

## APPENDIX 2

# Equality Impact Assessment:

## Initial assessment

### What are the proposed outcomes of the policy?

At present, the Supported Accommodation Framework is a jointly commissioned contract with Cambridgeshire County Council. Whilst the current framework has successfully increased the sufficiency of provision for both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, the framework requires recommissioning to ensure that our contractual arrangements are compliant with regulations, and to better enable Peterborough to effectively manage the Supported Accommodation market and continue to appropriately increase capacity where it is required.

Supported accommodation is a key service that plays a pivotal role in the care system for young people. It provides accommodation and support services to young people in Care aged sixteen and seventeen years old. The service is required to provide support according to the needs of the young people which is flexible and mutually agreed, working in partnership with other agencies. This will enable young people to become more independent whilst living in the service, through developing the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours required to sustain independent living and make a smooth and successful transition to adulthood. The service is required to build resilience and strength in young people's skills to live in the community whilst ensuring young people are fully involved in the planning and delivery of their care plans moving forward.

In April 2023 Ofsted and the Department for Education (DfE) confirmed that the Supported Accommodation sector would be subject to regulation, via the [The Supported Accommodation \(England\) Regulations 2023](#) as of 28 October 2023. The DfE has published a Guide to the Supported Accommodation Regulations including Quality Standards, available [here](#)

### Which individuals or groups are most likely to be affected?

In line with the current contract the new contract will be specifically for Children and Young People in Care aged 16 and 17 years old.

### Now consider whether any of the following groups will be disproportionately affected:

Equality Group	Note any positive or negative effects
Particular age groups	Positive Impact for young people in care aged 16 and 17; increase in capacity and quality provision for these young people who this service is appropriate for.
Disabled people	There will be no negative impact of this provision on people in relation to disabilities. Young people are placed with providers according to their individual

	support requirements due and presenting needs. presenting needs.
Married couples or those entered into a civil partnership	No impact
Pregnant women or women on maternity leave	No impact
Particular ethnic groups	As well as ensuring a culture where young people of every race and ethnicity are understood, valued and respected equally, staff in the current and new service have a crucial role to play in providing culturally specific experiences for the young people in their care and in supporting the development of their cultural and ethnic identity.
Those of a particular religion or who hold a particular belief	The service will not have a positive or negative impact on the young people's religion or beliefs. Current and new providers will be required to acknowledge and support young people in care to access existing belief practices in accordance with their equality and diversity policy. Staff for the service will be employed in adherence to Equality Act 2010.
Male/Female	There will be no negative impact. Young people are placed with providers according to their individual support requirements due and presenting needs
Those proposing to undergo, currently undergoing or who have undergone gender reassignment	There will be no negative impact. Young people are placed with providers according to their individual support requirements due and presenting needs
Sexual orientation	There will be no negative impact. Young people are placed with providers according to their individual support requirements due and presenting needs

**What information is available to help you understand the effect this will have on the groups identified above?**

**Who will be the beneficiaries of the policy?**

Young people in care aged 16 and 17

**Has the policy been explained to those it might affect directly or indirectly?**

Yes – however the services the children/young people receive will not change. This is for a change in commissioning processes only.

**Can any differences be justified as appropriate or necessary?**

The services the children/young people receive will not change. This is for a change in commissioning processes only.

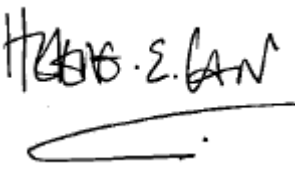
**Are any remedial actions required?**

None

**Once implemented, how will you monitor the actual impact?**

The Children's Commissioning Team and ART (brokerage) will work closely with the

providers and if any risk/impact is identified, brokerage will liaise with the provider to mitigate this risk or will source a new provider to deliver the package. However, this is unlikely as the providers will continue to be on the current DPS during transition so will be able to continue delivery under the current arrangements.

<b>Policy review date</b>	Will be reviewed at the end of the contract date should an options appraisal demonstrate that the first extension period of the contract will be enacted in 2026
<b>Assessment completed by</b>	<b>Jo Leggett</b>
<b>Date Initial EqIA completed</b>	<b>10/10/2023</b>
<b>Signed by Head of Service</b>  17.1.2024	

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