

## Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Template – Part 6

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| <b>Policy title and purpose (brief outline):</b> | Regulations and a code of practice under Part 6 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act (looked after and accommodated children) |
| <b>Name of official:</b>                         | Henry Vaile / Huw Gwyn Jones   |
| <b>Department:</b>                               | Department for Health and Social Services  |
| <b>Date:</b>                                     | November 2015  |
| <b>Signature:</b>                                |  |

**1. Please provide a brief description of the policy/decision. For example what is the overall objective of the policy/decision, what are the stated aims (including who the intended beneficiaries are), a broad description of how this will be achieved, what the measure of success will be, and the time frame for achieving this?**

This Equality Impact Assessment covers the Regulations and code of practice prepared under Part 6 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (the Act).

The Act brings together local authorities' duties and functions in relation to improving the well-being of people who need care and support, and carers who need support. The Act provides the statutory framework to deliver the Welsh Government's commitment to integrated social services departments with a strong family orientation.

Part 6 of the Act requires:

- local authorities to secure sufficient accommodation for the children they look after
- local authorities to accommodate children without parents or who are lost or abandoned or are under police protection, in detention or on remand
- provides for the functions of local authorities in relation to the children they look after
- provides for the circumstances in which local authorities may or must provide support for young people who have left care
- provides for the placement of children in secure accommodation
- requires the assessment by local authorities of children who are accommodated and the provision of visits and services to those children
- makes provision about contributions towards the maintenance of children looked after by local authorities.

The overall purpose of part 6 is to safeguard and promote the well-being of looked after and accommodated children and care leavers, and to enable each child or young person to achieve recovery and healing from past harm. It also aims to promote resilience and achievement of personal well-being outcomes and ensure looked after children and young people and care leavers are afforded the same opportunities and life changes as other children and young people regardless of their age, sex, gender, race etc.

The Part 6 code of practice for looked after and accommodated children contains guidance on the duties contained in the Act and sets out the requirements local authorities must act in accordance to when exercising their social services functions. The code of practice has eight chapters, covering care and support planning, placements, contact and visits, reviews, arrangements for leaving care, post-18 living

arrangements, secure accommodation, and accommodation in other types of establishment.

The code aims to set out local authority responsibilities under the Act for:

- care and support plans in relation to looked after and accommodated children and young people, including education and health
- the ways in which looked after children are to be accommodated and maintained, including placements of looked after children
- contact and visits to looked after and previously looked after children, including independent visitors
- arrangements for leaving care, personal advisers, pathway plans and assessments, suitable accommodation and support for higher education
- secure accommodation
- children accommodated in other types of establishment (by health and education authorities, or in care homes or independent hospitals).

Part 6 also contains a number of regulation-making powers under the heading of looked after and accommodated children and a set of regulations has been prepared. The Regulations prepared under Part 6 are:

- The Children (Secure Accommodation ) (Wales) Regulations 2015,
- The Visits to Children in Detention (Wales) Regulations 2015,
- The Care Planning, Placement, and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015, and,
- The Care Leavers (Wales) Regulations 2015.

The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Bill received Royal Assent on 1 May 2014 to become an Act of the National Assembly for Wales. The Act, and the supporting Part 6 legislative framework prepared to support it, comes into effect on 06 April 2016.

**2. We have a legal duty to engage with people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (please refer to Annex A of the EIA guidance) identified as being relevant to the policy. What steps have you taken to engage with stakeholders, both internally and externally?**

We have taken an engaged and informed approach to the development of the Part 6 Regulations and code of practice seeking input and feedback from a variety of people and organisations from the outset.

The Welsh Government has been committed to working with others to help shape the secondary legislation and consequent implementation, and deliver the practice and culture change being driven forward through the Act.

We have engaged with as many individuals as possible to ensure that Welsh Government equality commitments have been inbuilt into the development of the Act from the outset. This has improved our understanding of barriers that exist in different equality groups.

In addition to conducting formal consultations on the original proposal and more recently on the detail of the parts of the Act, using various formats, officials engaged with stakeholders via presentations, discussions, meetings, published articles and encouraged dissemination of information and subsequent feedback among networks.

