

# Integrated Impact Assessment – Final Summary Report

---

Each of the numbered sections below must be completed  
Please state if the IIA is interim or final

## 1. Title of proposal

Re-tender for the Residential, Special Schools Framework.

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

The overall strategy will change to align more with “The Promise”. CEC are looking to put in place the right resources to support all Children and Young People (CYP) who have been identified as requiring care away from their own home, and to ensure such resources can provide “Close to Home” provisions, to ensure our CYP can retain their local connections and remain close to those relationships and environments with which they are familiar.

The framework specification and evaluations will align around the 5 foundations of Voice, Family, Care, People and Scaffolding and we will place a maximum of 50-mile boundary in and around the city and we will take forward those providers who can evidence local communities’ connections and have a base of operations within the set boundary.

There may be a reduced number of providers being awarded a place on the Framework who have much closer ties to local communities in and around Edinburgh.

The existing placements out with the new 50-mile boundary will not be impacted

The new strategy underpinning the framework will reduce and effectively cease CYP being placed in care placements far away from home (Outside of Edinburgh). Under the new specification, providers will be required to evidence that they have local connections in the way of provisions and have a presence within the City of Edinburgh.

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

On 31 January 2024 a Market Engagement event was held to discuss the potential new Framework. At this event the likelihood of an extension was explained, including what an extension may look like. There were 38 attendees from various providers from all over Scotland. There were a number of questions asked and answered on the day and more following the event. Since then, there have been various communications issued regarding the timeline of the extension and information published on Public Scotland Contract – Tender.

To achieve our [Edinburgh’s My Home Strategy](#) we are working on Children’s Services Redesign proposals. To inform the redesign, while working with, and including the perspectives of colleagues and service practitioners, we are speaking directly with children, young people, families and carers who are currently involved

with services or have had experience engaging with Children’s Services. In collaboration with service teams and partners, we are finding ways for service users to participate.

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

Yes

**5. Date of IIA**

The officers undertaking this Interim IIA met Friday 19 April, Tuesday 23 April 2024 and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

**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
Kenny Toshack	Senior Strategic Planning & Commissioning Officer	August 2021
Liz Harrison (Facilitator)	Contract Advisor	14 December 2022
Martin Gemmell	Principal Educational Psychologist	
Steve Harte	Head of Service – Corporate Parenting	

