

The 'Better Decision Making' tool has been designed to help you consider the impact of your proposal on the health and wellbeing of communities, the environment, and local economy. It draws upon the priorities set out in our Council Plan and will help us to provide inclusive and discrimination-free services by considering the equalities and human rights implications of the decisions we make. The purpose of this tool is to avoid decisions being made in isolation, and to encourage evidence-based decision making that carefully balances social, economic and environmental factors, helping us to become a more responsive and resilient organisation.

The Better Decision Making tool should be used when proposing new projects, services, policies or strategies, or significant amendments to them. The tool should be completed at the earliest opportunity, ideally when you are just beginning to develop a proposal. However, it can be completed at any stage of the decision-making process. If the tool is completed just prior to the Executive, it can still help to guide future courses of action as the proposal is implemented.

**The Better Decision Making tool must be attached as an annex to Executive reports. A brief summary of your findings should be reported in the One Planet Council / Equalities section of the report itself.**

Guidance to help you complete the assessment can be obtained by hovering over the relevant question.

Please complete all fields. If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

**Introduction**

<b>Service submitting the proposal:</b>	Children Services
<b>Name of person completing the assessment:</b>	William Shaw
<b>Job title:</b>	Children's Services Programme Manager
<b>Directorate:</b>	CEC
<b>Date Completed:</b>	27/06/2019
<b>Date Approved (form to be checked by head of service):</b>	

**Section 1: What is the proposal?**

1.1	<b>Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed?</b> Children in Care Residential Commissioning Plan
1.2	<b>What are the main aims of the proposal?</b> To develop the city's residential provision for children in care, creating nurturing environments informed by evidence based therapeutic practice, supported by step down foster care, which will better meet the current and future needs of children and young people in care aged between 9-18 years of age
1.3	<b>What are the key outcomes?</b> 1x 2 bed therapeutic time limited residential provision (9-11yrs) 2x 3 bed therapeutic medium term residential provision (12-16yrs) Adapt WT to a 6 bed Supported Accommodation (16 -18 yrs) Step down Fostering offer

Section 2: Evidence

**Section 2: Evidence**

2.1	<b>What data / evidence is available to support the proposal and understand its likely impact?</b> (e.g. hate crime figures, obesity levels, recycling statistics) Cost and quality of placements are a significant challenge in an area of increasing demand, increasing complexity and increasing budgetary pressure. Gap and need analysis suggests that existing provision has low utilisation and does not meet current or future need. Care Crisis Review 2018 evidences the national increase in complexity for children in care and Narey Report 2016 suggests smaller children's homes deliver increased stability and better outcomes
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	<b>What public / stakeholder consultation has been undertaken and what were the findings?</b>
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2.2	<p>Early discussions have taken place with children and young people through 'Show Me That I Matter' and 'I Still Matter'. Consultation and engagement will continue following agreement to implement the recommendations. Conversations are taking place with residents at the current residential provision through their social workers, to ensure they are aware of future potential plans and changes. Professionals and key partner agencies have been briefed and initial feedback collated in order to inform options proposed. Again consultation and engagement will continue following agreement to implement. Findings from all consultation support the recommended proposal</p>
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2.3	<p><b>Are there any other initiatives that may produce a combined impact with this proposal?</b> (e.g. will the same individuals / communities of</p> <p>Work is being undertaken to develop the support, training, remuneration and recruitment of Foster Carers. This will impact on the development of residential provision and a step down foster care offer.</p>
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**Section 3: Impact on One Planet principles**

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on residents or staff. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on the ten One Planet principles.

For 'impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu. If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

**Equity and Local Economy**

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.1 Impact positively on the business community in York?	Positive	The proposal involves the purchase of 3 new buildings, adaptation of an existing building and the procurement of 4 service providers. All these developments present opportunities and a likely impact on local business community
3.2 Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Positive	New service providers are likely to recruit residential staff from the local area / within the city
3.3 Help improve the lives of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups?	Positive	The proposal will make a significant impact on the lives of children in care. These will be some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people in the city.

**Health & Happiness**

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.4 Improve the physical health or emotional wellbeing of residents or staff?	positive	The proposal will have a significant impact on the physical, emotional and mental health of children in care in York by providing a safe and stable place to live.
3.5 Help reduce health inequalities?	Positive	The proposal will reduce health inequalities of children in care by ensuring they have effective, stable and therapeutic placements in York.
3.6 Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	positive	The scheme will provide enhanced communal facilities where tenants can chose to run a range of activities and socialise. Well designed independent living properties will allow older people to live independently in their own homes for longer rather than having to move into residential care to have their everyday needs met. Evidence shows that moving into accessible, level, easy to manage properties can reduce residents need for care and support and allow them to continue to make their own daily choices.
3.7 Reduce crime or fear of crime?	positive	The new children's home providers will work with children and young people along with other agencies to reduce crime.
3.8 Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Positive	The proposal will help children in care to have a good start in live by providing effective, stable and therapeutic placements in York. The development of residential care for 9-11years and a step down foster care foster care offer will make a specific impact in this area.

