


EIA Record

Date of EIA	12.10.09
Directorate	Children, Young People and Learning
Function or policy to be assessed	Statement of Purpose for Fostering Service 2009
Is it a policy or function	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy
Is it a new or existing policy or function?	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing
Aim / objective / purpose of the policy or function	The purpose of the policy/function is to: The Fostering Service Statement of Purpose is compiled and updated annually to meet the requirements of the Care Standards Act 2000, Fostering services Regulations 2002 and the National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services
Who is responsible for the policy or function?	The person responsible for this function is: Sheila McKeand, Head of Service for Looked After Children, Children's Social Care, Time Square, Bracknell
With regard to the equalities themes, which groups might be impacted by the policy or function?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion or Belief <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation
Which groups might be affected adversely ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Race <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Age <input type="checkbox"/> Religion or Belief <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation
On what grounds can adverse or differential impact be justified?	N/A
What evidence has been found to indicate that the policy or function might need to be amended? (Include any consultation undertaken)	None at present
What consultation	<i>If evidence cannot be found to suggest how a function or policy can be amended, additional research and consultation must be considered.</i>

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will be necessary to support or confirm your conclusions?	The statement of purpose is updated annually, taking into account the needs, views and concerns of children and their foster carers, to ensure that there is no adverse or differential impact.	
Will the conclusions drawn reduce or remove adverse or differential impact?	<u>Yes</u> / No / Don't know	
What changes are proposed to the policy or function to reduce or remove adverse or differential impact?	<p>The statement covers practice and policy in the areas relevant to equalities and diversity for both foster children and their carers. The Fostering Service currently supports 40 active fostering households who provide a variety of settings for children with diverse needs. At 31.3.09 52 Looked After Children and Young People were placed with foster carers. The service also provides short break foster care for disabled children. A detailed data set showing the types of carers and children placed is attached.</p> <p>Delivery and receipt of the service is a legal requirement for the Council, the carers and the child(ren), so service users are not selected by choice or preference.</p> <p>There is always a shortage of placements for teenagers, for those with more challenging behaviour, for sibling groups, for children from BME groups and for disabled children or those with complex needs. In addition to targeted recruitment for these groups, an extensive training programme is available to foster carers to increase their skills and the quality of care they offer. Additional support from the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service is also now in place.</p>	
Has the information in this EIA been made publicly available and where?	<u>Yes</u> Place BFBC Public internet website	
In to which plan or strategy has the necessary action been incorporated?	The statement of purpose is a legal requirement and is part of the overall strategy for permanency, placement, and care of looked after children.	
What monitoring arrangements have been put in place?	Annual review of the statement is a legal requirement.	
Who is the relevant Chief Officer and have they	Penny Reuter Chief Officer, Children's Social Care	

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signed off the EIA?	Signature...Penny Reuter 	
Which PMR will this EIA be reported in?	CYPL 2009-10 Q3	