

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Strategic Co-operative Commissioning – Peninsula Placements Contracts Re-tender



STAGE 1: WHAT IS BEING ASSESSED AND BY WHOM?

What is being assessed - including a brief description of aims and objectives?	<p>Peninsula Placements Contracts re-tender:</p> <p>The retender of the Peninsula Frameworks for independent sector placements for children and young people by the Peninsula Commissioning and Procurement Partnership. (Plymouth City Council is a member of this partnership along with Cornwall Council, Devon County Council, Somerset County Council and Torbay Council. The Partnership has existed since 2006 and tendered jointly for children’s placements since 2009.)</p> <p>The Peninsula Frameworks quality assures the provision of fostering, residential, special school and 16+ placements for vulnerable children and young people. Providers are scrutinised to ensure they can meet complex needs and encouraged to develop or sustain provision as close to the south west as possible, to support children and young people remaining as close to home as they can.</p>
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Date of assessment	December 2015

STAGE 2: EVIDENCE AND IMPACT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act)	Evidence and information (eg data and feedback)	Any adverse impact See guidance on how to make judgement	Actions	Timescale and who is responsible
Age	<p>17.5% of the population is under 16.</p> <p>Children and young people under-18 account for 19.8% of the population.</p> <p>Those placed in Peninsula placements are broadly aged</p>	<p>At this point in the development of the programme there will be no adverse impact on the group.</p> <p>We aim to be sensitive to unforeseen negative impact and will monitor and respond on a</p>	<p>Ensure a clear specification about catering to the specific needs of adolescents.</p> <p>Monitor and review taking into consideration cost expenditure and service</p>	<p>Peninsula Authorities and placement provider – on-going through contract monitoring and quality assurance processes.</p>

	10-17, with the majority of young people aged 13-16, although placements are also offered for those aged under 10 years of age.	case by case basis.	user feedback and complaints. Track performance data trend by protected characteristics.	
Disability	<p>17.5 per 1,000 children in Plymouth have a learning difficulty reported by schools.</p> <p>Many of the children with Statements or Education, Health and Care Plans have complex medical needs, including continuing health care and mental health issues.</p> <p>In the broader group of children with Special Educational needs/disability (including those without a Statement or Education Health and Care Plan), there are currently around 1,500 children and young people identified with communication interaction needs, including Autistic Spectrum Condition on the school aged caseload for specialist support. Of these young people, 20% are identified as having significant and challenging needs.</p>	<p>At this point in the development of the programme there will be no adverse impact on the group.</p> <p>This provision will meet the needs of those with the most acute concerns, including mental health problems, learning difficulties and behavioural issues.</p>	<p>The service specifications will be developed to ensure a focus on emotional and physical health and wellbeing, as well as links to other relevant services.</p> <p>Track performance data trend by protected characteristics through contract monitoring processes.</p>	Peninsula Authorities and placement provider – ongoing through contract monitoring and quality assurance processes.

	<p>There has been an increase in referrals to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (from 93 in April 2014, peaking at 227 in July 2014 and dropping slightly to 158 in September); the service reports they are mainly due to self-harm and children with neurodevelopmental issues who present with co-morbid mental health need.</p> <p>Nationally, there has been an increase in the number of young people being admitted to hospital because of self harm. Over the last ten years this figure has increased by 68%.</p>			
Faith/religion or belief	<p>According to the 2011 Census, 148,917 people in Plymouth are Christian, 881 are Buddhist, 567 are Hindu, 168 are Jewish, 2,078 are Muslim, 89 are Sikh, 1,198 are listed as 'other religion' 84,295 have no religion and 18,191 did not state a religion.</p>	<p>At this point in the development of the programme there will be no adverse impact on the group.</p> <p>We aim to be sensitive to unforeseen negative impact and will monitor and respond on a case by case basis.</p>	<p>Track performance data trend by protected characteristics.</p> <p>The specifications will ensure that there is a duty for the provider to recognise and support the cultural and religious beliefs of the child or young person placed.</p>	<p>Peninsula Authorities and placement provider – ongoing through contract monitoring and quality assurance processes</p>
Gender - including marriage, pregnancy and maternity	<p>Overall 50.6 % of the city population are women.</p> <p>During summer of 2015</p>	<p>At this point in the development of the programme there will be no adverse impact on the group.</p>	<p>The service specifications will ensure an age/gender appropriate service response to these children</p>	<p>Peninsula Authorities and placement provider – ongoing through contract monitoring and quality</p>

