

# Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit

## **Section 1: Your details**

**EIA lead Officer:** Hannah Myers, Interim Head of Improvement and Effectiveness

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**Head of Section:** Kerry Mehta, Assistant Director – Children and Families

**Chief Officer:** Simone White, Director for Children, Families and Education

**Directorate:** Children's Services

**Date:** 01-02-23

## **Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?**

This proposal involves increasing the proportion of Children placed in family settings and less in other settings such as Residential and Semi-independent settings. The savings value is £1.1million

## **Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?**

**Yes**                      **If 'yes' please state which meeting and what date**

Policy and Resources Committee, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website**

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

**Section 3:** Does the proposal have the potential to affect..... (please tick relevant boxes)

**Services**

**The workforce**

x **Communities**

**Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

**None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing)

**Section 4:**

Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?

You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals.

Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.

<b>Which group(s) of people could be affected</b>	<b>Potential positive or negative impact</b>	<b>Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact.</b>	<b>Lead person</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
<b>Children and Young People</b>	<b>Positive Impact – It is always better for children and young people to be placed with foster carers rather than in residential settings. The proposal will mean more children will be placed with foster carers.</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?**

The actions/proposals will be monitored by SLT as part of the monitoring of savings.

**Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?**

An increase in foster care placements will mean that more children and young people can be placed in these settings (where it is deemed in their care assessment that this is in their best interests) rather than residential placements. Outcomes for children and young people in foster settings are much improved and there is a substantial saving versus the cost of residential placements.

**Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?**

**Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?**

If 'yes' please continue to section 7.

If 'no' please state your reason(s) why:

(please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing)

**Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?**

Public consultation on this proposed budget implication will take place in January 2023 as part of the Council's overall consultation.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing.

**Section 8: Have you remembered to:**

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**