

Section 4 Integrated Impact Assessment

Summary Report Template

Each of the numbered sections below must be completed

Interim report		Final report	V
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1. Title of proposal

Review of the City of Edinburgh Council Forced Marriage Policy.

2. What will change as a result of this proposal?

The Council's Forced Marriage Policy was written in 2014 and reviewed in 2015, with no further updates until 2022. Although the previous provided information on Forced Marriage and guidance on how to respond, the latest version has been updated to include more up-to-date and inclusive information on diverse groups, evidence on risks and impacts of forced marriage, as well as information and resources on where people at risk or affected by forced marriage and those supporting them can access help.

The updated policy strengthens guidance for professionals on how to identify and respond to forced marriage, including warning signs, points of contact and detailed information on populations that are in particularly high risk of being affected. Through a review of this policy we are hoping to improve awareness of forced marriage amongst professionals and people likely to be affected by forced marriage, as well as to provide clearer guidance on how to identify, address and respond to risks.

3. Briefly describe public involvement in this proposal to date and planned

Forced Marriage is consistently underreported by people affected or at risk. Both the initial policy and its revision are based on established peer-reviewed research, official statistics provided by statutory and voluntary organisations, anecdotal evidence representing the lived experience of people affected by forced marriage, and official strategy and guidance issued by the Scottish Government.

4. Is the proposal considered strategic under the [Fairer Scotland Duty](#)?

Yes.

5. Date of IIA

28 February 2022

6. Who was present at the IIA? Identify facilitator, Lead Officer, report writer and any partnership representative present and main stakeholder (e.g. NHS, Council)

Name	Job Title	Date of IIA training
Jon Ferrer	Senior Manager Quality, Governance and Regulation (facilitator)	ERIA training: 2012, 2014 and NHS RIA model training 2016
Elaine Wishart	Senior HR Consultant- Organisational Development on Diversity and inclusion (representing HR and the SPARC network)	PSED training 2011 EIA training 2012, 2014, 2016 IIA training 2019, 2021
Girijamba Polubothu	CEO, Shakti Women's Aid ESEC partnership representative	N/A
Angela Voulgari	Lead Officer, Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee Supporting the Implementation of Equally Safe: Scotland's Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls (report writer)	N/A
Suzan Ross	Community Justice Development Officer Equality, Diversity and Rights Advisor for Children's and Criminal Justice Services (provided feedback on the IIA by email)	5/11/2019 and 9/3/2022

