

## Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)

<b>Name of proposal:</b>	Recommissioning of Supported Accommodation for Children in Care and Care Leavers
<b>Service Area:</b>	Childrens
<b>Officer Completing Assessment:</b>	Pauline Simpson
<b>Equalities Advisor:</b>	Guy Latham
<b>Cabinet meeting date (if applicable):</b>	21 January 2024
<b>Director/Assistant Director</b>	Caroline Brian, Assistant Director: CYP Commissioning and Programmes. Dionne Thomas, Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Social Care

## 2. Executive summary

As a corporate parent the council has a duty under the Children Acts 1989 and 2004 and the Children Leaving Care Act 2000, to assess and meet the needs of young people aged 16+ and 18+ who are in care or care leavers. Wherever the young person lives, the duty will rest with the Council to keep in touch with care leavers until they are at least 21 (in some instances this is extended to age 25). The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that every Looked After Child and Care Leaver is properly prepared in making the transition to adulthood in a planned and effective way to achieve the best possible outcomes for the individual young person.

This proposal is for the recommissioning of supported accommodation via a new e-sourcing solution called the Axians Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS). This EqiA relates to changing e-sourcing solution used for the DPS. The Council will seek to offer improved value for money via the new system while maintaining standards for children and young people accommodated by the services.

The recommissioning of the supported accommodation is envisaged to have a positive impact on children and young people as the aim will be for more accommodation to provided close to the Borough to support children and young people to maintain relationships with family and friends where appropriate.

Supported accommodation services will enable young people to become more independent whilst living in the service, through developing the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviours required to sustain independent living and make a smooth and successful transition to adulthood. The service is required to build resilience and strength in young people's skills to live in the community whilst ensuring young

people are fully involved in the development and delivery of their support plans. The services will support young people in care to engage in Education, Employment and Training opportunities.

Providers of supported accommodation will be subject to regular review to ensure they are meeting the standards required and quarterly forums will be held with providers.

Haringey plans to embed regular consultation with Children in Care, Care Leavers, and Service Providers within commissioning practise. The aim will be to establish regular meetings with the Participation & Mentoring Practitioner for children social care, alongside young ambassadors to plan regular themed engagement events with care experienced children and young people.

### **3. Consultation and engagement**

3a. Haringey commissioning team have held regular forums with providers (Jan 23, Apr 23, Sep 23, Dec 23, May 24) to gather their views on the supported accommodation contractual arrangements and proposed changes. The forums also covered the new Ofsted regulations for 16 and 17 years placed in supported accommodation and providers compliance with the new regime with the offer of support when practicable.

Pre-market engagement with Service Providers held in Oct 24 to further consult on the changes to the requirements to deliver supported accommodation services and the selection criteria for providers to join the new Axians Dynamic Purchasing System which is the tool used to access the market.

A workshop has also been held with children in care and care leavers to gather feedback on the services being delivered and changes will be implemented to the contract arrangements where feasible to take account of children in care and care leavers views.

#### **Key findings from the consultation:**

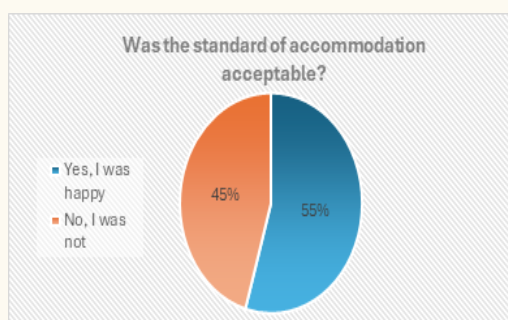
27% of young people who responded to the survey were females with 73% being males.

64% of the young people who responded were currently living in supported accommodation and 36% had previously lived in supported accommodation.

The feedback represents a high proportion of males supported in this type of accommodation.

Young people were asked about the standard off accommodation and Table 1 below provides outline of the responses.

