

## Executive Decision Making by an Officer with Delegated Powers

**Decision to be taken by:** Ann James, Executive Director of Children’s Services

**Pursuant to an Authorisation from:** Cabinet decision (Implementing a Modified Dynamic Purchasing System (MDPS) for Professional Services in Children’s Social Care on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021).

**Report title:** Procurement route change (from a Modified (Pseudo) Dynamic Purchase System (MDPS) to a Modified (Pseudo) Open Framework, **and** officer decision to procure services through a Modified Open Framework (value under £500K), the “Access to Resources Framework”.

<p><b>The decision</b></p>	<p>Following the conclusion of a competitive procurement process under the above-mentioned Access to Resources Framework for the 2023-24 Round 1 of applications, and having consulted with the Cabinet Member Cllr Stephen Davies (Cabinet Member for Children’s Safeguarding and Early Years) in accordance with the Cabinet decision 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021:</p> <p>DECISION:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To authorise the change the procurement route from a Modified (Pseudo) Dynamic Purchase System (MDPS) to a Modified (Pseudo) Open Framework</li> <li>2. To award a Framework Agreement to the following 2023-24 Round 1 preferred suppliers :</li> </ol> <p>Lot 1: Independent Specialist Assessments &amp; Testing -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carter Brown Expert Service</li> <li>• DGF Psychology Limited</li> <li>• The Lucy Faithfull Foundation</li> <li>• Alphabiolaboratories Analytical Limited</li> <li>• Cansford Laboratories</li> <li>• DNA Legal</li> <li>• Forensic Testing Service</li> <li>• Lextox</li> <li>• Orchid Cellmark Ltd</li> </ul> <p>Lot 2: Therapeutic Services -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carter Brown Expert Service</li> <li>• DGF Psychology Limited</li> <li>• The Lucy Faithfull Foundation</li> </ul>
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	<p>Lot 3: Support to Families -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aspire Foundation</li> <li>• DNA Youth Consultancy Ltd</li> <li>• Imagine Mentoring and Support Ltd</li> <li>• The Door Youth Project Ltd</li> </ul> <p>(A total of 13 providers across the framework)</p> <p>3. Subject to the previous item:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. To delegate authority to the Heads of Service (Commissioning) in the Children &amp; Families Commissioning Hub to sign each Framework Agreement as a delegated and suitable signatory on behalf of the Council, and</li> <li>ii. To delegate authority to the Heads of Service (Commissioning) in the Children &amp; Families Commissioning Hub to sign each call-off or direct award contract issued under the framework as a delegated and suitable signatory on behalf of the Council.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Background documents</b></p>	<p><a href="https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/cabinet-decision-implementing-a-modified-dynamic-purchasing-system-mdps-for-professional-services-in-childrens-social-care">Cabinet Decision - Implementing a Modified Dynamic Purchasing System (MDPS) for Professional Services in Children’s Social Care (gloucestershire.gov.uk)</a></p>
<p><b>Reasons for the decision</b></p>	<p><b>Procurement route change –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When using an MDPS, the Crown Commercial Service has mandatory reporting requirements on all contracts awarded which will add to the administrative burden on the commissioning team.</li> <li>• Applications to join an MDPS can be submitted at any time during the term, incurring unplanned demands on internal support services which carries an increased delivery risk as there could be delays in service areas caused by a potential bottleneck of requests when assessing providers’ eligibility which may therefore result in evaluation of applications not being completed in the time required when using an MDPS.</li> <li>• Rob Ayliffe, Director of Policy, Performance &amp; Governance, confirmed in March 2023 that the rationale for the proposed change in strategy were sound and that this would need to be approved through a delegation to an officer of the Council and recorded in their Officer Implementation Decision - this paper.</li> </ul> <p><b>To award a contract for the supply of professional services under the framework –</b> after the successful completion of the first application window, the above listed suppliers have met the council’s pre-qualification requirements and selection criteria to be confirmed as “Framework Supplier”.</p>
<p><b>Resource implications</b></p>	<p>The decision is within budget and the resources are available (as approved in the Cabinet decision dated 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021).</p>

