

Equality Impact Assessment



Hampshire
County Council

Placements in Children's Homes June 2018

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Department: Children's Services
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Description of current service/policy

Hampshire County Council's Residential Strategy describes the County's approach to the future provision of residential care homes for children looked after in order to improve the quality of service and outcomes for children placed in residential care.

Geographical impact: All
Hampshire

Description of proposed change

Progress with the Strategy has resulted in an increase in available beds and improved living/working environments. The County will operate 8 children's homes with a maximum occupancy of 33 beds. Five new homes have now been completed and a sixth is being built. Two older homes will be retained and the one that is currently being used as temporary accommodation will cease to be used when the final home is completed. The homes accommodate children of both genders who are aged between 10 years and 18 years who are "Looked After" by the LA.

Impacts of the proposed change

This impact assessment covers Service users

Engagement and consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out? Yes

At the start of the strategy, consultation occurred with neighbours, staff and children living in the homes. Consultation with neighbours allowed them to understand the purpose of the homes and gain reassurance about how they would be managed. Staff and children were involved in the design process including the style of the homes, type of bathroom facilities and choice of soft furnishings.

Statutory considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Age: Positive	<p>The new homes, the Pillars of Parenting Model and placement matching will improve outcomes for the children living in the homes. The new homes appear "homely" and children have commented that they are proud to ask their family and friends to visit them. The Pillars of Parenting Model supports the staff to provide emotionally warm professional parenting. As part of the model, education psychologists work with the staff team to plan strategies to address the trauma that the children have experienced. Placement matching seeks to ensure that the homes look after the children whose needs they can best meet and that the combination of children does not have a negative impact on outcomes for the children in placement.</p>	
Disability: Neutral		
Sexual orientation: Neutral		
Race: Neutral		
Religion and belief: Neutral		
Gender reassignment: Neutral		
Gender: Neutral		
Marriage and civil partnership: Neutral		

Pregnancy and maternity: Neutral		
Other policy considerations	Impact	Mitigation
Poverty: Neutral		
Rurality: Neutral		

Any other information

The strategy has no particular impact on poverty or rurality. The homes continue to be situated in local communities across Hampshire and only offer placements to a very small cohort of children. Placements are only considered for Children who are looked after by the Local Authority.