7. Evidence available at the time of the IIA

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
Data on populations in need	<p>Forced Marriage Unit Annual Statistics</p> <p>World Population Review</p> <p>Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: preventing and responding to forced marriage – update 2014</p> <p>Family and Household Support: The City of Edinburgh Council Management of Roadside Encampments</p>	<p>Individuals from BAME communities more likely to be affected</p> <p>Number of cases the Forced Marriage Unit gave advice or support to, by region, 2020: Scotland (12) 2%.</p> <p>According to FMU statistics, most affected communities include: Pakistani (38%) Bangladeshi (9%) Indian (6%) Afghani (4%) Somali (2%)</p> <p>Unfortunately, there is no official data available on Forced Marriage that is specific to Edinburgh. However, extrapolating from data available through the FMU and the World Population review, similar communities are likely to be affected in Edinburgh. The largest BAME communities in Edinburgh are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chinese (1.7%) - Indian (1.4%) - Pakistani (1.2%) - Bangladeshi (0.3%) <p>While 2.6% of the population follows Islam, the second largest religious group in the city.</p> <p>Younger women at higher risk of coercion into a marriage.</p> <p>Self-harm and suicide rates due to forced marriage higher among South Asian Women.</p> <p>Gypsies/Travellers have significantly poorer health than other UK resident English-speaking ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged white UK residents.</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
Data on service uptake/access	Equally Safe reporting and reports from specialist agencies (Shakti Women's Aid, Aditi, Amina MWRC) as well as practice and anecdotal evidence.	Forced Marriage a live issue for BAME communities, particularly younger women, LGBT+ people and people with disabilities.
Data on socio-economic disadvantage e.g. low income, low wealth, material deprivation, area deprivation.	<p>Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: preventing and responding to forced marriage – update 2014</p> <p>Family and Household Support: The City of Edinburgh Council Management of Roadside Encampments</p>	<p>Forced Marriage cuts across socio-economic categories and groups. Impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Isolation - Pressure from multiple sources within family/community - Strain on family/community relationships - Depression, self-harm, increased risk of suicide - Impaired health, social development - Limited educational/ career opportunities - Financial dependence - Lifestyle restrictions <p>Forced marriage frequently linked to other forms of VAWG: domestic abuse, rape, in-law abuse, daily violence and humiliation. Some women live under conditions of domestic slavery.</p> <p>Forced marriage has a detrimental effect on children (who are forced into a marriage or who are born to a forced marriage): repeated trauma leads to undermined capacity to meet daily life demands. Behaviour, mental health and educational performance are affected, with some being withdrawn from education.</p> <p>Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people have the worst outcomes of any ethnic group across a huge range of areas, including education, health, employment, criminal justice and hate crime.</p>
Data on equality outcomes	<p>Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: preventing and responding to forced marriage – update 2014</p>	<p>England/Wales figures: 2010 victims who identified themselves as LGBT (2% or 36 cases – 2010)</p> <p>The number of victims who are disabled (4% or 70 reported to FMU in 2010)</p> <p>Countries of origin: Pakistan (52%), Bangladesh (10.3%), India (8.6%), Africa (5%), Turkey (1.7%), Iran (1.3%), Iraq (1.2%), Afghanistan (1%), and other known countries (9.3%). 14.6% of cases were solely linked to the UK or were of unknown origin</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
	<p>Forced Marriage Unit Annual Statistics</p>	<p>Having a learning or physical disability or illness may be an additional risk factor for victims and may make it more difficult for them to report abuse, seek help or leave an abusive situation. Their care needs may make them entirely dependent on their carers.</p> <p>79% of cases dealt with by FMU involved girls and women. Men are particularly represented in cases where the victim is LGBTQ+ (63% male), or where the victim has mental capacity concerns (55% male)</p> <p>The majority of people affected were aged 18-21 (22%), followed by people under 15 and people between 22-25 (15%). 11% of victims/survivors were 16-17 years old and 26-30.</p>
Research/literature evidence	<p>Understanding Forced Marriage in Scotland</p> <p>Forced Marriage in the UK: Religious, Cultural, Economic or State Violence? (2009)</p> <p>Practitioner responses to children and young people involved in forced marriage</p> <p>Understanding Forced Marriage Protection orders in the UK</p>	<p>Shares the lived experiences of women who have survived forced marriage and presents example of good practice.</p> <p>Discusses forced marriage as defined in law in contrast to the understanding and experiences of victims/ survivors who also emphasis the importance of ability to exit a marriage. The study illustrates the interplay between culture, religion, poverty and state practices including immigration practices which points to the need for a more sophisticated and nuanced understanding of forced marriage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective practice responses to FM require clearer national and local policy and guidance - Knowledgeable, confident and proactive staff enable good quality risk assessments and service responses - Practitioner training and development should include enhancing cultural competence and confidence when working with marginalised/BME families - FM is a nuanced, complex and diverse issue affected by high levels of vulnerability in children and young people. <p>This article examines the use of Forced Marriage Protection Orders (FMPOs) in England and Wales to determine which framing narratives affect the outcomes of FMPO cases. The study makes a number of recommendations to ensure that FMPOs can function effectively, such as providing training for judges and legal personnel and offering greater witness support.</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
Public/patient/client experience information	<p>Understanding Forced Marriage in Scotland</p> <p>The City of Edinburgh Council</p>	<p>Women described many missed opportunities when seeking out support (interviewees were living in England at the time, prior to 2011). Almost all the help received which was perceived as successful was from third sector women’s organisations, although there are also some positive examples of statutory service involvement. (p.46)</p> <p>Mixed reports were received of interactions with statutory services. Some survivors were not aware of any help at the time of their forced marriage as these were up to 20 years ago and support was minimal. (p. 47)</p> <p>Positive reports of NHS care following mental health crisis. However, there were some breaches of confidentiality when information was shared with victims’/ survivors’ families. There are reports of varying success through engagement with statutory services.</p> <p>The Council funds services supporting women affected by domestic abuse as well as HBA and forced marriage. Statistical information is routinely collected on the Council’s ECCO system. Quarterly reports include SU feedback. Contracts: outline the Council’s complaint procedure and each service has to adhere to this procedure when a complaint is received.</p>
Evidence of inclusive engagement of people who use the service and involvement findings		<p>All services request feedback from people upon exiting the service. This is available to view by the Council, although this is not information collected or held by the Council.</p> <p>All contracts are competitively tendered and this includes co-production with service users and stakeholders. The frequency of this exercise depends on the length of each individual contract.</p> <p>ESEC will link in with new ‘Authentic Voice: Embedding Lived Experience in Scotland’ project by SafeLives, Improvement Service and Resilience Learning Partnership (launching 3 March 2022) to further improve in this area.</p>
Evidence of unmet need	<p>Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee</p> <p>City of Edinburgh Council</p>	<p>The key agencies supporting victims/ survivors and people at risk of forced marriage are members of ESEC.</p> <p>The City of Edinburgh Council Funds VAWG services who support victims/ survivors and people at risk of forced marriage.</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
	<p>Understanding Forced Marriage in Scotland</p>	<p>Forced marriage is included in inter-agency training sessions on Child Protection (levels 2, 3 and 4), Adult Protection</p> <p>Specialist awareness-raising training is provided by Shakti Women’s Aid on domestic abuse and BAME women, children and young people; this training also covers forced marriage and other forms of HBA.</p> <p>Specialist inter-agency training is provided by Sacro twice a year on HBA and forced marriage and twice a year on FGM.</p> <p>A number of victims/ survivors of forced marriage do not have recourse to public funds (NRPF). This affects their ability to seek support and to access services like health, housing, education and benefits.</p>
Good practice guidelines	<p>Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines (2014)</p> <p>OneScotland</p>	<p>There is general consensus that although the Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines provide good practice examples and guidance on how to respond to (the risk of) forced marriage, this document is now in need of review. The review has been delayed due to Covid 19 but the intention to review the document has been alluded to by statutory partners nationally.</p> <p>Listening carefully to the concerns of the victim, understand the circumstances which have brought them to you, and explaining their options, taking their concerns seriously</p> <p>Never attempting family counselling, mediation, arbitration and reconciliation if forced marriage is an issue because this can put victim(s) at further risk</p> <p>Recognising the potential risk of very significant harm and the lengths that families go to in order to force a marriage and that families do kill in the name of ‘honour’</p> <p>Never sharing information with family/friends/community members; and, if sharing information with other practitioners in your own or other agencies, only do so if necessary to protect victims and always store information about the case securely, with restricted access and in compliance with record management procedures</p> <p>Recognising that a victim’s life may be at stake recognising that under the Forced Marriage Act, a Forced Marriage Protection Order (FMPO) can</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		be sought. The terms of orders issued under the Act can be tailored to meet the specific needs of victims.
Carbon emissions generated/reduced data	Not Applicable	
Environmental data	Not Applicable	
Risk from cumulative impacts	Not Applicable	
Other (please specify)	Not Applicable	
Additional evidence required	Not Applicable	