### Consultation Events

Welsh Government worked closely with the Social Services Improvement Agency (SSIA), to facilitate a series of stakeholder events to develop the Regulations and codes of practice under Part 6 of the Act, covering looked after accommodated children. An all-Wales engagement event was held on 11 September 2014 bringing together representatives from the local authorities, NHS partners, third sector and independent sector. This looked at how the various parts of the Act work together to deliver sustainable social services. During the course of this event representatives identified gaps, issues and dependencies. The event included members from each of the seven technical groups relating to the Act, and relevant Welsh Government leads.

In November and December 2014 two further consultation events were held as part of the consultation process. These consultation events focused on the parts of the Act covered by the tranche two consultation including part 6. Attendees were asked to participate in discussions on the implementation of the regulations, and also to share information from the events with their wider networks to provoke deeper engagement with the proposals and a wider span of consultation responses.

The first event was held on 26 November in the Liberty Stadium, Swansea. The second was held on 9 December in Venue Cymru, Llandudno. There was broad stakeholder representation at these events and included;

- Age Alliance Wales
- British Deaf Association
- Care Council for Wales
- Carers Trust Wales
- Children in Wales
- College of Occupational Therapists
- Disability Wales
- Headway
- Learning Disability Wales
- Wales Alliance for Citizen Directed Support
- UK Home Care Association
- RNIB Cymru
- Office of the Older People's Commissioner
- North Wales Social Services Improvement Collaborative

Workshops were held on each of the parts that were out to consultation including part 6. The content of these workshops was varied and tailored to suit the subject matter, but at the core of each was a presentation from officials and group discussions and activities.

All the events listed above helped inform the focus and content of the formal stakeholder consultation on the proposals for Regulations and codes of practice in relation to Part 6 of the Act on looked after children. The consultation period ran from 8 May 2015 to 31 July 2015. Stakeholder events held between May and June provided stakeholders with the opportunity to put forward their views and comments on the work of the Technical group. These events were attended by:

- local authority representatives,
- Local Health Board representatives
- the third sector, including those providing support to individuals and training for staff
- the independent sector, including those providing training for staff in the social care sector and those providing care and support directly to people

To broaden the reach of the consultation and encourage wider engagement key stakeholders were encouraged to disseminate the consultation documents amongst their networks these included;

- The Children's Commissioner for Wales
- Local Government representatives
- Third Sector organisations
- Care Council for Wales
- Association of Directors for Social Services Cymru
- Care and Social Service Inspectorate Wales
- Wales Council for Voluntary Action
- Children in Wales
- Care Forum Wales

Easy Read and children and young-people friendly versions were also produced and disseminated.

Around the consultation period the Welsh Government carried out a focused programme of wider engagement which included presentations, workshops and focus groups with specific service providers and users with an interest in the part 6 Regulations and codes of practice these included the All Wales Heads of Childrens' Services, Voices from Care and the prison service.

**3. Your decisions must be based on robust evidence. What evidence base have you used? Please list the source of this evidence e.g. National Survey for Wales. Do you consider the evidence to be strong, satisfactory or weak and are there any gaps in evidence?**

A formal consultation on the proposals for the Regulations and codes of practice in relation to Part 6 of the Act was held between 8 May and 31 July 2015.

Overall the responses to the consultation were positive and there was general support for the proposed system change to an outcomes-based approach with a simplified assessment and care planning process and greater integration of services.

The comments received have been particularly helpful in identifying areas within the code of practice that have required further clarification or strengthened requirements.

Following the consultation, the code was reviewed and amendments were made, where appropriate, to take into account the views of respondents.

A summary report of the consultation responses is available on the Welsh Government website –

<http://gov.wales/consultations/healthsocialcare/part6/?status=closed&lang=en>

The policy, Regulations and code of practice have gone through extensive development stages, reviews and consultation. Engagement has been undertaken at every stage and in a way that has actively sought to reach as many groups and individuals as possible, in order that views of people likely to be affected by the new introduction of the new system, can be heard and considered.

Assembly members, stakeholders, service professionals, the voluntary and independent sectors and more importantly, those using care and support services, and carers, have all contributed to the development of the regulations, and the development of the code practice.