<p><b>Who has been consulted?</b></p>	<p>Consultation has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Cabinet Member</li> <li>▪ Officers</li> <li>▪ Internal support services, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Legal Services</li> <li>○ Strategic Procurement</li> <li>○ Information Management Service</li> <li>○ ICT</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>What were their comments?</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Stephen Davies</b> – Cllr Davies has no comment on this paper, but has approved it.</p> <p><b>Strategic Procurement</b> - This has been a reasonably successful 1st version of the framework. We have learned a few areas which could be improved and simplified to make life easier for potential providers to pass the thresholds and be a part of the framework. The most notable of these are, support for bidders registering on ProContract, support for the Jadu document storage facility, simplifying the SQ process and improving strategies for evaluation of submissions.</p> <p>Most of these improvements can be undertaken with improved guidance and help documents and greater clarity on roles and responsibilities throughout the bidding schedule.</p> <p><b>Legal Services</b> - The terms and conditions and specification for the contract have been worked up to meet the current scenario with many internal stakeholders. There is no compliance issue with the Public Contract Regulations.</p> <p><b>IMS</b> - The procurement route change was factored into the Information Governance requirements of this project and the necessary work relating to data protection compliance has been undertaken. The decision is supported by IMS as it would allow for sufficient planning of demand for internal reviews to take place prior to providers being approved onto the framework.</p> <p><b>ICT</b> – For this procurement we have varied our approach to reviewing the security standards of providers. This is to reduce the burden on both the providers and the reviewers, whilst still aiming to ensure compliance with policy. This decision is supported by ICT, as whilst a full review for the volume of the providers on this framework cannot be resourced, the baseline security assessment used enables the risk rating of providers to be determined and accepted.</p>	
<p><b>Background/Context</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) must meet a range of statutory obligations to ensure that safeguarding and care planning decisions about children are made using high quality evidence suitable for the courts and it must ensure that high quality services (such as play therapy, mentoring, family support) are provided for those children, young people, and families in the most need of this support.</li> <li>2 A range of expert assessments are sometimes required to support this process. These assessments are usually commissioned by GCC from independent social workers and other expert witnesses (psychologists, psychiatrists, specialist medical professionals etc.)</li> <li>3 Higher quality reports from independent witnesses will be used not only by the court in care proceedings, but can also be used by social workers to develop individualised care</li> </ol>	

plans, and assist GCC to better understand and meet the needs of children and young people coming into care and assess their ongoing and developing needs, which can also be the provision of services such as play therapy, mentoring, family support etc.

- 4 The current spend on spot purchasing these external assessments and other services have reached a level that is unsustainable and could be in breach of the Council's Standing Orders. The quality and value for money of these external services also needs to be improved. In response to this, Cabinet authorised the procurement of a Modified Dynamic Purchasing System (MDPS) for the provision of professional services in Children's Social Care in November 2021.
- 5 This decision seeks approval to:
  - 5.1 Authorise the change in procurement route (to a Modified Open Framework) for the provision of these professional services, which will allow greater flexibility for demand planning with support services, and lessen the administrative burden on the commissioning team,
  - 5.2 Award a Framework Agreement to those providers who have met the council's pre-qualification requirements and selection criteria during the 2023-24 Round 1 (and become "Framework Suppliers"), and
  - 5.3 Procure and award Call-Off contracts to those successful Framework Suppliers who are selected to provide the professional services under the framework during the mini competitive processes.

#### **Alternative options considered and why they were rejected**

1. Do nothing  
This is not an option as under Section 11 of the Children Act (2004) or Sections 17, 31, 20 and 47 of the Children's Act 1989, GCC must safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
2. Continue with the current procurement route (no change)  
This option was rejected on the basis of the increased delivery risk caused by potential bottleneck of requests when assessing providers' eligibility which may therefore result in evaluation of applications not being completed in the time required when using an MDPS.
3. Continue to spot purchase
  - This could negatively affect the quality of professional services supplied, as the council could potentially be purchasing from providers who are not fully compliant with the required standards needed to undertake the work (i.e., safeguarding checks, skills and experience, appropriate registration with regulatory bodies etc.) It could also negatively impact on care planning timeframes and even the Courts timeframes.
  - Spot purchasing does not ensure the best value for money and due to the level of spend is unsuitable for these services.
  - Such purchases would be in breach the council's Contract Standing Orders, and potentially public procurement law.
  - Spending levels could continue to rise if no intervention or formal commissioning arrangements are established.

