

Equality Impact Assessment [version 2.12]



Title: Children's Care and Support Framework	
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate: Children, Families and Safer Communities	Lead Officer name: Hannah Gillett
Service Area: Strategic Commissioning	Lead Officer role: Senior Commissioning Manager

Step 1: What do we want to do?

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment is to assist decision makers in understanding the impact of proposals as part of their duties under the Equality Act 2010. Detailed guidance to support completion can be found here [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqIA\) \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com).

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the process by someone with a good knowledge of the proposal and service area, and sufficient influence over the proposal. It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the equality impact assessment. Please contact the Equality and Inclusion Team early for advice and feedback.

1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Describe who it is aimed at and the intended aims / outcomes. Where known also summarise the key actions you plan to undertake. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms. Equality Impact Assessments are viewed by a wide range of people including decision-makers and the wider public.

To procure a framework for the purchasing of children's social care and support services / agency.

There is high demand for specialist support and care (often nurse-led) for children and young people, often in emergency situations. This includes support delivered in the home, in care placements and in short breaks services for disabled children. Urgent and specialist services are used for a small number of children and young people with complex and sometimes challenging needs and behaviours, that can include mental health problems, autism, trauma and attachment disorders and learning difficulties.

Without using these specialist services these children would otherwise be at risk of entering care (if not already in care), suffering a placement breakdown, or being admitted into Tier 4 mental health facilities. These services support in stabilising the home environment or placement in both the short and long term. This can aide with giving an opportunity to further assess the needs of the child to ensure any future placement is best matched to their individual needs.

Providers of this type of support are often (but not limited to) staffing agencies who specialise in the provision of registered nurses, including mental health nurses, healthcare assistants and other care/support staff at very short notice in order to create specialist packages of care for children with complex needs, either in the home or in placements elsewhere.

Currently No existing framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system (DPS) is available at present to enable the Council to purchase the type of care that meets the needs of these vulnerable children due to the specialist services required and the short notice periods given. As such we are currently spot purchasing this support, in contravention of the procurement rules.

In procuring this framework we will have a compliant means of responding to need, and reduce the level of risk involved in this area of spend through improved monitoring and quality assurance. This should also increase

value for money through a more strategic approach to the market not based on multiple waivers or informal, ad hoc spend.

1.2 Who will the proposal have the potential to affect?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bristol City Council workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service users	<input type="checkbox"/> The wider community
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioned services	<input type="checkbox"/> City partners / Stakeholder organisations	
Additional comments:		

1.3 Will the proposal have an equality impact?

Could the proposal affect access levels of representation or participation in a service, or does it have the potential to change e.g. quality of life: health, education, or standard of living etc.?

If 'No' explain why you are sure there will be no equality impact, then skip steps 2-4 and request review by Equality and Inclusion Team.

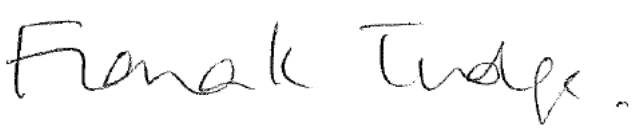
If 'Yes' complete the rest of this assessment, or if you plan to complete the assessment at a later stage please state this clearly here and request review by the Equality and Inclusion Team.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	[please select]
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This proposal is simply a means by which to ensure that our spend on care and support agencies is compliant with procurement regulations. There will be no change to the type or amount of this support we purchase. To join the DPS/Framework providers will need to demonstrate that as an organisation they have sound policy and understanding of Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty; that equality of opportunity is integral to their workforce and employment practice; and that services are adapted to meet the diverse needs of service users based on their protected characteristics.

Step 5: Review

The Equality and Inclusion Team need at least five working days to comment and feedback on your EqIA. EqIAs should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the equalities impact of the proposal. Please seek feedback and review from the [Equality and Inclusion Team](#) before requesting sign off from your Director¹.

Equality and Inclusion Team Review: <i>Reviewed by Equality and Inclusion Team</i>	Director Sign-Off: 
Date: 22/5/2023	Date: 23 rd May 2023

¹ Review by the Equality and Inclusion Team confirms there is sufficient analysis for decision makers to consider the likely equality impacts at this stage. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.