8. In summary, what impacts were identified and which groups will they affect?

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
<p>Positive</p> <p>Forced marriage is a fundamental violation of human rights that is not culturally or religiously justified or acceptable. The populations identified as ‘affected’ are at particularly high risk and require the attention and support of professionals.</p> <p>The difference between arranged and forced marriage were also discussed and distinctions were made between the two. Whereas arranged marriages are legal and rely on the free and full consent of both parties for the marriage to take place, forced marriages disregard the rights of either or both prospective spouses to consent to or refuse a marriage.</p> <p>Evidence suggests that people most at risk tend to be young people, particularly girls and young women. Although forced marriage can affect anyone from a traditional/faith-based community, certain groups are at particularly high risk, including people from BAME backgrounds; LGBT+ people; people with a disability; people with NRPF; asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants.</p> <p>The following positive and negative impacts were discussed and identified:</p> <p>Children and young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Warning signs for professionals in education and other children’s services to be alert to ▪ Information to identify and respond to the risk of forced marriage. ▪ Impacts of forced marriage discussed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children and young people - Girls and women (including pregnant women, unwed people and parents of children from previous relationships who have been divorced or widowed) - People who are married or in civil partnerships - Older people - People from BAME backgrounds - Asylum seeking, refugee and migrant populations - People with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) - LGBT people