The final Regulations and code of practice will be laid before the National Assembly for Wales on 3 November, and will be accompanied by an Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment which includes the sources of evidence to support the eligibility model.

## Impact

Please complete the next section to show how this policy / decision / practice could have an impact (positive or negative) on the protected groups under the Equality Act 2010 (refer to the EIA guidance document for more information).

Lack of evidence is not a reason for *not* progressing to carrying out an EIA. Please highlight any gaps in evidence that you have identified and explain how/if you intend to fill these gaps.

### 4.1 Do you think this policy / decision / practice will have a positive or negative impact on people because of their age?

| Age  | Positive | Negative | None / Negligible | Reasons for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?  |
|--|----------|----------|-------------------|--|
| Younger people<br><br><i>(Children and young people, up to 18)</i> | Positive |          |                   | <p>The Regulations and respective code of practice seek to strengthen the duties on individuals and local authorities when carrying out their functions in relation to looked after and accommodated children and ensure they have regard to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the child or young person's views, wishes and feelings, so far as is reasonably practicable;</li> <li>• the importance of promoting and respecting the child or young person's dignity;</li> <li>• the characteristics, culture and beliefs of the child or young person;</li> <li>• the importance of</li> </ul> |

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|  |  |  |  | <p>providing appropriate support to enable the child or young person to participate in decision that affect them.</p> <p>They also set out the principal duty of a local authority in relation to looked after children to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• safeguard and promote the child’s well-being;</li> <li>• make such use of services available for children cared for by their own parents as appears to the authority reasonable in the child’s care;</li> <li>• promote the child’s educational achievement;</li> <li>• assess from time to time the child’s care and support needs and ensure that eligible needs are met;</li> </ul> <p>Local authorities are required to provide appropriate care and support planning and reviews for the looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers they are responsible for. This provides a framework for the child, family and carers to record key decisions, allocate tasks and responsibilities etc., in relation to a child’s or young person’s care, and to identify long term objectives, monitor health, education and permanency plans. In</p> |
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|  |  |  | <p>support of this approach a care and support plan must be prepared within ten working days of the start of the first placement. This must contain information about how the child's well being and developmental needs will be met, as well as the arrangements for the current and longer term care for the child. The code of practice requires that the plan be reviewed regularly to help assess progress and placement suitability, inform decisions, set actions and objectives in a way that provides the opportunity for the child or young person to contribute.</p> <p>The views, wishes and feelings for children are also central to the placement planning process set out in the Regulations and code.</p> <p>Chapter 5 of the code of practice details the arrangements local authorities must put in place to support the transition out of care to independent adulthood. It includes the provision of suitable accommodation (as mentioned above) and support for further or higher education and training.</p> <p>Chapter 6 sets out the 'When I am Ready' scheme, which takes forward the new duty in the Act around post-18 living arrangements. This enables looked after</p> |
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|              |          |  | <p>children in foster care to remain living with their former foster parents when they turn 18, if that is what they wish to do.</p> <p>The Children (Secure Accommodation) (Wales) Regulations, and Chapter 7 of the Code of Practice, set in place a framework for placing children in secure accommodation if they are a danger to themselves or to others. They put in place safeguards to ensure that these placements are appropriate in terms of the child's safety and well-being.</p>  |
| People 18-50 | Positive |  | <p>The Act requires a local authority to continue to provide various forms of Information, Advice and Assistance and guidance to young people over the age of 18, who are making the transition from care to more independent living arrangements. A key element of this is the preparation and update of pathway plans. Local authorities are required to prepare these when a looked after child is about to turn 16. The pathway plan will capture the actions which will be necessary from the local authority, the young person's carer, young person, parent and other identified parties to assist the young person to make a successful transition from care. The pathway plan will continue once the</p> |



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|  |  |  | <p>young person turns 18. The pathway assessment and planning process should also determine and record what information, advice and assistance should be provided for the young person as they prepare for, and once they have left care.</p> <p>These duties operate primarily until the young person reaches the age of 21. However, the duties continue beyond a young person's 21st birthday where they remain engaged in education or training, and continue until the end of the agreed programme as set out in their pathway plan.</p> <p>The Act places duties on local authorities to offer the provision of continued foster care beyond the age of 18 under the arrangement 'When I am ready'. When I am ready arrangements allow a young person to continue living in a stable and nurturing family environment after they turn 18, up to the age of 21 or until they have completed an agreed programme of education or training. It aims to provide stability and continuity for young people leaving foster care as they prepare for independent living; improve life changes of looked after children and; provide looked after children with increased opportunities to exercise choice and control over</p> |
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|                    |  |  |      | their lives.  |
| Older people (50+) |  |  | None | Part 6 of the Act relates only to looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. |

