

# Integrated Impact Assessment – Summary Report

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**1. Title of proposal**

To consider the potential impact of not renewing contract (CM2988) between the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) and Mind of My Own Ltd (MOMO), which is coming to a natural end on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2023.

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

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2023, formal notification was issued of CEC’s intention not to renew the contract. As a result, care experienced children and young people in Edinburgh will no longer have access to MOMO accounts. Around 20% of children currently working with Childrens Social Work Services have an account. Collective attention to turn to developing or procuring a new, more effective, system or tool for seeking and capturing views and feedback from the children and young people who use our services.

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

No public involvement to date. However, decisions made as a result of this proposal will need to be communicated to staff, children and young people and partners.

**4. Is the proposal considered strategic under the Fairer Scotland Duty?**

No, ending the funding will not affect statutory responsibilities or strategic decision as to reducing inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage.



**5. Date of IIA**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> of July, 9:15-10:45 am.


**6. Who was present at the IIA? Identify facilitator, lead officer, report writer and any employee representative present and main stakeholder (e.g. Council, NHS)**




Name	Job Title	Date of IIA training
Liz Harrison (Facilitator)	Contracts Advisor	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022
Flora Gemmell (Facilitator)	Contracts Advisor	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023
Laura G Brown	Senior Learning & Development Consultant	
Brenda-Anne Cochrane	Children and Young People Review Team Manager	

