cessation of grant funded projects with drawn up exit plans.</b>	Negative	There may be a negative impact of this proposal on children and families who are no longer able to receive support through grant funded projects.
	<b>Strengthened processes around children coming into care, placement decisions and funding.</b>	Positive	The continuity of care and support through this proposal will positively impact children coming in to care and their transition into adulthood. There are also anticipated to be benefits to children with some protected characteristics within the cohort.
	<b>Continued challenge of partners to provide equitable contributions including for care packages.</b>	Impact unknown at this stage	The impact of this proposal is unknown at this stage and is dependent on partners accepting the outcomes of an independent review of multi-agency working practices, eligibility criteria and funding contributions
	<b>Seek to maximise digital opportunities.</b>	Impact unknown at this stage	The impact of this proposal is unknown at this stage until work is further developed on the use of digital technology, both corporately and specifically within the service

**7.0 Approval**

<b>Name of Director: Sukriti Sen</b>	<b>Date: 25.11.24 Updated 5.2.25</b>
<b>Name of Lead Elected Member: Councillor Patricia Seaman</b>	<b>Date sent to Councillor: 02/12/24 Post-consultation – 10/02/25</b>