**Table 1**



Young People were asked if they felt safe when they lived in supported accommodation and 46% YP responded “I always felt safe”, 27% YP responded “I felt safe most of the time”, 18% YP responded “I never felt safe” and 9% YP responding “I felt safe sometimes”.

Young people suggested the below changes to the services being delivered which where feasible will be implemented within the requirements.

#### Young people suggestions:

- **Improved Wi-Fi:** Ensure better internet connectivity in supported accommodations.
- **Cleaning Standards:** Implement a specified cleaning frequency per week by the provider in service specifications and providers to enforce sanctions on young people (YP) who do not maintain cleanliness.
- **Timely Repairs:** Establish standards requiring providers to complete repairs within specified timescales, such as fixing heating or hot water issues within 24 hours.
- **Waste Management:** Require providers to have at least two bins and encourage recycling.
- **Assessment and Matching:** The council should better assess the readiness of YP for supported accommodation and improve the matching process for placements.
- **Shared Spaces:** Provide shared spaces, like lounges, for YP in standalone studios to offer more communal areas outside their rooms.
- **Bathroom Ratio:** Maintain a ratio of 1 bathroom for every 2 YP.
- **Room Sizes:** Ensure bigger room sizes to enhance living conditions.

#### 4. Data and Impact Analysis

**Note:** officers may want to complement their analysis with data from the State of the Borough and ward profiles, found here: <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/about-council/state-of-the-borough> and Liquid logic.

Liquidlogic is a case management system covering social care, early help and Universal Services within Children's, Families and Adults services. Within Haringey Council, it is the framework within which records for are held, from the point of referral to closure.

## 4a. Age

### Data

#### Borough Profile<sup>1</sup>

- 54,422: 0-17 (21%)
- 71,660: 18-34 (27%)
- 63,930: 35-49 (24%)
- 46,516: 50-64 (18%)
- 27,706: 65+ (10%)

### Target Population Profile

#### Children Looked After

The number of CYP looked after has been increasing nationally over the last few years. Looking only at under 18s, the total number of children looked after in England rose by 7.3% from 78,140 children in 2019 to 83,840 children in 2023.

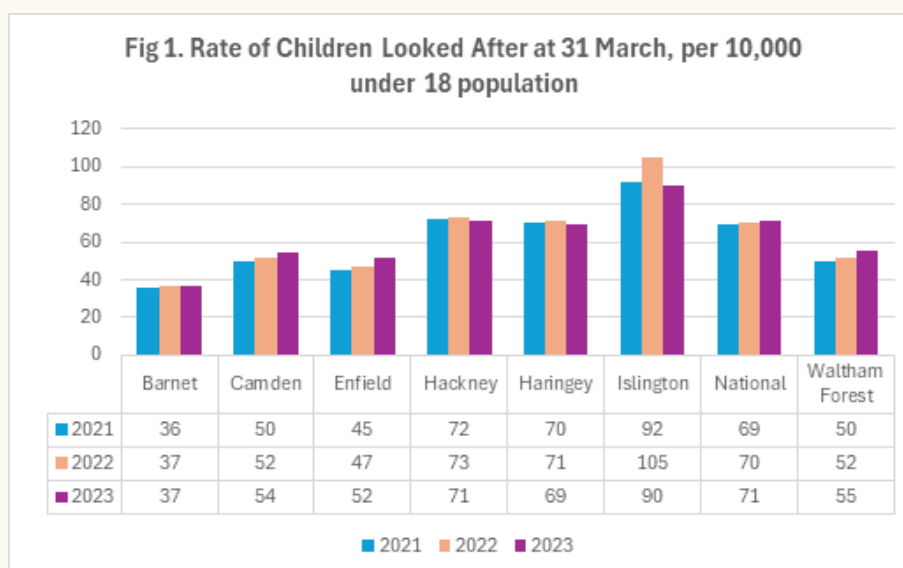
When considering the numbers of children looked after as a rate per 10,000 of the under 18 population, this rate has also been increasing in England over the last three years (Table 2). In contrast, Haringey's rate of children looked after per 10,000 children may be starting to level off, with the 2023 rate of 69 marginally lower than the rate from 2021 (70) or 2022 (71). It is too soon however to determine if the 2023 rate marks a turning point for Haringey or if it was just a deviation from an ongoing upward trend.