## 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 and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
Data on populations in need	<p><a href="#">Children's Partnership Strategic Plan:</a></p> <p>MOMO Position Paper March 2023</p>  <p>DRAFT MOMO Champions Report Fe</p>	<p>Data from Children's Partnership Strategic Plan stated that there are:</p> <p>87,500 children (0-17 in Edinburgh)</p> <p>1,200 Looked After children &amp; young people</p> <p>120 children subject to a CP Plan.</p> <p>There is a high proportion of children in our city, particularly who are subject to additional planning &amp; intervention in their lives. As detailed in the MOMO position paper, (March 2023) they have a right to a voice and to have an integral part in their planning. MOMO provided one means of being able to do so.</p>
Data on service uptake/access	<p> <a href="#">Champion's Meeting 2022 PDF.pdf</a></p>	<p>Data collated from MOMO Service Dashboard was manually extrapolated and shared at MOMO Champions Meeting in early 2022</p> <p>Around 20% of the young people working with Children's Social Work Services had a young person's account with MOMO. In the calendar year 2021, 393 statements were completed from 200 of these young people.</p> <p>Given the numbers of children &amp; young people who are subject to Child Protection, Looked After Planning or are working with services because of unmet need,</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
		<p>The uptake over the last 4 years has been disappointing. We had anticipated far greater numbers of the children &amp; young people we worked with accessing the service when signing up for and promoting MOMO. (Stats from MOMO Service desk).</p> <p>Practitioners anecdotally reported to Mind of My Own Champions in the teams that most children and young people did not wish to carry out or repeat usage of MOMO and that they used a range of other means to seek and record their views.</p>
<p>Data on socio-economic disadvantage e.g. low income, low wealth, material deprivation, area deprivation.</p>	<p><a href="#">Children’s Partnership Strategic Plan 2020-23</a></p> <p><a href="#">GIRFEC</a></p> <p><a href="#">National Guidance for Child Protection 2021</a></p> <p><a href="#">Part 4 of the National Guidance 2021</a></p>	<p>Data from Children’s Partnership Strategic Plan stated that there are:</p> <p>Around 22% of Edinburgh’s children live in poverty although this varies widely by community.</p> <p>In 2019 over 2,000 children were involved with homelessness services.</p> <p>1,700 children have a disability, with around 40% of the children and young people’s population more widely having additional support needs.</p> <p><a href="#">GIRFEC</a> and the <a href="#">National Guidance for Child Protection 2021</a> encourage us to take a holistic approach to children’s needs and the wider context in which they are growing up. We have a good understanding from <a href="#">Part 4 of the National Guidance</a> about the</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	<b>Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal</b>
	<a href="#">Digital Education Team – Edinburgh Nominet Digital Youth Index 2022</a>	<p>Specific Needs and Risks and structural inequalities that can further impact on the risk of a child being subject to (risk of) harm and involved with children’s services.</p> <p>Despite efforts to mediate this (in the form of wide-scale effort to distribute devices), there was a barrier faced by low-income families with digital poverty (both device access and digital connectivity). Families with several children would also often have to share devices.</p>
Data on equality outcomes	See above	See above
Research/literature evidence	 <a href="#">Participation Bibliography</a>  <a href="#">UNCRC Full Text - The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland (cypcs.org.uk)</a>  <a href="#">UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill: Cabinet Secretary's statement - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</a>	<p>There are numerous pieces of research on the value and purpose of including children’s views and voice in their planning, as highlighted through its inclusion in UNCRC and the UNCRC Incorporation Bill (Scotland). It is a paramount importance also in our National Children’s Policy.</p>
Public/patient/client experience information	Service Area update via email	<p>We have not carried out direct evaluation, but we have undertaken some second-hand reviews with Children &amp; YPs Review Team on information submitted to meetings, for example.</p> <p>We have accepted the self-report from Team members, through their discussions with MOMO Champions.</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
Evidence of inclusive engagement of people who use the service and involvement findings	<p><a href="https://mindofmyown.org.uk/">https://mindofmyown.org.uk/</a></p> <p>MOMO accessibility tool, <a href="#">Recite Me</a>,</p> <p> <a href="#">Feedback from Disability Team July 2021.docx</a></p>	<p>MOMO has a good range of inclusion features. Such as MOMO Express, which is designed for younger children or those with an intellectual disability or additional support needs.</p> <p>There is also an accessibility tool, <a href="#">Recite Me</a>, across all of its platforms, which can change the format or language to suit a range of needs.</p> <p>In Edinburgh, these features were particularly employed within our Children Affected by Disability Team. However, the features were found to be of limited success due to the barriers in the level of adult intervention required from carers or staff members. Please see evidence collected from CAD Team:  <a href="#">Feedback from Disability Team July 2021.docx</a></p> <p>Following this, a further training workshop was offered in December 2021, but was poorly attended.</p> <p>More success was noted in working with people where English is a second language, particularly the Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers (UAS) Team.</p>
Evidence of unmet need	<p> <a href="#">MOMO Update report 20210507.docx</a></p>	<p>Around 80% of children working with our services have never engaged with Mind of My Own.</p> <p>Qualitative evidence suggests that those Children and Young People (CYP) who do have a MOMO account need significant prompting from their trusted adult to engage in it.</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected and to the environmental impacts of your proposal
		Issues arise from the requirement of adult supervision whilst young people are engaging in MOMO as it is difficult to tell if views reported have been influenced or authentically the young person's own.
Good practice guidelines	<a href="#">MOMO Guidance 2018.doc</a> <a href="#">MOMO Guidance Update 2021.doc</a> <a href="#">Easy Set up.docx</a> <a href="#">Myth Buster.docx</a> <a href="#">MOMO news January 2021.docx</a>	<p>There is a MOMO Guidance paper that has been circulated widely and last updated in May 2021.</p> <p>There has been newsletters and good practice guides produced and circulated by the Champions.</p>
Carbon emissions generated/reduced data		N/A Service is digital
Environmental data	N/A	N/A Service is digital
Risk from cumulative impacts		<p>Despite MOMO's low uptake, it was a tool for gathering and hearing children and young people's voice.</p> <p>Time and resources required to promote other digital communication tools universally available.</p>
Other (please specify)		
Additional evidence required		

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

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
Positive	

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
<p>Social workers have reported that when CYP are completing a statement on MOMO, it feels more like a 'tick box exercise' rather than CYP authentically expressing their views and feelings regarding decisions made over their care. Some older young people have also found it demeaning that scaling &amp; emojis are used and they would rather contribute in other ways. These young people will not be asked to continue to carry out stigmatising, demeaning or unpopular tasks that they feel does not meet there needs.</p> <p>This also added to social workers workload, giving them something new to learn, use and help embed into the service. Establishing a new system will ensure that children's voices are being heard, in line with The Promise and UNCRC.</p> <p>The human aspect is naturally lost due to MOMO being a digital system.</p> <p>The nonrenewal of an unpopular system will pave the way for a new system to be put in place, where promotion of participation and good practice can be delivered to staff and CYP.</p> <p>Issues with digital poverty despite wide scale effort to distribute devices. Barriers for low-income families to access digital systems. Many families had to rely on sharing devices. Young people's usage and access needed to be facilitated by an adult social worker/parent/carer.</p> <p>The MOMO services we procured (Express and ONE app) are directed at care-experienced children and young people. There were/are issues with IT within residential settings.</p> <p>Children and young people want relationships with a human rather than a digital system.</p> <p>Reliance on one system which evidently does not suit everybody.</p> <p>Clear split of usage, many did not engage in MOMO and therefore there wasn't a clear method to gather views and voice of young people.</p>	<p>Children and Young people</p> <p>Care experienced children and young people</p> <p>Children and Young people with protected characteristics (race, sexuality, gender etc.)</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Children and Young people with protected characteristics (race, sexuality, gender etc.)</p> <p>Care Experienced Children and Young people</p> <p>Children and Young people</p> <p>Children and Young people and parents</p> <p>Children and Young people</p>
<b>Negative</b>	

