

EIA Record

Date of EIA **13 .10.09**
 Directorate **Children, Young People and Learning**

Function or policy to be assessed	Statement of Purpose for Private Fostering 2009
Is it a policy or function	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Function
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	Policy Function New Existing The purpose of the policy/function is to: Meet the requirement of section 44 of the Children Act 2004 and replacement regulations (the Children (Private Arrangements for Fostering) Regulations 2005), which came into force on 1 July 2005.
Who is responsible for the policy or function?	The person/section/team responsible for this function is: Sheila McKeand, Head of Service, Looked After Children,
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
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 <input type="checkbox"/> Religion or Belief None identified
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 The statement of purpose describes the groups of children and families where private fostering arrangements are more common and therefore where publicity about the new regulations and requirements is targeted.
What consultation will be necessary to support or confirm your conclusions?	The statement of purpose is updated annually, taking into account any issues or concerns raised by children and young people in private fostering arrangements, their parents or their private foster carers. Any concerns raised by inspectors are also addressed. Privately fostered children and their carers are visited regularly by a social worker and any issues relevant to amending the statement of purpose would be incorporated. There is a named social worker in the Family Placement Team who is responsible for publicising the requirements about private fostering. An annual report is also submitted to the Local Safeguarding Children Board and any comments made there will be incorporated into the publicity plan or into arrangements made for monitoring private fostering arrangements.
Will the conclusions drawn reduce or remove adverse or differential impact?	Yes / No / Don't know

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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 privately fostered children and their carers.</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>
Has the information in this EIA been made publicly available and where?	<p>Yes/ No Place BFBC Public internet website</p>
In to which plan or strategy has the necessary action been incorporated?	<p>The statement of purpose is a legal requirement</p>
What monitoring arrangements have been put in place?	<p>Annual review of the statement is a legal requirement.</p>

Penny Reuter,

Chief Officer: Children's Social Care

30-10-09