- The quality of services will vary, and the council will be unable to manage poor performance.

4. Bulk purchase professional services (block contracts)

- Financial consequences may arise from under-used capacity if the anticipated demand for the block contracted service is not realised (demand is not guaranteed).
- There is a risk that the chosen providers will not be able to meet the need and/or demand to cover assessment services across Gloucestershire and support needs for children.
- Assessments and support are bespoke to an individual’s circumstance and need, and so a block contract may not provide the flexibility required to achieve the best outcomes for them.


**Risk Analysis**

1. Both procurement options allow for ‘onboarding’ providers who can offer the services above whilst meeting eligibility criteria. They both use a call-off procedure which selects providers either through a mini-competition or direct award and they both require the same level of due diligence checks; corporate, finance and IMS. Whichever procurement route is chosen, due diligence checks (including ICT/Information Management (IMS) and Finance) will still be undertaken.
2. As this is the first round of applications to join the Access to Resources framework, it’s important to ensure we have a range of suppliers who have met the council’s pre-qualification requirements and selection criteria, so that spot purchases will only be used in limited circumstances (e.g., if the court mandates, or where there are no Framework Suppliers that supply the particular services that are required).
3. Adding suppliers who have passed the council’s pre-qualification requirements and selection criteria means that there is a larger market pool to engage with the mini competitions when request for services have been approved ensuring, where possible, the best value and quality services are provided. But this does not guarantee any work.

**Equalities considerations**

1. An Equalities Impact Assessment was completed was completed in October 2021 to support the original decision to procure professional services through a Modified (Pseudo) Dynamic Purchasing System. It is not anticipated that the decision to alter the procurement route will impact adversely on any individual with a protected characteristic.
2. Whilst initially completed in Oct 2021, the assessment has since been reviewed and updated to reflect the updated procurement route (see below).
3. Whilst the updated assessment does not include the new care-leavers protected characteristic, the initial assessment does apply to this cohort of people. Where potential impacts are identified, through regular monitoring, these can be maximised or minimised to ensure there are no negative impacts.

**Has an Equality Impact Assessment been completed?** Yes (originally in Oct 2021, and recently updated in July 2023) – please find attached at the end of this document.

<p><b>Has any conflict of interest been declared by any Cabinet Member consulted on the decision?</b></p> <p><i>The council's Monitoring Officer should be consulted, in the first instance, if any conflict of interest is declared by a Cabinet Member.</i></p> <p><b>If any conflict of interest declared, was a dispensation granted by the Audit and Governance Committee of the Council?</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Does this decision report form or any supporting papers provided contain confidential or exempt information?</b></p> <p><i>(Refer to Democratic Services Unit for advice if necessary)</i></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Does this decision need to be published on the GCC website?</b></p> <p><i>(Refer to guidance on "Executive Decisions taken by Officers").</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>In coming to this decision, I have given due and full regard to the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ("the Act") by reference to the law itself and also the relevant Equality Impact Assessment, which was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act.</p> <p>Having fully considered all available information, I have decided to reject any alternative options and take the recommended decision(s), for the reasons set out in this report.</p> <p><b>Signed:</b></p>  <p><b>Name:</b> Ann James  <b>Title:</b> Executive Director of Children's Services</p>	
<p><b>Date:</b> 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023</p>	
<p>Contact details for further information:</p> <p><b>Officer:</b> Nicky Maunder (Senior Commissioning Manager – Children's Commissioning)  <b>Tel:</b> 01452 427 644  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:nicky.maunder@gloucestershire.gov.uk">nicky.maunder@gloucestershire.gov.uk</a></p>	

## Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

This document demonstrates how the council is meeting its duties under the Equality Act 2010, by giving due regard to the requirement to: eliminate discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and promote good relations.