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ resources provided on carrying out successful interventions ▪ Legal recourses identified that can provide protection for children and young people at risk of forced marriage. <p>Women and Girls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forced marriage identified as a gendered issue, especially for girls and women from BAME backgrounds. ▪ Health needs and impacts on girls and women are identified ▪ Recourses for intervention and support are provided ▪ Identification of additional, associated risks with other forms of ‘honour’ based abuse such as female genital mutilation (FGM) ▪ Differential impacts identified for girls and women at different ages and life stages (including young mothers, unmarried/ divorced/ widowed women and mothers) <p>People who are married or in civil partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification that due to differential impacts on LGBT people, it is unlikely that people will be forced into civil partnerships, however this possibility must always be considered ▪ Recognition that people in forced marriages are likely to seek support to help them leave the marriage safely <p>Older people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognition of the lack of representation of older people in research, policy and guidance around forced marriage. ▪ Information on local and national resources to support older people affected by/at risk of forced marriage included. <p>People from BAME backgrounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy to be made available in other languages if required. ▪ The particular language and cultural needs of people from BAME backgrounds were discussed and guidance on how to address those through the use of interpreters and community-based organisations and support. <p>Asylum Seeking, Refugee and Migrant populations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risks for asylum seekers, refugees and migrants identified ▪ Asylum Seeking, refugee and migrant populations can be affected by forced marriage, especially if newly arrived in Scotland. This is often due to a lack of knowledge around UK/Scottish legislation and an adherence to traditional practices. ▪ Relevant services, organisations and links to statutory guidance provided. <p>People with NRPF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ People with NRPF particularly affected due to frequent ties to uncertain immigration status. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People from faith-based and traditional communities - People with a disability or long-term condition - Gypsy/Travellers
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- There was discussion around the vulnerability of people with NRPF to further forms of honour and gender-based abuse, including domestic abuse and coercive control.

LGBT people:

- LGBT people at particular risk, as LGBT identity is seen as contravening tradition and bringing ‘shame’ and ‘dishonour’ on a family.
- Legal protections, resources and support identified and provided.

People from faith-based or traditional communities:

- Forced marriage identified particularly for BAME populations, but anyone from a faith based or traditional community can be affected.
- This expands the populations at risk of forced marriage to indigenous and European populations as well as BAME/migrant/refugee populations.
- Guidance provided on identifying intersecting variables that would increase the risk of forced marriage for any individual, including community of origin.

People with a disability or long-term condition:

- People with disabilities/long-term conditions might experience forced marriage as their family’s/community’s attempt to secure long-term care for them
- Multi-agency support from additional sources, including services for vulnerable adults
- Mechanisms for support identified, for example health and social care services, adult eIRD and local and national resources.
- Early identification to lead to improved outcomes for the individuals concerned as well as for their family and community.

Gypsy/Travellers:

- Recognition that Gypsy/Traveller communities are also affected by forced marriage and child marriage and under-representation in services
- Links to the Council’s Roadside Encampment protocol which provides guidance around identifying and promoting the rights of the Gypsy/Traveller community.

Negative

Children and young people

- Children and young people relying on family/community support might be adversely affected by the rupture/breakdown of family and community ties if they refuse a marriage arrangement

- Refusal of a marriage arrangement might escalate other forms of abuse, including coercive control, psychological/emotional abuse, physical or sexual abuse, which can in turn require further involvement with services.