**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="#">Supporting documents - Children’s Social Work Statistics 2022-23 – Looked After Children - gov.scot</a></p> <p><a href="#">Independent Care Review – The root and branch review of Scotland's care system.</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.scot/policies/human-rights/childrens-rights/">https://www.gov.scot/policies/human-rights/childrens-rights/</a></p>	<p>On July 2023, 312 of looked after children in Scotland were in independent residential accommodation. 99 of these were in Edinburgh.</p> <p>Supporting children and young people to stay connected to their local areas within their own local networks will prevent children and young people feeling/being</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>
		<p>disconnected from all that is familiar to them.</p> <p>Giving young people better life opportunities and reassurance that they are part of a community.</p> <p>Building community and family capacity and extending the reach for children and young people within their own communities and fostering more of a sense of community</p>
Data on service uptake/access	Balance of Care data – Year on Year analysis	<p>Throughout the framework term the number of young people in Independent residential care peaked in 22/23 this was in part due to the Covid pandemic.</p> <p>Throughout the framework term the number of new placements into Independent residential care saw a significant increase from 21/22 to 22/23 this was in part due to the Covid pandemic.</p> <p>In June 2023 30% of new placements were made in an emergency, only 6% of these lasted more than 12 weeks.</p> <p>Plan to have fewer emergency admissions</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>into care, less admissions into secure care,</p> <p>Supporting children and young people with complex and really challenging behaviours to eventually return to live within their own communities.</p> <p>Better matching process to reduce breakdowns of placements and monitoring these closer.</p> <p>Brothers and sisters staying connected together.</p> <p>The providers are able to offer specialist support for children.</p>
<p>Data on socio-economic disadvantage e.g. low income, low wealth, material deprivation, area deprivation.</p>	<p><a href="#">How are young people's life chances patterned by disadvantage and protected characteristics? - The life chances of young people in Scotland: evidence review - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation</a></p> <p><a href="https://edinburghpovertycommission.org.uk/">https://edinburghpovertycommission.org.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="#">Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2022-26 - gov.scot</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/homelessness-in-scotland-2022-23/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/homelessness-in-scotland-2022-23/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781804350638">https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781804350638</a></p>	<p>People in Scotland still experience significant socio-economic disadvantage and resulting inequalities of outcome. In 2016-19, over a million Scots were living in relative poverty after housing costs, including almost one in four children; and health inequalities and educational attainment gaps are far too wide.</p> <p>An increase in poverty means that family resilience is reduced, contributing children and</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
		young people needing care and protection,
Data on equality outcomes	<a href="#">equalities-and-diversity-framework-2021-25 (edinburgh.gov.uk)</a> <a href="#">Education Scotland   Education Scotland</a> <a href="#">Inclusion, Wellbeing and Equalities Professional Learning Framework   Leading professional learning   Professional Learning   Education Scotland</a> <a href="#">Improving Gender Balance and Equalities in Community Learning and Development   Resources   Education Scotland</a> <a href="#">Community Learning and development data guide 2023</a>	We know most of the poverty in the city and those children coming into care or needing support, come from SiMD areas 1 and 2, we know that for most young people from these areas, this links to poor attainment and attendance at school
Research/ literature evidence	<a href="#">Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014</a> <a href="#">Children (Scotland) Act 1995</a> <a href="#">Protection of Children (Scotland) Act 2003</a> <a href="#">Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007</a> <a href="#">The Looked After Children (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2009</a> <a href="#">Carers (Scotland) Act 2016</a> <a href="#">The Promise</a> <a href="#">Education (Scotland) Act 2016</a> <a href="#">Standards in Scotland’s Schools etc. Act 2000</a> <a href="#">School Education (Ministerial Powers and Independent Schools) (Scotland) Act 2004</a>	<p>Research literature and national guidance emphasises the importance of getting it right for every child whether they live at home or in an alternative placement. Our priorities include helping children to live in safe and supportive families, improving achievement, and closing any gaps in attainment.</p> <p>The primary strategic objective for looked after &amp; accommodated children (LAAC) continues to be to deliver early intervention approaches so that fewer children and young people (C&amp;YP) need to be accommodated and</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>
	<p><a href="#">Independent Care Review – The root and branch review of Scotland's care system.</a></p> <p><a href="#">Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2009</a></p> <p><a href="#">Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition) (Scotland) Act 2007</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rights Respecting Approach to Justice for Children and Young People: Scotland's Vision and Priorities</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/trauma-informed-practice-toolkit-scotland/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/trauma-informed-practice-toolkit-scotland/</a></p>	<p>looked after away from home in the longer term.</p> <p>The Promise tells us that care away from the family further exposes children's vulnerabilities</p> <p>Putting children into care isn't the answer and we know that from research and enquiries.</p> <p>Putting children into care away from families creates lifelong impacts and trauma which complicates their life journey.</p> <p>For those children who are unable to remain at home, the Council is committed to the provision of the highest quality care which meets the needs of the individual children.</p> <p>The Independent Care Review, resulting in the Promise took account of 5500 children's voices affected by care. We are listening to what they are telling us about what their experiences are.</p> <p>UNCRC and Children's rights to live in their own families.</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>
Public/patient/client experience information	No	Feedback is received and will continue to be sought from the Providers on a regular basis through Contract Monitoring meetings. The feedback from the carers/teachers is discussed via the Provider, and from the child through the social workers' feedback.
Evidence of inclusive engagement of people who use the service and involvement findings	Yes <a href="#">Corporate Parenting in Edinburgh</a> <a href="#">Home - Who Cares? Scotland</a>	<p>There are regular engagement and consultation opportunities with care experienced young people through the work of the Participation Officers and the Champion Board.</p> <p>Children and Young People are given the option to complete feedback forms prior to every Looked After and Accommodated Children's (LAAC) Review. Their views are then discussed at the meetings.</p> <p>Quarterly reporting to the Chief Social Work Officer from Who Cares Advocacy Service on the experience of young people in internal and external residential care</p> <p>Fortnightly care planning meetings for children to offer and express their views.</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 unmet need	Yes	<p>Provision is an issue, we know that 95% of people referred to social work, have lower-level needs which are not getting needs through GIRFEC processes.</p> <p>We have insufficient respite for Children Affected by Disability (CAD) and Insufficient residential for this group, we know we need to build on support and provision in Edinburgh</p> <p>Recognise not all children can be looked after at home but when that does happen, particularly for children affected by disability, we have to be flexible in what we can purchase and where able, create internal provisions.</p> <p>We need to move to being more flexible and creative with our internal look at provision and approach</p> <p>The over-12 and under-12 Panel both track all requests for residential services. Senior Management review residential placement with Team managers on a regular basis.</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
Good practice guidelines	Yes <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/10110037/0">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/10110037/0</a> <a href="https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/Admissions_Guidance_for_Residential_Services.pdf">https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/Admissions_Guidance_for_Residential_Services.pdf</a>	In seeking placements for Young People, Edinburgh Council follows the below Guidance: Guidance on the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 (March 2011 (Web only publication, published 10 March 2011 Getting it right for Every Child (for information and guidance refer to: <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright/background">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright/background</a> National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2010 (Published by the Scottish Government in 2010) This list is not exhaustive, and more extensive guidance is referred to in the Specification.
Carbon emissions generated /reduced data	Yes	All Service Providers on the Framework Agreement answered the questions on Community Benefits, Sustainability and Fair Works Practices satisfactorily
Risk from cumulative impacts	No	
Other (please specify)	N/A	