## 4.2 Because they are disabled?

| Impairment               | Positive | Negative | None / Negligible | Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?  |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|---|
| Visual impairment        |          |          | Negligible        | <p>The Act states that when exercising social services functions in relation to disabled people who need care and support and disabled carers who need support, local authorities must have due regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People.</p> <p>Local authority responsibilities towards children with disabilities or additional needs are the same as for all other children and young people who fall within the scope of Part 6. That said Part 6 does recognise because of their additional needs, some children and young people may need to draw on a number of services, receive support from several professionals and have multiple plans.</p> <p>Local authorities are responsible for ensuring a</p> |
| Hearing impairment       |          |          | Negligible        |   |
| Physically disabled      |          |          | Negligible        |   |
| Learning disability      |          |          | Negligible        |   |
| Mental health problem    |          |          | Negligible        |   |
| Other impairments issues |          |          | Negligible        |   |

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|  |  |  | <p>health plan is kept for all looked after children.</p> <p>To inform the actions in the health plan, a health assessment should be conducted and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an assessment of the child's state of health, including physical, emotional and mental health;</li> <li>• the child's health history, including the family health history;</li> <li>• the effect of health and health history on the child's development;</li> <li>• existing arrangements for medical and dental care, appropriate to the child's needs, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ treatment and monitoring for identified health (including physical, emotional and mental health) or dental care needs</li> <li>➤ screening for defects of vision or hearing</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The code of practice sets out the factors that need to be taken into account when deciding whether a child who receives short breaks should become a 'looked after' child when away from home. Where this is the case, the Regulations modify the care planning,</p> |
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|  |  |  |  | placement and review process so that it is proportionate to the child's needs. |
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### 4.3 Because of their gender (man or woman)?

| Gender | Positive | Negative | None / Negligible | Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact?   |
|--------|----------|----------|-------------------|---|
| Male   |          |          | Negligible        | Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to children and young people captured within the scope of Part 6 regardless of their gender. Furthermore the Regulations and code of practice set out that local authorities must have regard to an individual's gender and sexuality when making decision that affect them. |
| Female |          |          | Negligible        | Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to children and young people captured within the scope of Part 6 regardless of their gender. Furthermore the Regulations and code of practice set out that local authorities must have regard to an individual's gender and sexuality when making decision that affect them. |

#### 4.4 Because they are transgender?

| Transgender | Positive | Negative | None / Negligible | Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?   |
|-------------|----------|----------|-------------------|--|
|             |          |          | <b>Negligible</b> | Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to all children and young people captured within the scope of Part 6. Furthermore the Regulations and code of practice set out that local authorities must have regard to an individual's gender and sexuality when making decision that affect them. |

#### 4.5 Because of their marriage or civil partnership?

| Marriage and Civil Partnership | Positive | Negative | None / Negligible | Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact?  |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|--|
| Marriage                       |          |          | <b>None</b>       | Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on the needs of looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers and as such there is no impacts on those who are married or in civil |
| Civil Partnership              |          |          | <b>None</b>       |  |

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|  |  |  |  | partnerships. |
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#### 4.6 Because of their pregnancy or maternity?

| <b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>     | <b>Positive</b> | <b>Negative</b> | <b>None / Negligible</b> | <b>Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?</b>   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---|
| Pregnancy                          |                 |                 | <b>Negligible</b>        | <p>Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to all children and young people captured within the scope of Part 6.</p> <p>Part 6 requires local authorities to provide care leavers (which would include those pregnant or who are mothers) the support they need to make a successful transition to adulthood and move towards more independent living.</p> |
| Maternity (the period after birth) |                 |                 | <b>Negligible</b>        |   |