Haringey's 2023 rate of 69 children looked after per 10,000 population is lower than that of Islington (90) and Hackney (71), but higher than that of Waltham Forest, Camden, Enfield or Barnet (55, 54, 52 and 37 respectively).

#### Table 2: Children Looked After

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<sup>1</sup> Census, 2021 – [Population and household estimates, England and Wales – Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/populationandhousehold/populationandhousehold/populationandhousehold/populationandhousehold)



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**Table 3: Number of Children in Care and Care leavers (As of 02/10/2024)**

Data	Number	% compared to Borough
Number of children in care	330	0.61% of the population of 0–17-year-olds are children in care
Number of 16 -17 in care living in supported accommodation	38	While the exact number of 16 and 17-year-olds isn't specified directly, the census data indicates that around 4.4% of the population falls within the 16 to 19 age group. So, based on the population aged 0-17 of 54,442 this equates to approximately 10.7% aged 0-17 and 2.2 % aged 16–17-year-old.
Number of 18+ living in supported accommodation	124	There is no available data on the actual number of 18- 24 years old in the Borough So, based on the population of 18–24-year-olds this equates to approximately 0.17% of the population

Supported accommodation is only available for children aged 16 – 24 under the Ofsted regulations. The proposal to recommission supported accommodation is a neutral impact for children and young people aged 16 –24-year-olds. Children and young people who are accommodated in this provision are assessed prior to being placed to

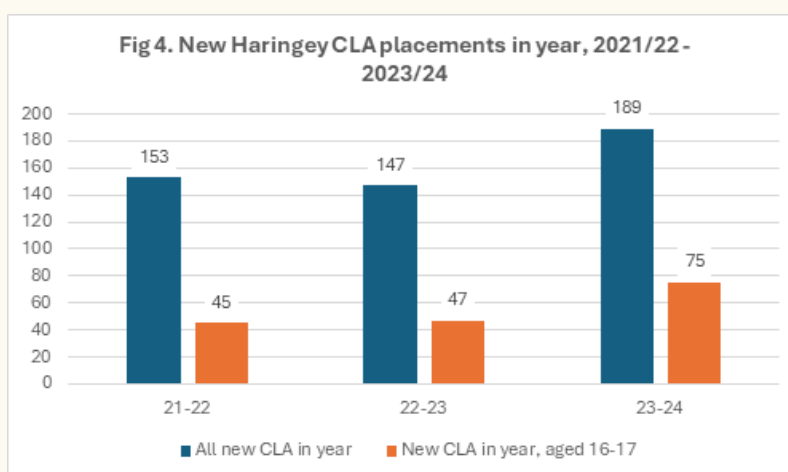
determine their readiness for independent living and support needed to prepare for adult life. Based on the population this represents a small percentage 2.2% of 16 and 17 and approx. 0.17% of 18 plus.

As of October 2024, Haringey had 330 children in care and 403 care leavers. Of which approximately 75 children, and young people had been accommodated in supported accommodation at some stage during their care experience.

**Table 4** provides data of the number of children in care aged 16 plus accommodated in supported accommodation.

#### **Table 4: Number of children 16 plus in Supported accommodation**

Source: Liquidlogic data,



### **Potential Impacts**

The percentages indicate a very small proportion of the respective age groups are in supported accommodation. This suggest that the majority of children in care and young people in these age ranges are supported in different type of living arrangements such as foster arrangements, residential or other arrangements.

Recommissioning of supported accommodation provision for this cohort of children and young people will have a positive impact on children and young people. The Council has a statutory duty under the Children Acts 1989 and 2004 and the Children Leaving Care Act 2000, to assess and meet the needs of young people aged 16+ and 18+ who are in care or care leavers. In addition, the requirement of the new provision is to provide local homes within the Borough to support children and young people to maintain relationships with family and friends where appropriate and to provide improved services to children and young people.

### **4b. Disability Data**

## Borough Profile

- Disabled under Equality Act – 13.7%<sup>3</sup>
  - Day to day activities limited a lot – 6.1%.
  - Day to day activities limited a little – 7.5%.
- 7.5% of residents people diagnosed with depression<sup>4</sup>
- 1.7% of residents diagnosed with a severe mental illness<sup>5</sup>
- 0.4% of people in Haringey have a learning disability<sup>6</sup>

## Borough profile <sup>7</sup>

- 5,718 Haringey residents aged 14 and over have a learning disability, including **1,111 residents aged 14- 25**.
- Of these residents, around 1,260 are estimated to have a moderate or severe learning disability and hence are likely to be in receipt of services such as home care/family support services or other therapeutic services.
- Around 2,100 Haringey residents aged 14 and over are estimated to have autism, including 680 residents aged 14-25.

## Target Population Profile

**Table 5: Children in Care by Category of Needs**

Children in Care by Category of Needs		
Category of Need	No. of Children/ YPs	Sum of Child ID
Absent Parenting	4	1%
Abuse or neglect	202	57%
Child's Disability/Illness	20	5%
Family dysfunction	12	2%
Family in acute stress	36	9%
Low income	2	1%
Parental illness or disability	19	4%
Socially Unacceptable Behaviour	8	2%
U8 - Unaccompanied child asylum seekers	26	20%
(blank)	1	0%
Grand Total	330	100%

**Table 6: Care Leavers by Category of Needs**

<sup>3</sup> Census, 2021 – [Disability, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/disability)

<sup>4</sup> NHS Quality Outcomes Framework – [Prevalence of diagnosed depression among GP registered population age 18+](https://www.nhs.uk/quality-outcomes-framework/prevalence-of-diagnosed-depression-among-gp-registered-population-age-18/)

<sup>5</sup> NHS Quality Outcomes Framework – [Prevalence of diagnosed mental health diagnosis among GP registered population age 18+](https://www.nhs.uk/quality-outcomes-framework/prevalence-of-diagnosed-mental-health-diagnosis-among-gp-registered-population-age-18/)

<sup>6</sup> PHE Learning disability profiles – <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/learning-disabilities#page/0/gid/1938132702/pat/6/par/E12000007/ati/102/are/E09000014>

<sup>7</sup> [https://new.haringey.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-04/state\\_of\\_the\\_borough\\_final\\_master\\_version.pdf](https://new.haringey.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-04/state_of_the_borough_final_master_version.pdf)

Care Leavers by Category of Needs		
Category of Need	No. of Children/ YPs	Sum of Child ID
Absent Parenting	13	3%
Abuse or neglect	159	31%
Cases other than Children in Need	5	1%
Child's Disability/Illness	14	3%
Family dysfunction	29	8%
Family in acute stress	45	9%
Low income	3	1%
Parental illness or disability	8	1%
Socially Unacceptable Behaviour	35	8%
U8 - Unaccompanied child asylum seekers	92	35%
Grand Total	403	100%

The percentage of children with disabilities in Care and Care leavers is relatively low, compared to the Borough profile for cohort for this age range of 1,111 residents aged 14 –25. As the Borough data captures the age range from 14. It would be difficult to further assess. Supported accommodation is only for 16 + and 18+ with tailored support programs focusing on specific needs to achieve independent living skills. There is regular monitoring of the outcomes for these children and young people to ensure they are receiving the necessary support and are not disadvantaged.

### Potential Impacts

The data shows an underrepresentation of children aged 14-25 with a disability in supported accommodation. This service will have a neutral impact on disabled children. The service is predominately for children and young people who have been assessed as being ready for independent living. Children in care and care leavers with disabilities assessment would determine whether their needs could be met in this type of accommodation with support or if the needs determine they require care, if so then this type of provision would not be suitable to be meet their care needs as this would be disadvantaged to disabled children and care leavers. Most children in care and care leavers with disabilities are living in other types of accommodation or with family.