	<p>there was a rise in the number of young women who were significantly self-harming, alongside other complex needs. These young women have required hospital admission, residential care and at times welfare secure placements.</p> <p>Nationally, boys are much more likely to receive hospital treatment following assault and girls are much more likely to receive treatment following incidents of self-harm.</p> <p>Between June 2012 and June 2013, there were 13,400 hospital cases where 15-19-year-old girls received treatment for an external cause of intentional self-harm compared to just 4,000 cases among boys of the same age group.</p> <p>Plymouth's 2012 teenage conception rate is joint highest of all the SW unitary and district authorities (Torbay has an equal rate).</p>	<p>We aim to be sensitive regarding gender whilst remaining fair and providing equal opportunities wherever possible.</p>	<p>and young people.</p> <p>Track performance data trend by protected characteristics.</p>	<p>assurance processes</p>
Gender reassignment	<p>The number of children aged 10 or under who have been referred to the NHS because</p>	<p>At this point in the development of the programme there will be no adverse impact</p>	<p>Young people will be supported by providers to access their GP for advice,</p>	<p>Peninsula Authorities and placement provider – on-going through contract</p>

	<p>of transgender feelings has more than quadrupled in five years, according to 2015 figures.</p> <p>The Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust is the UK's only centre specialising in gender issues in under 18s reports that the number of under 11s referred to the unit has risen from 19 in 2009-10 to 77 in 2014-15.</p> <p>A small number of children and young people in care will raise trans-gender issues during their time in placement.</p>	<p>on the group.</p>	<p>Camhs for emotional support and the OUT youth group for Plymouth based opportunities to socialise with peers, amongst other services as and when necessary.</p>	<p>monitoring and quality assurance processes</p>
<p>Race</p>	<p>Children and young people from minority ethnic groups account for 5% of all children living in Plymouth, compared with 22% in the country as a whole.</p> <p>The largest minority ethnic groups of children and young people in the area are Mixed and Asian or Asian British.</p> <p>It is well documented that there are a number of needs that families from BME communities face, such as discrimination, isolation, hate crime and lack of culturally sensitive services.</p>	<p>At this point in the development of the programme there will be no adverse impact on the group.</p> <p>We aim to be sensitive to unforeseen negative impact and will monitor and respond on a case by case basis.</p>	<p>Track performance data trend by protected characteristics.</p> <p>The specifications for the services will encourage mutual respect and trust.</p>	<p>Peninsula Authorities and placement provider – ongoing through contract monitoring and quality assurance processes</p>

Sexual orientation - including civil partnership	There is no precise local data on numbers of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual (LGB) people in Plymouth, but it is nationally estimated at between 5 – 7%. This would mean that approx. 12,500 people aged over 16 in Plymouth are LGB.	At this point in the development of the programme there will be no adverse impact on the group We aim to be sensitive to unforeseen negative impact and will monitor and respond on a case by case basis	Track performance data trend by protected characteristics. The specifications for the services will encourage mutual respect and trust.	Peninsula Authorities and placement provider – on-going through contract monitoring and quality assurance processes
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STAGE 3: ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING? IF SO, PLEASE RECORD ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

Local priorities	Implications	Timescale and who is responsible
Reduce the inequality gap, particularly in health between communities.	Young people will be supported by the provider and Council services to improve their physical and emotional health, including by modelling a healthy lifestyle themselves.	Placement providers – on-going in partnership with Plymouth City Council and the Peninsula Authorities. April 2017 onwards.
Good relations between different communities (community cohesion)	The provider will ensure that neighbours in the vicinity of the homes are kept informed and supported with any concerns, as far as is practical without undermining the safeguarding of the children and young people placed. Young people will be supported to develop as positive members of the community.	Placement providers – on-going in partnership with Plymouth City Council and the Peninsula Authorities. April 2017 onwards.
Human rights Please refer to guidance	This service recognises Article 14 of Human Rights Act – The right to receive Equal Treatment and prohibits discrimination including sex, race, religion and economic and social status in conjunction with the Equalities Act which includes age and disability. All staff and service users will continue to be treated fairly and their human rights will be respected. No adverse impact on human rights has been identified.	Placement providers – on-going in partnership with Plymouth City Council and the Peninsula Authorities. April 2017 onwards.
Principles of fairness Please refer to guidance	Vulnerable children and young people, particularly those who are in care are often disadvantaged by the circumstances of their childhoods, emotionally and physically, with fewer positive life opportunities. Children and their families that require support from Children’s Social	Placement providers – on-going in partnership with Plymouth City Council and the Peninsula Authorities. April 2017 onwards.

	Care are more likely to come from the city localities where deprivation is high. The Peninsula Placements re-tender is part of on-going work which tries to redress this gap by ensuring the child or young person has access to a safe, warm and nurturing place to live, where they are treated equally to others and given the same opportunities as all children and young people .	
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STAGE 4: PUBLICATION

Responsible Officer Craig McArdle

Date 16th February 2016

Director, Assistant Director or Head of Service