### 1. Background

Directorate	Childrens Services
Service area	Children and Families Integrated Commissioning Hub
Title of the activity being assessed i.e. the strategy, plan, policy or service	Implementing a Modified Open Framework for Professional Services in Childrens Social Care (previously a Modified Dynamic Purchasing System)
Brief outline of the proposal(s)	The original proposal was the development of a Modified Dynamic Purchasing System (MDPS), as approved by Cabinet in Nov 2021, however upon further guidance from strategic procurement the procurement route was changed to a Modified Open Framework for Professional Services in Childrens Social Care to include; Independent specialist assessments, therapeutic and mentoring support and family support services.
Who is affected by the proposals?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children, young people and their families</li> <li>- The wider children's services workforce</li> <li>- Providers/experts that GCC currently commissions independent assessments, therapies and support from</li> <li>- The Courts, who request assessments as part of proceedings</li> </ul>
Decision to be taken and decision maker	Cabinet to agree to the development of a framework  Cllr Stephen Davies, Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding and Early Years
Person(s) responsible for completing this assessment	Daniel Gillingham, with further updates by Nicky Maunder, Senior Commissioning Manager (Children and Families Commissioning Hub)
Date of this assessment	21/09/2021 (updated 19/10/2021 and 21/07/2023)

### 2. Information Gathering

Briefly outline your approach to consultation and engagement, together with details of any other information and data sources you have utilised:

Research, Consultation and Engagement

Service users	<p>There has been no engagement with children, young people and families because it was not deemed appropriate to engage with children, young people and families</p> <p>There has been engagement with practitioners applying for the services including colleagues from social care, legal and finance to gather feedback on our proposals for the design of the framework and the new processes.</p>
Workforce	<p>A Project Group with officers from Children’s Social Care, Children’s Commissioning, Procurement, Legal, and Corporate Finance, has been established. The group is responsible for helping to steer and advise the project team, for example and specifically providing service level input on expectations of expert assessments to inform the contents of the service specification, such as the quality of expert assessments, timescales for assessments, and reports for court.</p>
Partners	<p>There has been no engagement or consultation with partners</p>
Other	<p>Through the Access to Resources Panel, information has been gathered as to what assessments have been requested to allow us to understand the needs and lots for the framework.</p>

### 3. Equality Assessment

Briefly explain your assessment of the impact of the proposed activity on the protected characteristics below. This section evidences how the council is giving due regard to the three aims of the general equality duty, which are to: eliminate discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and promote good relations.

Protected Characteristic	Service Users	Workforce
Age	<p>Through the use of a framework, children should be less likely to be exposed to continued risk, or experience the distress and anxiety associated with drift and delay during pre-proceedings and care proceedings as a result of poor quality assessments and interventions, or the lack of availability of professionals to undertake assessments and interventions. The proposed framework should help ensure that appropriate support can be put in place more quickly, leading to better outcomes for children – including improving the likelihood of them achieving permanence and reducing the likelihood of long-term developmental problems.</p>	<p>No identified significant impact</p>



Protected Characteristic	Service Users	Workforce
	<p>Professionals will be required (which will outlined in the service specification) to communicate with children in an appropriate manner to ensure they understand the processes and content of assessments and interventions. Where necessary, there will be a requirement for the provider to have specialist knowledge and skills to ensure assessments and interventions are inclusive and meets the individual's needs.</p> <p>There will be a strong focus on the safeguarding and wellbeing of children through assessment and intervention as a result of robust monitoring arrangements. Providers will also be required to undertake an annual s11 Safeguarding Self-Assessment to ensure that they have systems and knowledge in place to respond appropriately to any disclosure relating actual or potential harm to a child.</p> <p>Children may not have the capacity to fully understand the assessment, report findings and any proposed interventions ; however this should be mitigated by the requirement (as outlined in the service specification) for professionals to communicate with children in an appropriate manner.</p> <p>Children and young people, and their families, will have access to targeted activities, support and services that will help them to progress and achieve the best outcomes.</p>	
Disability	<p>Children with disabilities, and children whose parents/carers have disabilities will be positively impacted as the framework should ensure they will be less likely to experience drift or delay as a result of poor quality assessments, or the lack of availability of professionals to undertake assessments. This should help ensure that appropriate support can be put in place more quickly.</p> <p>Ensuring timely assessments/interventions are completed should help to reduce anxiety and uncertainty (which those with disabilities may be more acutely impacted by).</p>	No identified significant impact