Girls and women (including pregnant women, unwed people and parents of children from previous relationships who have been divorced or widowed)

- If supported to refuse/exit a marriage, girls and women could be subjected to further/escalating forms of abuse by their family or community, including forced termination
- Girls and women relying on family/community support might be adversely affected by the rupture/breakdown of family and community ties if they refuse a marriage arrangement
- Re-traumatisation and further support required both for the parent and child(ren) involved

People who are married or in civil partnerships

- People who are already in a forced marriage might feel unable to leave due to uncertain immigration status/NRPF
- People seeking support to leave a forced marriage might lose family and community ties and be ostracised
- People seeking support to leave a forced marriage might be exposed to additional/escalating forms of abuse

Older people

- Older people might lack awareness of forced marriage or that they may be affected
- Older people might be more reluctant to seek support due to the loss of family and community ties

People from BAME backgrounds

- Lack of English language competence and knowledge of Scottish systems and sources of support might prevent people from recognising and seeking help for forced marriage, especially for newly arrived individuals and communities
- People who are already in a forced marriage might feel unable to leave due to uncertain immigration status/NRPF
- People seeking support to leave a forced marriage might lose family and community ties and be ostracised
- People seeking support to leave a forced marriage might be exposed to additional/escalating forms of abuse

Asylum seeking, refugee and migrant populations

- Lack of English language competence and knowledge of Scottish systems and sources of support might prevent people from recognising and seeking help for forced marriage, especially for newly arrived individuals and communities

- Newly arrived asylum seekers, refugees and migrants might experience extreme levels of isolation if they are ostracised from their family/community for refusing a marriage arrangement or for seeking support to leave a marriage

People with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)

- People with NRPF are less likely to seek support to leave a forced marriage due to often uncertain immigration status
- People with NRPF might face destitution or deportation if they refuse or seek help to escape a forced marriage.

LGBT people

- People seeking support to refuse or leave a forced marriage might lose family and community ties and be ostracised
- People seeking support to refuse or leave a forced marriage might be exposed to additional/escalating forms of abuse

People from faith-based and traditional communities

- People seeking support to leave a forced marriage might lose family and community ties and be ostracised
- People seeking support to leave a forced marriage might be exposed to additional/escalating forms of abuse

People with a disability or long-term condition

- People with a physical/learning disability or long-term conditions might not recognise that they are being forced into a marriage
- People with a physical/learning disability or long-term conditions might be fearful/rejecting/hostile towards interventions by services
- People with a physical/learning disability or long-term conditions might rely heavily on family and community support and intervention by services might sever those ties
- People with a physical/learning disability or long-term conditions might interpret interventions as vilifying their family/community

Gypsy/Travellers

- Gypsy/Traveller community members might not recognise forced marriage if this is something that has historically been practiced in their community
- Gypsy/Traveller community members might not seek/might reject support for fear of losing community and family ties
- Gypsy/Traveller community members affected by or at risk of forced marriage might not seek support for fear of losing family and community ties
- Gypsy/Traveller community members affected by or at risk of forced marriage might experience escalating abuse and violence if they seek support

<p>Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts</p> <p>Positive</p> <p>Negative</p>	<p>Affected populations</p> <p>This section is not applicable to the policy.</p>
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<p>Economic including socio-economic disadvantage</p> <p>This policy recognises that there are no impacts specific to groups of a particular income bracket. People of all incomes and socio-economic backgrounds can be affected based on their ethnic, religious or cultural backgrounds and other intersecting characteristics, regardless of their income. However, income and social or economic disadvantage, including immigration status, is likely to play a part in people’s willingness to refuse a marriage arrangement or to seek support to leave a forced marriage. The policy further recognises that forced marriage in itself can have a severe impact on people’s socio-economic opportunities, education and employment, as well as on their physical and mental health. Although forced marriage tends to be primarily motivated by a family’s or community’s ‘honour’, tradition or a conflation between religion and tradition, there could be socio-economic reasons behind pressure to marry.</p> <p>Additionally, the risk/impact of forced marriage must always be seen within the context of additional disadvantages and vulnerabilities for individuals with particular protected characteristics and intersecting forms of abuse that may also be present. For example, BAME women and LGBT people tend to suffer domestic and/or ‘honour’ based abuse for longer before seeking help (if they seek help). Gypsy/Travellers also have significantly poorer health than other UK resident English-speaking ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged white UK residents.</p> <p>Positive</p> <p>Children and Young People:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early intervention in the risk of forced marriage can improve the educational, social and future economic outcomes of children and young people. ▪ Support to adults will have a direct positive impact on children and young people’s education, employment and income maximisation <p>Girls and Women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing opportunities to promote girls’ and women’s rights to education and employment opportunities, further benefiting their future socio-economic prospects and overall health and wellbeing. 	<p>Affected populations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children and young people - Girls and women (including pregnant women, unwed people and parents of children from previous relationships who have been divorced or widowed) - People who are married or in civil partnerships - Older people - People from BAME backgrounds - Asylum seeking, refugee and migrant populations - People with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) - LGBT people - People from faith-based and traditional communities - People with a disability or long-term condition - Gypsy/Travellers
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- Supporting the safety and wellbeing of girls and women by assessing additional risk from 'honour' or gender-based violence such as FGM and domestic abuse