#### 4.7 Because of their race?

| <b>Race</b> | <b>Positive</b> | <b>Negative</b> | <b>None / Negligible</b> | <b>Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?</b> |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---|
| Ethnic      |                 |                 | <b>Negligible</b>        | Part 6 of the Act   |





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| minority people e.g. Asian, Black,    |          |  |                   | focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to all children and young people captured within the scope of Part 6.  |
| National Origin (e.g. Welsh, English) |          |  | <b>Negligible</b> | <p>Within the code of practice it states a child's carers should be aware of the child's religion and culture and the manner in which these are reflected in their daily life, including any help the child will need to maintain these links.</p>  |
| Asylum Seeker and Refugees            | Positive |  |                   | <p>Unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) making the transition from care to adulthood have both a leaving care status and an immigration status in addition to their placement and accommodation, education, health, financial, religious and cultural needs.</p> <p>Part 6 highlights to local authorities that pathway planning to support a UASC's transition to adulthood should cover all areas that would be addressed within all young people's plans, as well as any additional needs arising from</p> |

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|                        |  |  |                   | their specific immigration issues.  |
| Gypsies and Travellers |  |  | <b>Negligible</b> | Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to all children and young people captured within the scope of Part 6.                        |
| Migrants               |  |  | <b>Negligible</b> | Within the code of practice it states a child's carers should be aware of the child's religion and culture and the manner in which these are reflected in their daily life, including any help the child will need to maintain these links. |
| Others                 |  |  |                   |   |

#### 4.8 Because of their religion and belief or non-belief?

| Religion and belief or non – belief                             | Positive        | Negative | None / Negligible | Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact?  |
|---|-----------------|----------|-------------------|--|
| Different religious groups including Muslims, Jews, Christians, | <b>Positive</b> |          |                   | Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to all children and young people captured |

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| Sikhs,<br>Buddhists,<br>Hindus,<br>Others<br>(please<br>specify) |  |  |                   | within the scope of Part 6.   |
| Belief e.g.<br>Humanists   |  |  | <b>Negligible</b> | The Act specifies that before making any decision about a looked after child, the local authority must have regard to the child's religious persuasion, racial origin and cultural background. The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations specify that, where possible, a local authority foster parent should either be of the same religious persuasion as the child, or give an undertaking that the child will be brought up within that religion. The wishes and feelings of the child in relation to his or her religious persuasion must also be taken into account. Religious persuasion must also be recorded, where appropriate, in the Part 6 care and support plan, and be considered when deciding what advice, support and assistance might need to be provided to a child. |
| Non-belief   |  |  | <b>Negligible</b> |   |

#### 4.9 Because of their sexual orientation?

| Sexual Orientation | Positive        | Negative | None / Negligible | Reason for your decision (including evidence)/ How might it impact? |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------------|---|
| Gay people         | <b>Positive</b> |          |                   | The Regulations and   |

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|                  |                 |  |  | code specify that in making placements for looked after children, local authorities must have regard to the child or young person's sexuality and gender identity. Where relevant, this information must also be included in the placement plan. Local authorities must also take these into account when deciding what advice, support and assistance to make available to the child. |
| Lesbian women    | <b>Positive</b> |  |  |  |
| Bi-sexual people | <b>Positive</b> |  |  |  |

**4.10 Do you think that this policy will have a positive or negative impact on people's human rights? Please refer to point 1.4 of the EIA Annex A - Guidance for further information about Human Rights.**

| <b>Human Rights</b>  | <b>Positive</b> | <b>Negative</b> | <b>None / Negligible</b> | <b>Reason for your decision (including evidence) / How might it impact?</b>  |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Human Rights including Human Rights Act and UN Conventions |                 |                 |                          | Part 6 of the Act focusses primarily on looked after and accommodated children and young people and care leavers. The provisions apply equally to all children and young people captured within the scope of Part 6. |

***If you have identified any impacts (other than negligible ones), positive or negative, on any group with protected characteristics, please complete Part 2.***

***Only if there are no or negligible positive or negative impacts should you go straight to part 2 and sign off the EIA.***

## **Equality Impact Assessment – Part 2**

**1. Building on the evidence you gathered and considered in Part 1, please consider the following:**

### **1.1 How could, or does, the policy help advance / promote equality of opportunity?**

For example, positive measures designed to address disadvantage and reach different communities or protected groups?