Protected Characteristic	Service Users	Workforce
	<p>Professionals will be required (as outlined in the service specification) to communicate to those with disabilities in an appropriate manner to ensure they understand the processes and content of assessments and interventions. Where necessary, there will be a requirement for the provider to have specialist knowledge and skills to ensure assessments and support is inclusive and meets the individual's needs.</p> <p>There will be a strong focus on the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and adults with disabilities through the assessment process as a result of robust monitoring arrangements. Providers will also be required to undertake an annual s11 Safeguarding Self-Assessment to ensure that they have systems and knowledge in place to respond appropriately to any disclosure relating actual or potential harm to a child.</p> <p>If a child/adult does not have enough capacity to fully understand the assessment, report findings and intervention, this should be mitigated by the requirement (as per the service specification) for professionals to communicate in an appropriate manner.</p> <p>Timescales to complete assessments may put parents and children with disabilities (including mental health issues) at a disadvantage, as research has shown that they may need longer to come to terms with proceedings. Only providers who have experience of supporting those with disabilities will apply to deliver the services required, and the framework will enable the council to build a bank of providers with the skills, expertise and knowledge of how to support those with disabilities in a more timely manner.</p>	
Sex	<p>Framework providers will be required to demonstrate competence in self-identified sex and gender differences, including when there are notable differences within a family system on this point.</p>	<p>No identified significant impact</p>

Protected Characteristic	Service Users	Workforce
	<p>In circumstances of gender reassignment (potential, transitional and completed) providers will be expected to demonstrate competence in this in relation to assessment and/or intervention.</p> <p>There will be a strong focus on the safeguarding of vulnerable adults (e.g. victims of domestic violence, sexual or emotional abuse, who are more likely to be women) through the assessment process as a result of robust monitoring arrangements. There will be a strong focus on the safeguarding of vulnerable adults when support services are provided, ensuring that any particular requirements they may have e.g., support to be provided by female-only professionals, can be accommodated.</p>	
Race	<p>Professionals will be required (which will be outlined in the service specification) to communicate with families in an appropriate manner to ensure they understand the processes and content of assessments, and the other types of support provided. This includes working with an interpreter where required. Where necessary, there will be a requirement for the provider to have specialist knowledge and skills to ensure assessments and support is inclusive and meets the individual's needs.</p>	No identified significant impact
Gender reassignment	See above comment in the category of Sex.	No identified significant impact
Marriage & civil partnership	<p>Diverse family constitutions will be presented to prospective providers who need to demonstrate inclusive practice to effect suitable assessments and/or interventions. This will be included in the service specification.</p>	No identified significant impact
Pregnancy & maternity	<p>Assessments for unborn babies are especially time critical in order to give expectant mothers' (and their families) as much time as possible to receive the appropriate support. The proposals will reduce delays to assessments, which will improve outcomes for expectant and new mothers by giving them the best chance to care for their baby.</p>	No identified significant impact

Protected Characteristic	Service Users	Workforce
	There will be a strong focus on the safeguarding of pregnant women, who are likely to be especially vulnerable, through the assessment process as a result of robust monitoring arrangements. Providers will also be required to undertake an annual s11 Safeguarding Self-Assessment to ensure that they have systems and knowledge in place to respond appropriately to any disclosure relating actual or potential harm to a child.	
Religion and/or belief	Diverse religious and/or belief systems will be a regular feature of the people presenting to prospective providers who need to demonstrate inclusive practice to effect suitable assessments and/or interventions. This will be included in the service specification.	No identified significant impact
Sexual orientation	See above comment in the category of Sex.	No identified significant impact
Care Leaver	Care leavers are likely to receive ongoing support through the Access to Resources framework, including where specialist assessments, interventions and services are being sought. Their status as care leavers is therefore privileged within this commission.	No identified significant impact

#### 4. Completed Actions

Set out how the proposed activity has already been amended following the equality assessment, to maximise the positive impact or minimise the negative impact:

Change	Reason for Change
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A

#### 5. Planned Actions

Set out improvements that will be undertaken, following the equality assessment, to further maximise the positive impact or minimise the negative impact:

Potential impact (positive or negative)	Action	By when	Owner
<b>Potential positive impacts</b>			

Potential impact (positive or negative)	Action	By when	Owner
Children should be less likely to be exposed to continued risk, or experience the distress and anxiety associated with drift and delay during pre proceedings and care proceedings.	Monitor whether providers are adhering to the required timescales and quality expectations.	Ongoing	Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub
Anxiety and uncertainty associated with pre-proceedings and proceedings should be reduced	Monitor whether providers are adhering to the required timescales and quality expectations.	Ongoing	Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub
Delays to assessments should be reduced, which will improve outcomes for expectant and new mothers by giving them the best chance to care for their baby.	Monitor whether providers are adhering to the required timescales and quality expectations.	Ongoing	Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub
The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults will be more robustly monitored.	Monitoring arrangements will focus on the providers' safeguarding policies and procedures	Ongoing	Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub
Provider's undertake reviews of their own safeguarding policies and procedures.	Monitoring arrangements will focus on providers' conducting safeguarding self-assessments and audits of these will be completed annually (s11 safeguarding self-assessment audits)	Annually	Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub
<b>Potential negative impacts</b>			

Potential impact (positive or negative)	Action	By when	Owner
<p>Children, young people and adults with disabilities, and/or those who do not have English as their first language, may not have the capacity to fully understand the assessment process, findings and implications.</p>	<p>Providers are required to ensure they communicate with children and families appropriately, and in a way that ensures understanding of the processes and content of tests and how they document their findings.</p> <p>Providers are required to refer families to (ideally local) support, where necessary.</p> <p>Social workers will be aware of the individual family's circumstances, and may need to provide additional support, including the use of translation services where necessary.</p> <p>Children and families who have special requirements with regards to the services supplied to them, e.g., providers who can speak Arabic, will be requested through the framework wherever possible.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub</p>
<p>Timescales to complete assessments may put parents and children (and their carers) with disabilities (including mental health issues) at a disadvantage.</p>	<p>This will need to be taken into consideration and negotiated with the Courts where possible.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub</p>
<p>Providers not meeting the quality standards required and having the necessary</p>	<p>The pre-qualification and selection criteria at the framework application stage will confirm which providers have the required credentials to undertake the work.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Contract Manager, Children and Families Commissioning Hub</p>


Potential impact (positive or negative)	Action	By when	Owner
credentials to undertake the work.	Monitoring arrangements will focus on the providers' ongoing suitability to undertake work and through monitoring, quality standards will be a focussed activity.		

## 6. Monitoring and review


The following processes/actions will be put in place to keep this 'activity' under review:
Performance Monitoring / Contract Management activities will take place with providers on a 6 monthly basis (minimum). This will ensure that providers are safeguarding children and families appropriately, communicating with families in a manner that is appropriate, and conducting their assessments within specified timescales.

## 7. Officer / Decision-maker Sign off

**Officer:** By signing this statement off as complete you are confirming that 'you' have examined sufficient information across all the protected characteristics and used that information to show due regard to the three aims of the general duty. This has informed the development of the activity

Signature of Senior Officer	
Name of Senior Officer	Rob England, Acting Assistant Director for Integrated Children and Families Commissioning
Date	27.07.2023

**Decision maker:** I am in agreement that sufficient information and analysis has been used to inform the development of this 'activity' and that any proposed improvement actions are appropriate and I confirm that I, as the decision maker, have been able to show due regard to the needs set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

Signature of decision maker	
Name of decision maker	Cllr Stephen Davies
Date	28.07.23

### 8. Publication

If this document accompanies a Cabinet report or an Individual Cabinet Member (ICM) decision report it will be published, as part of the report publication process, on the GCC website. If this statement is not to be submitted with a Cabinet report or an Individual Cabinet Member (ICM) decision report, please maintain a copy for your own records that can be retrieved for internal review and also in case of future challenge.



## Appendix 1 – Service User Data

Details of service users affected by the proposed activity

Protected Characteristic	Service User Data and Information												
<p>Age percentage/profile of service user ages</p>	<p><i>NB: For the purpose of this EIA, we are only focussing on those that are currently open to children’s social care, and through intervention, could be in need of a specialist assessments under the framework proposal and will be in receipt of the support packages and therapy. These statistics only include the children and young people that are open to children’s social and not the parents of whom, the majority of our assessment element are for.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="459 655 987 699">Age</th> <th data-bbox="987 655 2036 699">Count of Age of Child Years</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 699 987 742">Age 0-4</td> <td data-bbox="987 699 2036 742">25.95%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 742 987 785">Age 5-9</td> <td data-bbox="987 742 2036 785">24.31%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 785 987 828">Age 10-14</td> <td data-bbox="987 785 2036 828">30.41%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 828 987 871">Age 15-19</td> <td data-bbox="987 828 2036 871">19.31%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 871 987 928"><b>Grand Total</b></td> <td data-bbox="987 871 2036 928"><b>3541</b> <i>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age	Count of Age of Child Years	Age 0-4	25.95%	Age 5-9	24.31%	Age 10-14	30.41%	Age 15-19	19.31%	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3541</b> <i>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</i>
Age	Count of Age of Child Years												
Age 0-4	25.95%												
Age 5-9	24.31%												
Age 10-14	30.41%												
Age 15-19	19.31%												
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3541</b> <i>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</i>												
<p>Disability percentage/profile of service users who have a disability</p>	<p><i>NB: For the purpose of this EIA, we are only focussing on those that are currently open to children’s social care, and through intervention, could be in need of a specialist assessments under the framework proposal and will be in receipt of the support packages and therapy. These statistics only include the children and young people that are open to children’s social and not the parents of whom, the majority of our assessment element are for.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="459 1118 987 1161">Disability</th> <th data-bbox="987 1118 2036 1161">Count of Does the Child have a Disability</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 1161 987 1204">Yes</td> <td data-bbox="987 1161 2036 1204">7.20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 1204 987 1248">No</td> <td data-bbox="987 1204 2036 1248">92.79%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 1248 987 1305"><b>Grand Total</b></td> <td data-bbox="987 1248 2036 1305"><b>3541</b> <i>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Disability	Count of Does the Child have a Disability	Yes	7.20%	No	92.79%	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3541</b> <i>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</i>				
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<p>Sex percentage/profile of service users who are male and who are female</p>	<p><i>NB: For the purpose of this EIA, we are only focussing on those that are currently open to children’s social care, and through intervention, could be in need of a specialist assessments under the framework proposal and will be in receipt of the support packages and therapy. These statistics only include the children and young people that are open to children’s social and not the parents of whom, the majority of our assessment element are for.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="472 376 1115 416">Gender</th> <th data-bbox="1115 376 2029 416">Count of Gender</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 416 1115 456">Male</td> <td data-bbox="1115 416 2029 456">51.56%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 456 1115 496">Female</td> <td data-bbox="1115 456 2029 496">45.97%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 496 1115 536">Not stated/recorded (or unborn) and Neither</td> <td data-bbox="1115 496 2029 536">2.53%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 536 1115 603"><b>Grand Total</b></td> <td data-bbox="1115 536 2029 603"><b>3541</b> <small>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</small></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Gender	Count of Gender	Male	51.56%	Female	45.97%	Not stated/recorded (or unborn) and Neither	2.53%	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3541</b> <small>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</small>						
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<p>Race percentage/profile of service users who are from black and minority ethnic backgrounds</p>	<p><i>NB: For the purpose of this EIA, we are only focussing on those that are currently open to children’s social care, and through intervention, could be in need of a specialist assessments under the framework proposal and will be in receipt of the support packages and therapy. These statistics only include the children and young people that are open to children’s social and not the parents of whom, the majority of our assessment element are for.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="472 791 1115 831">Ethnicity</th> <th data-bbox="1115 791 2029 831">Count of Ethnicity</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 831 1115 871">White</td> <td data-bbox="1115 831 2029 871">72.81%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 871 1115 911">Mixed or multiple ethnic groups</td> <td data-bbox="1115 871 2029 911">8.76%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 911 1115 951">Black, Black British, Caribbean or African</td> <td data-bbox="1115 911 2029 951">2.02%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 951 1115 991">Asian or Asian British</td> <td data-bbox="1115 951 2029 991">1.17%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 991 1115 1031">Other ethnic group</td> <td data-bbox="1115 991 2029 1031">0.90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1031 1115 1070">Information not yet obtained</td> <td data-bbox="1115 1031 2029 1070">5.08%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1070 1115 1137"><b>Grand Total</b></td> <td data-bbox="1115 1070 2029 1137"><b>3541</b> <small>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</small></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ethnicity	Count of Ethnicity	White	72.81%	Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	8.76%	Black, Black British, Caribbean or African	2.02%	Asian or Asian British	1.17%	Other ethnic group	0.90%	Information not yet obtained	5.08%	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3541</b> <small>(figures rounded up to the nearest decimal place so will explain non-absolute value)</small>
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<p>Gender reassignment percentage/profile of service users who have indicated they are transgender</p>	<p>We do not collect data against certain protected characteristics of young people and their families/parents/carers, for example their sexual orientation, gender reassignment status, religion, marriage or civil partnership or pregnancy and maternity. Although, if a young person receiving a service identifies against one of these characteristics it would be captured through their assessment.</p>																

<p>Marriage &amp; civil partnership <i>percentage/profile of service users who are married or in a civil partnership</i></p>	<p>We do not collect data against certain protected characteristics of young people and their families/parents/carers, for example their sexual orientation, gender reassignment status, religion, marriage or civil partnership or pregnancy and maternity. Although, if a young person receiving a service identifies against one of these characteristics it would be captured through their assessment.</p>
<p>Pregnancy &amp; maternity <i>percentage/profile of service users who are female and who are pregnant or on a maternity leave</i></p>	<p>We do not collect data against certain protected characteristics of young people and their families/parents/carers, for example their sexual orientation, gender reassignment status, religion, marriage or civil partnership or pregnancy and maternity. Although, if a young person receiving a service identifies against one of these characteristics it would be captured through their assessment.</p>
<p>Religion and/or belief <i>percentage/profile of service users religious beliefs</i></p>	<p>We do not collect data against certain protected characteristics of young people and their families/parents/carers, for example their sexual orientation, gender reassignment status, religion, marriage or civil partnership or pregnancy and maternity. Although, if a young person receiving a service identifies against one of these characteristics it would be captured through their assessment.</p>
<p>Sexual orientation <i>percentage/profile of service users who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual</i></p>	<p>We do not collect data against certain protected characteristics of young people and their families/parents/carers, for example their sexual orientation, gender reassignment status, religion, marriage or civil partnership or pregnancy and maternity. Although, if a young person receiving a service identifies against one of these characteristics it would be captured through their assessment.</p>

## Appendix 2 – GCC Workforce Data

Details of Gloucestershire County Council staff affected by the proposed activity

Protected Characteristic	Total number of GCC staff affected:
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Age	Not affected
Disability	Not affected
Sex	Not affected
Race	Not affected
Gender reassignment	Not affected
Marriage & civil partnership	Not affected
Pregnancy & maternity	Not affected
Religion and/or belief	Not affected
Sexual orientation	Not affected

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