Pregnant women, unwed people and parents of children from previous relationships who have been divorced or widowed:

- Identification of pregnant women and divorced or widowed parents as at risk of forced marriage can improve socio-economic outcomes through engagement with services for them and their (unborn) children.
- Pregnant women who engage with services can be offered a full range of options to promote their socio-economic outcomes, including support as single parents or to terminate a pregnancy if this is what they wish to do.

People who are married or in civil partnerships

- Income maximisation through education and career opportunities for people who are in a forced marriage and who engage with services through benefits provision

Older people

- Support to access options and choices if in a forced marriage implies greater opportunity for independence and consequently improved socio-economic outcomes with the appropriate support from services

People from BAME backgrounds

- Recognition that the most affected populations are of BAME communities and likely to be affected by intersecting inequalities that prevent them from accessing support.
- Appropriate support from agencies can help victims/survivors of forced marriage and those at risk to access education, training and employment opportunities, improving their independence and socio-economic outcomes

Asylum seeking, refugee and migrant populations

- Appropriate support from agencies can help victims/survivors of forced marriage and those at risk to access education, training and employment opportunities, improving their independence and socio-economic outcomes.

People with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)

- Appropriate support from organisations and services can assist people with NRPF to apply for alternative immigration status

LGBT people

- Appropriate support from agencies can help victims/survivors of forced marriage and those at risk to access

education, training and employment opportunities, improving their independence and socio-economic outcomes.

People from faith-based and traditional communities

- Appropriate support from agencies can help victims/survivors of forced marriage and those at risk to access education, training and employment opportunities, improving their independence and socio-economic outcomes.

People with a disability or long-term condition

- Appropriate support from agencies can help victims/survivors of forced marriage and those at risk to access education, training and employment opportunities, improving their independence and socio-economic outcomes.

Gypsy/Travellers

- Links to the Council's Roadside Encampment protocol which provides guidance around identifying and promoting the rights of the Gypsy/Traveller community.
- Support to adults will have a direct positive impact on the family regarding education, employment and income maximisation

Negative

Children and young people

- Mental health and education impacted by potential engagement of the family/community with the justice system
- Potential impact on mental health and education should separation be required from the family and strain from

Girls and women

- Mental health and education impacted by potential engagement of the family/community with the justice system
- Potential impact on mental health and education should separation of children be required from the family

Pregnant women, unwed people and parents of children from previous relationships who have been divorced or widowed:

- Health impact on mother/prospective mother from stress of forced marriage and engagement with services or the justice system
- Health impact on the foetus/baby from the mother's stress of forced marriage and engagement with services or the justice system

- Health and educational impact on children from parents seeking to escape a forced marriage
- Health and educational impact on adult parents and caregivers from the stress of seeking to escape a forced marriage
- Health and educational impact on adult parents and caregivers from the stress of engaging with services or the justice system

People who are married or in civil partnerships

- Impact on health, wellbeing, education and employment from engagement with services and/or the justice system
- Ostracism and potential escalating abuse from spouse/family/community due to the stigma attached to separation and divorce
- Financial dependence on spouse/family/extended family might prevent people in forced marriages coming forward to engage with support services

Older people

- Impacts on health and wellbeing from engaging with services and the justice system if necessary
- Older people might be the perpetrators of forced marriage-engagement with services/the justice system can lead to ostracism/escalating abuse from the family/ community.

