

Equality Impact Assessment Form

[screentip-sectionA](#)

1. Document Control

Control Details:

Title:	Semi-Independent Accommodation block contract (Children in Care)
If this is a budget EIA please ensure the title is the same as the title used within the budget booklet	
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Service Area:	Looked After Children
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Strategic Budget EIA: Y/N (Does this EIA have an impact on the budget) If yes, please include the reference number	N
Exempt from publication: Y/N (All EIA’s are published on Nottingham Insight for public viewing unless specified. Exemption criteria is available on the EIA section on the Intranet)	N

2. Document Amendment Record:

Version	Author	Date	Approved
1	Lisa Lopez	20/07/2021	

3. Contributors/Reviewers (Anyone who has contributed to this document will need to be named):

Name	Position	Date
Rosey Donovan	Equality and Employability Consultant	22/07/2021

4. Glossary of Terms

Term	Description
Looked After Children	Children or young people (aged under 18 years old) in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by the authority for more than 24 hours. This includes unaccompanied asylum seeking children, children in friends and family placements, and those children placed for adoption but not yet adopted.
Care Leavers	Young people who are Looked After Children, who are aged 18 and leaving the care system.
Placement	The accommodation/setting where the Looked After Child is placed. This could be with a foster family, in a children’s home (residential home), or another type of placement.
Semi-independent accommodation	A type of placement which can be provided to older children in care or care leavers, who are making steps towards independence. In Semi-independent accommodation an older young person, aged 16 or over, lives in a flat or shared housing with support available either on site or as floating support, when required.) This type of accommodation and support is called Supported Accommodation in some other local authority areas.
CQC	Care Quality Commission, the independent regulator of health and social care in England. The CQC register care providers; monitor, inspect and rate services; take action to protect people who use services; and speak with an independent voice, publishing our views on major quality issues in health and social care.
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, a process by which local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups assess the current and future health, care and wellbeing needs of the local community to inform local decision making.

screeintip-sectionB

5. Summary

(Please provide a brief description of proposal / policy / service being assessed)

Nottingham City Council wish to secure a small block contract to provide semi-independent accommodation, for up to ten older young people to move towards living more independently, but with support available when required. This will provide high quality accommodation for the young people whilst supporting them towards greater independence in a managed way, potentially improving their longer term outcomes around sustaining tenancies, managing budgets and understanding where to go for further support.

Nottingham City Council currently has a range of placement types for children in care, including internal services provided by the local authority, and externally commissioned contracts. There are existing frameworks for foster care, residential care, and semi-independent accommodation. There is insufficient capacity in both internal and external provision, and demand for placements is increasing, on average, by around 2% per year. This increased demand for placements nationally has led to a high degree of competition with other local authorities for placements, and young people being placed out of area due to shortage of local placements. There have been quality issues with external semi-independent accommodation which is purchased via the framework/spot purchasing, as it is not currently regulated by Ofsted, CQC, or any other national body. There have also been escalating costs to the local authority.

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6. Information used to analyse the effects on equality:

(Please include information about how you have consulted/ have data from the impacted groups)

The following information has been used to identify the above proposal:



Children in Care Placements Commissioning and Sufficiency Strategy 2018-20 (currently being updated)



JSNA_CiC_90157
2017.pdf

JSNA Looked After Children (2017)



CiC Options
presentation 2020 -

Children in Care Commissioning Review 2020

In addition to the framework contracts described in Section 5. of this document, Nottingham City Council has a small block contract for a fixed number of residential placements. This arrangement has been successful in controlling the quality and costs of these placements, to the extent that expansion of the residential contract is being negotiated. A Strategic Commissioning Review was carried out in 2020. Internal stakeholders have been consulted and have identified that putting in place a similar model of block contract for semi-independent accommodation is likely to see equivalent benefits.

7. Impacts and Actions:

screentip-sectionD	Could particularly benefit X	May adversely impact X
People from different ethnic groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Men	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Disabled people or carers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy/ Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People of different faiths/ beliefs and those with none.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, gay or bisexual people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Older	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Younger</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (e.g. marriage/ civil partnership, <u>looked after children</u> , cohesion/ good relations, vulnerable children/ adults).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Please underline the group(s) /issue more adversely affected or which benefits.</i>		

<p style="text-align: right;"><u>screeentip-sectionE</u></p> <p>How different groups could be affected (Summary of impacts)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><u>screeentip-sectionF</u></p> <p>Details of actions to mitigate, remove or justify negative impact or increase positive impact (or why action isn't possible)</p>
<p><u>Looked After Children/Younger People</u> This service has the potential to benefit older looked after children aged 16 and older, and young people leaving care, by providing high quality, local accommodation for older children in care, aged 16 years and over. Commissioning a block contract for up to 10 placements within Nottingham City, in addition to existing provision, will ensure the young people who are moving towards</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indicators for measuring and monitoring impact of the service to be developed (Sept 2021). The EIA will be updated as necessary once measures have been developed. 2. Specification to include indicators for measuring and monitoring impact of pilot scheme. (To be completed by end September 2021.)

living independently will have access to high quality accommodation and support locally. This service will form part of a range of accommodation and support options to meet the differing needs of children in care. This is likely to lead to improved long term outcomes for young people as they leave care and live independently.

3. A suitable provider will be sourced through a fair and transparent tender process, which will be advertised publicly and in accordance with procurement regulations and Nottingham City Council financial regulations.
4. Service to commence April 2022 (subject to implementation timescales – to be agreed with the successful provider.
5. Impact of service to be monitored quarterly during the term of the contract, against the indicators developed in point 1. above. Nottingham City Council will work with the providers to ensure the best outcomes possible are being achieved for the young people using the service. (April 2022 potentially up to March 2029).

8. Arrangements for future monitoring of equality impact of this proposal / policy / service:

The service will be managed via a contract, initially in place for 3 years but with options to extend up to 7 years in total. Monitoring requirements will be built into this contract to ensure it can be evaluated effectively. Monitoring will include outcomes for the young person. During the term of the contract, it will be monitored against agreed outcomes by Nottingham City Council's Contracting team, on a regular basis, (likely to be quarterly but to be agreed). Towards the end of the contract the scheme will be evaluated to determine impact on outcomes for the

young person, and value for money.

9. Outcome(s) of equality impact assessment:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No major change needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adjust the policy/proposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adverse impact but continue	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stop and remove the policy/proposal

10. Approved by (manager signature) and Date sent to equality team for publishing:

<p>Approving Manager: Sharon Clarke The assessment must be approved by the manager responsible for the service/proposal. Include a contact tel & email to allow citizen/stakeholder feedback on proposals.</p>	<p>Date sent for advice: 20/07/2021 Send document or Link to: equalities@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</p>
<p>Approving Manager Signature: Sharon Clarke</p>	<p>Date of final approval: 27/07/21</p>

Before you send your EIA to the Equality and Employability Team for advice, have you:

1. Read the guidance and good practice EIA's
<http://intranet.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/media/1924/simple-guide-to-eia.doc>
2. Clearly summarised your proposal/ policy/ service to be assessed.
3. Hyperlinked to the appropriate documents.
4. Written in clear user-friendly language, free from all jargon (spelling out acronyms).
5. Included appropriate data.
6. Consulted the relevant groups or citizens or stated clearly, when this is going to happen.
7. Clearly cross-referenced your impacts with SMART actions.

PLEASE NOTE: FINAL VERSION MUST BE SENT TO EQUALITIES OTHERWISE RECORDS WILL REMAIN INCOMPLETE.