The Act provides the statutory framework to deliver the Welsh Government's commitment to integrate social services to support people of all ages, and support people as part of families and communities. A clear and unequivocal commitment to an inclusive approach is set out within the Regulations and the statutory code of practice.

The legislation transforms the way social services are delivered, primarily through promoting people's independence to give them stronger voice and control. Integration and simplification of the law will also provide greater consistency and clarity to people who use social services, their carers, local authority staff and their partner organisations, the courts and the judiciary. The Act promotes equality, improvements in the quality of services and the provision of information people receive, and a shared focus on prevention and early intervention.

Welsh Government has worked with protected groups to develop these policies to ensure that all circumstances have been considered no one is discriminated against, local authorities are aware of and respond to their corporate parent responsibilities to allow looked after children and young people and care leavers to be afforded the same opportunities and life chances as other children and young people.

### **1.2 How could / does the policy / decision help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation?**

The overall purpose of part 6 is to safeguard and promote the well-being of looked after and accommodated children and care leavers, and to enable each child or young person to achieve recovery and healing from past harm. It also aims to promote resilience and achievement of personal well-being outcomes and ensure looked after children and young people and care leavers are afforded the same opportunities and life changes as other children and young people regardless of their age, sex, gender, race etc.,

The Act promotes equality, improvements in the quality of services and the provision of information people receive.

Local authorities are required to communicate clearly the new approach to all individuals, so that they are informed of the process and their rights. The process will be straightforward and accessible for all individuals. Practitioners will work with all individuals to identify what matters to them, and identify the contribution people themselves and communities can make to their own well-being.

### **1.3 How could/does the policy impact on advancing / promoting good relations and wider community cohesion?**

Through direct engagement and consultation with different service users and equality groups, Welsh Government gained an understanding of individuals own personal barriers and rights that needed to be overcome. On a reciprocal basis, many of the groups involved in the development of the process have also gained knowledge and understanding about policy development and through a snowballing approach were able to bring more stakeholders into the process reflecting the Welsh Government ethos that well-being is everyone's right and everyone's responsibility. Welsh Government supports individuals to achieve well-being by recognising and valuing people's strengths, people's families, friends and communities. Local authorities will work with all individuals to identify what matters to them, and identify the contribution people themselves and communities can make to their own well-being. This may include assisting individuals to seek support or assistance within the local community, such as community based third sector services or social care enterprises. This includes whether a person feels as though they belong, whether they engage and participate and feel valued in society, which is especially important for people who may feel particularly vulnerable because they fall under the protected characteristics.

## **2. Strengthening the policy**

### **2.1 If the policy is likely to have a negative effect ('adverse impact') on any of the protected groups or good relations, what are the reasons for this?**

**What practical changes/actions could help reduce or remove any negative impacts identified in Part 1?**

There are no negative impacts noted for any specific protected groups.

**2.2 If no action is to be taken to remove or mitigate negative / adverse impact, please justify why.**

**(Please remember that if you have identified unlawful discrimination (immediate or potential) as a result of the policy, the policy must be changed or revised.)**

NA

**3. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing**

**How will you monitor the impact and effectiveness of the policy?**

List details of any follow-up work that will be undertaken in relation to the policy (e.g. consultations, specific monitoring etc).

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 contains provisions to allow for Ministers to monitor functions of the Act carried out by local authorities and other bodies. Ministers may require these bodies to report on their duties in implementing these regulations.

There is a considerable amount of work required both in the run up to and post implementation should the regulation be agreed.

The Welsh Government intends to commission an evaluation to enable the impact of the new national model of assessment and eligibility to be considered.

Additionally, officials will continue to monitor the impact of the regulation on areas such as the Welsh language, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), The United Nations Principles for Older Persons and Equality.

The results of all impact assessments where the impact is significant will

be published on the Welsh Government's website.

#### 4. Declaration

**\*Please delete as appropriate:**

**The policy \*does / does not have a significant impact upon equality issues**

##### **Official completing the EIA**

Name:

Department:

Date:

Signature:

##### **Head of Division (Sign-off)**

Name:

Job title and department:

Date:

Signature:



Review Date: