

Impact Assessment

Returning Children Closer to home - 16 Plus
including UASC



Impact Assessments (IA) are a process of assessing how our proposals and decisions might impact upon different types of people and communities and developing proposals in line with relevant legislation.

This is a legal requirement, and ensures the Council considers key legislation, including Equalities, Welsh language, Future Generations, Socio-economic Duty and Risk when developing proposals.

It will also help the Council make the best possible decisions for the people of Powys.

Before you begin, please read through the guidance found [here](#) in English, and [here](#) in Welsh.

1. Proposal Information

* Required

Author Name	Joanna Harris
Head of Service	Sharon Powell
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Sandra Davies
Proposal title	Returning Children Closer to home - 16 Plus including UASC
Description of proposal *	To identify current children placed out of County who are looked after and aged 16 plus including UASC. To identify placements closer to home which offer better value and allow us to move away from profit making organisations. Children can be more effectively supported in Powys by PCC and partners to support them to achieve better outcomes and allows us to support young people into adulthood.

2. Savings and Consultation

* Required

Profile of savings delivery

2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029+	Total Savings
Click or tap here to enter text.	500,000.00	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Further information

In line with the WG not for profit agenda and the childrens services priority within the IBP work will continue to move away from high costs out of county placements and provide placements in Powys within the range of 16plus placements available. By ensuring Young people can access priority one status on the Housing allocation policy this will allow young people to move through the system and be placed in the most appropriate placement which meets their needs creating more capacity in County for CLA aged 16plus.

Consultation requirements

Consultation required? *	No
Union consultation date	Click or tap to enter a date.
Staff consultation date	Click or tap to enter a date.
Public consultation date	Click or tap to enter a date.
Consultation plan (or justification where no consultation is required)	
Click or tap here to enter text.	

3. Impact on other service areas, geographical areas, and data protection ⁱ

* Required

3a. Impact on other service areas *

- Digital Services
- Childrens Services
- Adult Services
- Business Intelligence and Governance
- People
- Finance
- Legal and Monitoring
- Economy and Climate
- Housing Services
- Highways, Transport & Recycling
- Planning & Regulatory Services
- Transforming Education
- School Improvement and Learning

- Community Wellbeing
- Strategic Partners, e.g PTHB, RPB

If you selected “Strategic Partners”, please specify the strategic partners below

The Specialist support closer to home workstream which sits under the Start Well RPB partnership will be instrumental in providing the strategic direction in ensuring CLA in Powys can access the support they need.

3b. Impact on geographical locations *

- All Powys
- Llanfyllin
- Welshpool and Montgomery
- Machynlleth
- Llanfair Caereinion
- Newtown
- Llanidloes
- Llandrindod and Rhayader
- Knighton and Presteigne
- Builth and Llanwrtyd
- Hay and Talgarth
- Brecon
- Crickhowell
- Ystradgynlais



3c. Data protection impact assessment i

Will the proposal involve processing the personal details of individuals? *	Yes
Is Powys County Council the data controller? *	Yes

If you answered yes to either question above then please ensure you have completed, as a minimum, the screening questions on the data protection impact assessment.

For further advice please contact the [Information Compliance Team](#).

Further information

CLA data is processed routinely by Childrens Services and has the relevant risk assessments and data privacy notices in place.

4. Impact on well-being goals including Welsh language and equalities

* Required

4a. A prosperous Wales

Impact *	The plan is to bring Children and young people who could be living outside of Powys and outside of Wales back closer to home.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	This proposal will bring Powys children looked after back to the area of Powys. The money currently being spent on private care companies out of county will be spent on Powys local foster carers and in house residential children's homes. This proposal will also provide new jobs and training as foster carers and as residential home staff. Staff within these children's homes will also have the opportunity to be part of the Grow Our Own Social Worker programme.
Mitigated Rating	Good

4b. A resilient Wales

Impact *	Children and young people will be closer to their homes and communities which will assist in developing their identities and build their own self esteem, confidence which contributes to their resilience.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Bringing our Children looked after back to Powys will reduce the volume of miles being travelled to visit these children who are currently placed all over the UK. It will enable them to grow and develop connections and access sources here in Powys.
Mitigated Rating	Good

4c. A healthier Wales

Impact *	Children and young people will be living in areas which may or may not speak Welsh and have access to their sense of identity. Having children more closely connected to their families and communities will improve outcomes including health and wellbeing.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	The proposal will contribute to the improved emotional wellbeing of young people, who have access to local services and maintaining links to their family and community. Bringing our children looked after back to Powys will mean we can work more closely with our local partner's where good relationships have already been built to ensure that the child has the best access to services and their physical, emotional and mental needs are being met. Developing therapeutic foster placements and experienced supported lodgings will contribute to the healthier wellbeing of people who have experienced care
Mitigated Rating	Good

4d. A Wales of cohesive communities

Impact *	Children and young people will be connected to Powys and Wales.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Children are closer to home and maintain connections with families and communities and school placements. As children grow and develop into adulthood, there is a greater possibility that they will remain in Powys as adults.
Mitigated Rating	Good

4e. A globally responsible Wales

Impact *	Living inside of Powys and Wales will assist any child or young person to be able to contribute to responses and connections for their future if wanting to remain living in Wales.
Impact Rating *	Good

Mitigation	This proposal will keep children in county and in country. It will promote a child's right to a family while maintaining close links to families and communities
Mitigated Rating	Good

4f. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Using Welsh

Impact *	Children are enabled to live and grow in communities which represent their own language and culture. Active offer of Welsh language services to foster carers and children in care.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	There will be more opportunities for development, learning and engagement. Children and young people will have a natural access to resources, communities and have the ability to speak, practice and learn Welsh and associate with their Welsh identities and connections.
Mitigated Rating	Very good

Promoting Welsh

Impact *	Children are enabled to live and grow in communities which represent their own language and culture. Active offer of Welsh language services to foster carers and children in care.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	There will be more opportunities for development, learning and engagement. Children and young people will have a natural access to resources, communities and have the ability to speak, practice and learn Welsh and associate with their Welsh identities and connections..
Mitigated Rating	Very good

Sports, Art & Recreation i

Impact *	Children and young people will have access to a variety of recreational activities within their own communities and be able to develop identity with Welsh culture.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Children are closer to home and maintain connections with families and communities and school placements, this will enhance their opportunities to engage in local and community aspects of their interests and hobbies
Mitigated Rating	Very good

4g. A more equal Wales i

Age i

Impact *	n\a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n\a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

Disability i

Impact *	n\a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n\a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

Gender Reassignment i

Impact *	n\a
Impact Rating *	Neutral

Mitigation	n/a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

Marriage or Civil Partnership

Impact *	n/a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n/a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

Race

Impact *	There is a range of diversity and ethnicity needs for children and young people as part of being a child who is looked after by Powys County Council. By having children and young people living in county, resources and opportunities for different needs can be better served by the partnership working arrangements and commitment from the Council.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	The Local Authority and its partners will work to support young peoples range of needs within Powys communities. Training opportunities for staff are provided to support UASC in particular.
Mitigated Rating	Good

Religion or belief

Impact *	There are different young people with a range of different religions and beliefs. All of these needs can be better managed and supported if our children are here in Powys, so that we can commission and develop specific services to meet those individual and group diversity needs.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	The Local Authority and its partners will work to support young peoples range of needs within Powys communities. Training opportunities for staff are provided to support UASC in particular.

Mitigated Rating	Good
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Sex

Impact *	n/a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n/a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

Sexual Orientation

Impact *	Children and young people will have their needs around gender and sexual orientation better met if placed and living within Powys so that we can develop a multi partnership approach to individual and group needs.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Bringing our Children looked after back to Powys will reduce the volume of miles being travelled to visit these children who are currently placed all over the UK. It will enable them to grow and develop connections and access sources here in Powys.
Mitigated Rating	Good

Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact *	n/a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n/a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

Socio-economic Duty

Impact *	Children and young people through being a child who is looked after can face hardship when leaving the care of the Local Authority. In developing plans for care leavers to reach their full potential here in Powys this will only add to improved outcomes for each of them with increased local support from a corporate parenting perspective.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Bringing our Children looked after back to Powys will reduce the volume of miles being travelled to visit these children who are currently placed all over the UK. It will enable us to support them more effectively allowing them to grow and develop connections and access sources here in Powys
Mitigated Rating	Good

4h. Evidence

WG not for profit
Commissioning Placement Strategy
Powys Fostering Framework

5. Impact on key guiding principles & workforce ⁱ

* Required

5a. Sustainable development principles

Long-term ⁱ

Impact *	Maintaining children living within their own family or staying connected to their family limits disruptions and promotes stability throughout their lives.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	To continue to promote strengths based practice, early help and early intervention and prevention in order to support families.
Mitigated Rating	Good

Collaboration ⁱ

Impact *	By working in ways that are collaborative, joins up discussions with Education services, Health Services and Voluntary sector providers to work in ways which enhance a families ability to build on strengths.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Working with multi agency partners and families to meet the needs of children. The corporate parenting group contains partners from all agencies. Have plans working with families to build their existing strengths to be able to co produce more effective ways of parenting and gaining support from key agencies.
Mitigated Rating	Very good

Involvement (including Communication & Engagement) ⁱ

Impact *	n\a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n\a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

Prevention

Impact *	Earlier help and intervention and prevention at the right time in the right way is key to keeping families together.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	This proposal will improve the emotional wellbeing of children and keep them closer to home. It will ensure that they are returned home and discharged from the care of Powys County Council where safe to do so. This proposal will ensure that safe placements which meet their needs are provided for children.
Mitigated Rating	Very good

Integration

Impact *	By working with an integrated approach supports joined up discussions with Education services, Health Services and Voluntary sector providers to work in ways which enhance a families ability to build on strengths.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Working with multi agency partners and families to meet the needs of children. The corporate parenting group contains partners from all agencies. Have plans working with families to build their existing strengths to be able to co produce more effective ways of parenting and gaining support from key agencies.
Mitigated Rating	Good

5b. Impact on the workforce

Impact *	In having more children and young people placed in Powys enables the workforce to be able to provide intervention more consistently, regularity and without having to travel greater distances across the UK.
Impact Rating *	Good
Mitigation	Placing children closer to home will reduce the need for staff to travel long distances. It will enable us to support them more effectively allowing them to grow and develop connections and access sources here in Powys.
Mitigated Rating	Good

5c. Welsh language impact on Staff i

Impact *	n/a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n/a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

5d. Impact on apprenticeships i

Impact *	n/a
Impact Rating *	Neutral
Mitigation	n/a
Mitigated Rating	Neutral

5e. Evidence i

n/a

6. Likelihood and risks i

* Required

Risk 1

Risk 1					
Unable to recruit Powys Foster carers					
Likelihood score	3	Impact score	3	Risk rating	The risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed

Mitigation

The implementation of the Fostering Framework has provided increased allowances to foster carers and we have already seen an increased number of fostering enquiries.

Residual likelihood score	2	Residual impact score	2	Residual risk rating	The residual risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed
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Risk 2

Risk 2

The national transfer scheme mandated percentage of Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers has risen to 1% from 0.7%. This may increase further in future, increasing our population of CLA and care leavers.

Likelihood score	4	Impact score	3	Risk rating	The risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed
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Mitigation

We do not have any control over the mandated figures to Powys, but we are increasing awareness within our recruitment of foster carers, supported lodgings and 16+ provisions to meet the needs of these young people within Powys.

Residual likelihood score	4	Residual impact score	3	Residual risk rating	The residual risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed
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Risk 3

Risk 3					
Click or tap here to enter text.					
Likelihood score	Choose an item.	Impact score	Choose an item.	Risk rating	The risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed

Mitigation					
Click or tap here to enter text.					
Residual likelihood score	Choose an item.	Residual impact score	Choose an item.	Residual risk rating	The residual risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed

Risk 4

Risk 4					
Click or tap here to enter text.					
Likelihood score	Choose an item.	Impact score	Choose an item.	Risk rating	The risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed

Mitigation					
Click or tap here to enter text.					

Residual likelihood score	Choose an item.	Residual impact score	Choose an item.	Residual risk rating	The residual risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed
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Risk 5

Risk 5

Click or tap here to enter text.

Likelihood score	Choose an item.	Impact score	Choose an item.	Risk rating	The risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed
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Mitigation

Click or tap here to enter text.

Residual likelihood score	Choose an item.	Residual impact score	Choose an item.	Residual risk rating	The residual risk rating will be automatically calculated when the document is completed
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7. Overall summary and judgement i

Outline assessment *

The overall impact of these changes is positive, both to children using services, the workforce and the wider communities. The Closer to Home strategy is key to successful planning, intervention and ensuring that children and young people have opportunities to stay connected to their families and communities. This will enable them to have opportunities to grow, develop, build identity, resilience and enable them to have a voice for both now and in the future within Powys and Wales.

8. Additional evidence i

n/a

9. Monitoring arrangements * i

Progress will be reviewed by the Children's Leadership Team. There are weekly work stream meetings linked to this work tracking progress and monthly Closer to Home Meetings which reviews the progress of all workstreams.

Review date *	31/12/2025
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10. Signoff

You can now close this word document down and return to the app or re-open the app by clicking [here](#). From the app you need to sign off the Impact Assessment. You can do this in the 'Manage Assessments' section. Select the Impact assessment you want to mark as complete, and the app will then send to the named Head of Service automatically.

You can view the current signoff status of the document below, but signoff can only be done in the app.

Author signoff	Not signed off by author
Head of Service signoff	Not signed off by head of service
Portfolio Holder signoff	Not signed off by portfolio holder