### 4c. Gender Reassignment<sup>8</sup>

#### Data

#### Borough Profile<sup>9</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Under the legal definition, a transgender person has the protected characteristic of gender reassignment if they are undergoing, have undergone, or are proposing to undergo gender reassignment. To be protected from gender reassignment discrimination, an individual does not need to have undergone any specific treatment or surgery to change from one's birth sex to one's preferred gender. This is because changing ones physiological or other gender attributes is a personal process rather than a medical one.

<sup>9</sup> Census, 2021 – [Gender identity, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/gender-identity)

- Gender Identity different from sex registered at birth but no specific identity given – 0.5%.
- Trans woman – 0.1%
- Trans man - 0.1%

### **Target Population Profile**

There is no robust data at Borough level on our trans population, however the central government estimates that there are approximately 200,000 to 500,000 trans people in the UK. Assuming an average representation, this would mean between 800 and 2,000 Haringey residents are Trans<sup>10</sup>.

The council does not have reliable data to support a robust reporting on the target population but will address the individual needs of transgender children and young people via their individual assessments.

### **Potential Impacts**

The recommissioning of the supported accommodation provision is not anticipated to disproportionately affect transgender children and young people as specific result of this protected characteristic.

## **4d. Marriage and Civil Partnership**

### **Data**

#### **Borough Profile <sup>11</sup>**

- Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved: (9.9%)
- Married or registered civil partnership: (35.8%)
- Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): (2.9%%)
- Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership): (45.3%)
- Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: (6.1%)

### **Target Population Profile**

This service is targeted for 16- and 17-year-olds and 18 –24-year-olds. The Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022, means that 16- and 17-year-olds will

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<sup>10</sup> Trans is an umbrella term to describe people whose gender is not the same as, or does not sit comfortably with, the sex they were assigned at birth.

<sup>11</sup> Census, 2021 – [Marriage and civil partnership status in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/people-and-population/marriage-and-civil-partnership/status-in-england-and-wales)

no longer be allowed to marry or enter into a civil partnership even with parental consent.<sup>12</sup>

The Council does not collect data on the marital status of young people 18 plus.

## **Potential Impacts**

This provision will not impact on young people based on their marital status.

### **4e. Pregnancy and Maternity**

#### **Note<sup>13</sup>:**

- Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby.
- Maternity refers to the period after the birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.

## **Data**

### **Borough Profile<sup>14</sup>**

Live Births in Haringey 2021: 3,376

## **Target Population Profile**

Recommissioning of supported accommodation will not significantly affect young women who are pregnant or young women in maternity. We do not have data on the number of young women who are pregnant or in maternity accommodated in supported accommodation.

## **Potential Impacts**

It is not anticipated that recommissioning this service will impact this protected group. Continuing to commission this service will have a positive impact on this protected group, pregnant young women will have the opportunity to live independently with support whilst they prepare for motherhood and apply for their permanent housing once they meet the housing criteria.

### **4f. Race**

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<sup>12</sup> A person commits an offence under the law of England and Wales if he or she carries out any conduct for the purpose of causing a child to enter into a marriage before the child's eighteenth birthday (whether or not the conduct amounts to violence, threats, any other form of coercion or deception, and whether or not it is carried out in England and Wales).

<sup>13</sup> Equality and Human Rights Commission, 2022 – [Pregnancy and maternity discrimination](#).