<b>Evidence</b>	<b>Available – detail source</b>	<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>
Additional evidence required	N/A	

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

<b>Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
<p><b>Positive</b>  Children and young people will feel they belong in Edinburgh and that they are being supported to live their best life and reach their ambition in a rights respected way as we build on strength and capacity so that children and their families will feel connected and get the right support at the right time.</p> <p>The Specification which guides the service provided was created by Edinburgh Council based on the input from the Providers we will be working with.</p> <p>There are regular engagement and consultation opportunities with care experienced young people through the work of the Participation Officers and the Champion Board.</p> <p>Children and young people will feel loved safe and respected in whatever matched placement is identified as meeting their needs. In these situations, CEC will look to build a bespoke package of care that is in the best interest of the child.</p>	<p>Children and Young People with additional support needs</p> <p>Children affected by disabilities, their families and carers</p> <p>Looked After Children and Young People in Residential Care / Continuing Care</p> <p>Children, Young People and families who are receiving a social work service.</p>
<p><b>Negative</b>  Some children have such complex needs that providers are not able to be matched, and therefore face a more challenging time being provided with the right support at the right time</p>	<p>As above</p>

<b>Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
<p><b>Positive</b>  Providing placements that are closer to their home and community for young people reduces travel to and from</p>	<p>As Above</p>

<b>Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
their communities, school placements and for practitioner visits and family visits.	
<b>Negative</b> None	

<b>Economic</b>	<b>Affected populations</b>
<b>Positive</b> Help young people into positive destinations  Improve literacy and numeracy	As above
<b>Negative</b> None	

**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 Agreement has some strict minimum standards in relation to provision of service such as adherence to a Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland rating of “Good” which minimises the elements that are assessed over and above minimum standards within quality award criteria.

All Service Providers on the Framework Agreement answered the questions on Community Benefits, Sustainability and Fair Works Practices satisfactorily

All Service Providers on the Framework Agreement are subject to quarterly data submission and six-monthly monitoring meeting. This will ensure any potential issue is captured and addressed timely.

**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.**

This plan does not need to be communicated directly to Children and Young People, as it concerns the systems around Procuring Services but not the service provided.

**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

**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. N/A

**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?**

No

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

Review meetings where the voice of children and young people will be sought  
 Six monthly contract monitoring meetings where organisations will be required to report on progress of the child / young person.  
 Social Work reports  
 Educational reports

**16. Sign off by Director of Service**

Name Kathy Henwood

Date 16/12/24

## 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)

**Edinburgh Integration Joint Board/Health and Social Care**

[sarah.bryson@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.bryson@edinburgh.gov.uk) to be published at [www.edinburghhsc.scot/the-ijb/integrated-impact-assessments/](http://www.edinburghhsc.scot/the-ijb/integrated-impact-assessments/)