<b>Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
<p>Young people who are supported by Children’s Social Work Services will lose access/ability to create MOMO accounts. There is a risk of young people losing a tool whereby they can exercise their voice in the decision making about their care and communicate their feelings and views to a trusted adult.</p> <p>MOMO has good inclusion features. An easy method of communication and self-expression can be empowering for those with learning disabilities. The ability to request help or divulge issues indirectly could be an easier method of communication (or taking the first step to communicating) for those with mental health problems.</p> <p>MOMO is available fully translated in over 100 languages.</p> <p>MOMO has a specific statement option that children and young people could use to prompt discussions about their mental health, or any issues they are dealing with. Those questions haven’t tended to be asked in other formats. These statements provided a richer understanding of young people’s various coping strategies.</p> <p>15/20 workers were early adopters of MOMO who used the service regularly and found it to be valuable, so the proposal to allow MOMO contract to come to an end will be a loss for them.</p> <p>MOMO have good inclusion features (designed in conjuncture with CYP) and in theory should offer an easy way for CYP to communicate.</p>	<p>Children and Young people</p> <p>Care experienced children and young people</p> <p>Children and Young people with protected characteristics (race, sexuality, gender etc.)</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Families</p> <p>Children and Young people</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Children and Young people</p>

<b>Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
<p><b>Positive:</b></p> <p>An opportunity to review potential new and environmentally friendly options whilst considering what will replace MOMO.</p>	<p>CEC staff</p>
<p><b>Negative:</b></p> <p>MOMO meant (in theory) workers could be more prepared for proactive/targeted visits to young people where required. Losing MOMO would then mean an increased need for social workers to travel, thus using more emissions. However, it should be noted that many</p>	<p>Social work staff</p>



<b>Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
children and young people prefer the human relationship of meeting face to face- as shown through the lack in engagement with MOMO.	

<b>Economic</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
<b>Positive</b> Potential to implement methods of gathering CYP's voices through existing systems at no or very minimal extra costs to CEC.	<b>CEC Staff</b>
<b>Negative</b> The cost associated with resources required to identify and promote a different tool will have to be considered in line with wider budget considerations.	<b>CEC Staff</b>

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?**  
No.
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.**  
The contract with Mind of My Own will come to a natural end in September '23. It is recommended that senior management issue communication to social work staff in relation to their proposal to replace MOMO. Any child or young person who engages with CEC social services will already have a dedicated worker who will be able to communicate any changes to the child or young person in a manner most suited to the individual. CYP's voice, worries and opinions will still be listened to and documented in Swift through means more popular than MOMO (e.g. over text/call, in person conversation).
11. **Is the plan, programme, strategy or 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. See section 2.10 in the Guidance for further information.**  
No. There is unlikely to be significant environmental effects as a result of this proposal.
12. **Additional Information and Evidence Required**

As part of the transition we will seek feedback from service users as to how the need can be met via alternative services and organisations.

- 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:**

<b>Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)</b>	<b>Who will take them forward (name and job title)</b>	<b>Deadline for progressing</b>	<b>Review date</b>
Decision to be communicated and timeline for this. (staff, CYP, partners)?	Senior management		
Resources to be identified to take forward MOMO's replacement if required.	Working groups/service areas		

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

No, a replacement tool/system will be identified and implemented to mitigate the negative effects of the expiring MOMO contract.

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

The Council will work closely with the affected children and families to monitor how those impacted, in particular those with protected characteristics, are affected. The lead practitioner for these children and young people are informed, supported and the impact monitored.

- 16. Sign off by Head of Service**

**Name; Rose Howley**

**Date 14 February 2024**

- 17. Publication**

Completed and signed IIAs should be sent to:

[integratedimpactassessments@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:integratedimpactassessments@edinburgh.gov.uk) to be published on the Council website [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/impactassessments](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/impactassessments)

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