**Culture & Community**

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9 Help bring communities together?	Mixed	The proposal will impact on local communities. Work will be undertaken with specific areas identified for new children homes to ensure the new provisions are integrated into local communities. There may be some negative feedback from local communities that will need to be managed
3.10 Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?	Positive	The location of new children's homes will be carefully considered to ensure children in care have good access to local services eg schools, GPs

3.11	Improve the cultural offerings of York?	Neutral	This proposal will have limited impact on the cultural offerings for York
3.12	Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?	neutral	Work will be undertaken to integrate new children's homes into local community. The proposal will present limited opportunity for local residents to be more socially responsible.

#### Zero Carbon and Sustainable Water

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.13	Minimise the amount of energy we use and / or reduce the amount of energy we pay for? E.g. through the use of low or zero carbon sources of energy?	Neutral	New children homes will be located with good access to public transport. The purchase and adaptations of new buildings will consider energy efficiency
3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use and/or reduce the amount of water we pay for?	Neutral	The purchase and adaptations of new buildings will consider water efficiency

#### Zero Waste

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.15	Reduce waste and the amount of money we pay to dispose of waste by maximising reuse and/or recycling of materials?	Neutral	The adaptations and operation of new buildings will consider recycling of materials and waste.

#### Sustainable Transport

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.16	Encourage the use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and public transport?	Positive	New children's home will be located with good access to services, amenities and public transport, which will encourage and enable the use of sustainable transport ie walking, cycling and public transport
3.17	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?	Neutral	The proposal will have no impact on the air we breathe

#### Sustainable Materials

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.18	Minimise the environmental impact of the goods and services used?	neutral	There will limited impact in this area

#### Local and Sustainable Food

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.19	Maximise opportunities to support local and sustainable food initiatives?	neutral	The proposal will have limited impact in this area

#### Land Use and Wildlife

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.20	Maximise opportunities to conserve or enhance the natural environment?	Neutral	The proposal will have limited impact on natural environment
3.21	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Positive	This proposal will improve the quality of children's homes provided to children in care that need this provision.
3.22	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Neutral	The proposal will have no impact on this area
3.23	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Positive	New children homes will be located with good access to public space, which will enhance the ability of children in care to enjoy these spaces.

3.40	Additional space to comment on the impacts		
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**Section 4: Impact on Equalities and Human Rights**

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on staff or residents. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on **advancing equalities and human rights** and should build on the impacts you identified in the previous section.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.  
If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'

**Equalities**

Will the proposal **adversely impact** upon 'communities of identity'?  
Will it **help advance equality** or **foster good relations** between people in 'communities of identity'?

		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
4.1	Age	Positive	The proposal is targeted at providing high quality residential provision for children in care in York.
4.2	Disability	Neutral	This proposal is not targeted at children with disabilities
4.3	Gender	Neutral	The proposal is gender neutral
4.4	Gender Reassignment	Neutral	The proposal will not have a specific impact on any of these groups.
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	
4.6	Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	
4.7	Race	Neutral	
4.8	Religion or belief	Neutral	
4.9	Sexual orientation	Neutral	
4.10	Carer	Neutral	
4.11	Lowest income groups	Neutral	
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community	Neutral	

**Human Rights**

Consider how a human rights approach is evident in the proposal

		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
4.13	Right to education	Positive	The proposal will promote the rights of children in care particularly around safeguarding, to be heard and education
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment	Neutral	
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing	Neutral	
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	Neutral	
4.17	Freedom of expression	Positive	
4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination	Neutral	
4.19	Other Rights	Positive	

4.20	Additional space to comment on the impacts		



**Section 5: Planning for Improvement**

	<b>What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on the One Planet principles?</b> (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
5.1	One planet principles will be more actively considered during the purchasing and adaptations of new buildings and the procurement of new service providers. The proposal if agreed will have a significant impact on the health, educational, emotional and mental health outcomes for children in care in York.

	<b>What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on equalities and human rights?</b> (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
5.2	Consideration around equalities and human rights will be written into the service contracts for new services providers for residential care for children.

	<b>Going forward, what further evidence or consultation is needed to ensure the proposal delivers its intended benefits?</b> e.g. consultation with specific vulnerable groups, additional data)
5.3	If agreed, more detailed consultation will be undertaken with key stakeholders including children in care to ensure they influence the design and delivery of new service provision.

5.4	<b>Please record any outstanding actions needed to maximise benefits or minimise negative impacts in relation to this proposal?</b> (Expand / insert more rows if needed)
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Action	Person(s)	Due date
Ensure location of new children's homes have good access to public space, services, amenities and public transport	CYC project and property team	Prior to contract commencement
Ensure rights and equalities are considered and written into service contracts for new providers	CYC project and procurement team	Prior to contract commencement
Ensure recycling of waste is considered and written into lease documents with new service providers	CYC project and legal team	prior to completion of the scheme
Ensure new children's home are located in safe areas and any location specific safeguarding risks are managed carefully	CYC project team and police colleagues	Prior to signing contract and during delivery.

**In the One Planet / Equalities section of your Executive report, please briefly summarise the changes you have made (or intend to make) in order to improve the social, economic and environmental impact of your proposal.**