People from BAME backgrounds

- Impacts on health and wellbeing due to a lack of understanding of Scottish systems and processes
- Impacts on health and wellbeing from loss of family and community support
- Risk of further escalation of violence and abuse due to engagement with services

Asylum seeking, refugee and migrant populations

- Impacts on health and wellbeing due to a lack of understanding of Scottish systems and processes
- Impacts on health and wellbeing from loss of family and community support
- Risk of further escalation of violence and abuse due to engagement with services

People with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)

- Impacts on health and wellbeing due to a lack of understanding of Scottish systems and processes
- Impacts on health and wellbeing from loss of family and community support
- Risk of further escalation of violence and abuse due to engagement with services

<p>LGBT people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impacts on health and wellbeing from loss of family and community support ▪ Risk of further escalation of violence and abuse due to engagement with services <p>People from faith-based and traditional communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impacts on health and wellbeing due to a lack of understanding of Scottish systems and processes ▪ Impacts on health and wellbeing from loss of family and community support ▪ Risk of further escalation of violence and abuse due to engagement with services <p>People with a disability or long-term condition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impacts on health and wellbeing due to a lack of understanding of Scottish systems and processes ▪ Impacts on health and wellbeing from loss of family and community support ▪ Risk of further escalation of violence and abuse due to engagement with services <p>Gypsy/Travellers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impacts on health and wellbeing due to a lack of understanding of systems and processes ▪ Impacts on health and wellbeing from loss of family and community support ▪ Risk of further escalation of violence and abuse due to engagement with services 	
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9. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors and if so how will equality, human rights including children’s rights, environmental and sustainability issues be addressed?

The City of Edinburgh Council procures services that support people who are affected by/at risk of violence against women and girls and other forms of ‘honour’ or gender-based violence (Shakti Women’s Aid, Edinburgh Women’s Aid, Aditi (Sacro) and Foursquare. Some actions specific to this IIA may require for service to be carried out by contractors and if so, contractors are assessed on their commitment to adopting the five Fair Work First criteria for workers engaged in the delivery of the services, as part of the procurement process.

10. Consider how you will communicate information about this policy/ service change to children and young people and those affected by sensory impairment, speech impairment, low level literacy or numeracy, learning difficulties or English as a second language? Please provide a summary of the communications plan.

Information about this policy will be disseminated using the following routes:

- Discussion within the Equally Safe Edinburgh Committee (ESEC): ESEC comprises a number of statutory and voluntary organisations and services who have a responsibility in implementing Equally Safe: Scotland’s strategy or preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. Forced marriage is included as part of Equally Safe and therefore falls within the remit of all ESEC members.
- Internal dissemination within ESEC member services and organisations: All ESEC members will be expected to disseminate information about this policy internally to their staff teams and people who use their services. This includes colleagues from the City of Edinburgh Council, Police Scotland, Council-funded services and third sector partners.
- Issues around literacy/English language competence have been taken into consideration: this policy will be made available, upon request, in other languages and Braille.

11. Is the policy likely to result in significant environmental effects, either positive or negative? If yes, it is likely that a [Strategic Environmental Assessment](#) (SEA) will be required and the impacts identified in the IIA should be included in this.

Not Applicable

12. Additional Information and Evidence Required

If further evidence is required, please note how it will be gathered. If appropriate, mark this report as interim and submit updated final report once further evidence has been gathered.

13. Specific to this IIA only, what recommended actions have been, or will be, undertaken and by when? (these should be drawn from 7 – 11 above) Please complete:

Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)	Who will take them forward (name and job title)	Deadline for progressing	Review date

14. Are there any negative impacts in section 8 for which there are no identified mitigating actions?

Not Applicable

15. How will you monitor how this proposal affects different groups, including people with protected characteristics?

- Annual reviews of the policy involving stakeholders in statutory and voluntary organisations, including specialist organisations supporting people at risk of/affected by forced marriage.
- Annual reviews of the policy involving lead officers for child and adult protection

16. Sign off by Head of Service/ NHS Project Lead

Name: Jackie Irvine

Date: 13 April 2022

17. Publication

Completed and signed IIAs should be sent to strategyandbusinessplanning@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published on the IIA directory on the Council website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/impactassessments

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board/Health and Social Care

sarah.bryson@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published on the www.edinburghhsc.scot/the-ijb/integrated-impact-assessments/