<sup>14</sup> Births by Borough (ONS)

In the Equality Act 2010, race can mean ethnic or national origins, which may or may not be the same as a person's current nationality.<sup>15</sup>

## Data

### Borough Profile <sup>16</sup>

#### Arab: 1.0%

- Any other ethnic group: 8.7%

#### Asian: 8.7%

- Bangladeshi: 1.8%
- Chinese: 1.5%
- Indian: 2.2%
- Pakistani: 0.8%
- Other Asian: 2.4%

Source Census 2021, Liquidlogic data

#### Black: 17.6%

- African: 9.4%
- Caribbean: 6.2%
- Other Black: 2.0%

#### Mixed: 7.0%

- White and Asian: 1.5%
- White and Black African: 1.0%
- White and Black Caribbean: 2.0%
- Other Mixed: 2.5%

#### White: 57.0% in total

- English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British: 31.9%
- Irish: 2.2%
- Gypsy or Irish Traveller: 0.1%
- Roma: 0.8%
- Other White: 22.1%

## Target Population Profile

**Table 7: Children in Care by Ethnicity**

Children in Care		by Ethnicity	
Bangladeshi	ABAN	2	0%

<sup>15</sup> [Race discrimination | Equality and Human Rights Commission \(equalityhumanrights.com\)](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/race-discrimination)

<sup>16</sup> Census 2021 - [Ethnic group, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/ethnicity)

Any other Asian background	AOTH	6	2%
Pakistani	APKN	1	0%
Black African	BAFR	54	18%
Black Caribbean	BCRB	37	8%
Black Other	BOTH	47	13%
Mixed Other	MOTH	42	10%
White and Asian	MWAS	4	1%
White and Black African	MWBA	5	1%
White and Black Caribbean	MWBC	24	7%
Not obtained	NOBT	1	0%
Any other ethnic group	OOTH	27	14%
White British	WBRI	41	13%
Any other white background	WOTH	39	12%
	Grand Total	330	100%

**Table 8 Care Leavers by Ethnicity**

CLs by Ethnicity			
Bangladeshi	ABAN	500%	1%
Indian	AIND	100%	0%
Any other Asian background	AOTH	400%	1%
Pakistani	APKN	300%	1%
Black African	BAFR	7200%	20%
Black Caribbean	BCRB	6300%	12%
Black Other	BOTH	3800%	10%
Mixed Other	MOTH	2900%	5%
White and Asian	MWAS	100%	0%
White and Black African	MWBA	500%	1%
White and Black Caribbean	MWBC	1400%	2%
Any other ethnic group	OOTH	5500%	19%
White British	WBRI	4600%	8%
White Irish	WIRI	400%	1%
Any other white background	WOTH	6100%	18%
Gypsy / Roma	WROM	200%	0%
	Grand Total	40300%	100%

Haringey is described as the 5th most ethnically diverse borough in the country. Over 65% of residents come from non-White British communities, compared to 20% in England, 55% for London and nearly 81% of our school children.

The current analysis of children and young people in care and care leavers demonstrates an overrepresentation of children from Black, Black other, African, and Caribbean, compared to other ethnic groups. Therefore, children from Black, Black other, African, and Caribbean from the cohort of 16 plus and 18 plus are more likely to be accommodated in supported accommodation as part of their care experience.

### **Potential Impacts**

The proposed recommissioning will have a positive impact on race by ensuring children and young people from diverse ethnic groups have access to a range of providers with support staff that can meet the cultural needs of this cohort. This will be tested as part of the selection process of providers.

## **4g. Religion or belief**

### **Data**

#### **Borough Profile <sup>17</sup>**

- Christian: 39%
- Buddhist: 0.9%
- Hindu: 1.3%
- Jewish: 3.6%
- Muslim: 12.6%
- No religion: 31.6%
- Other religion: 2.3%
- Religion not stated: 8.0%.
- Sikh: 0.3%

### **Target Population Profile**

Data is not held on children and young people's religion.

### **Potential Impacts**

Supported accommodation supports children and young people to prepare for Adulthood. It is anticipated that this will not disproportionately affect children and young people of different religions.

## **4h. Sex**

### **Data**

#### **Borough profile <sup>18</sup>**

- Females: (51.8%)
- Males: (48.2%)

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<sup>17</sup> Census, 2021 – [Religion, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/religiousbeliefsandfaiths/census2021/articles/religion-england-and-wales)

<sup>18</sup> Census 2021 – [Gender identity: age and sex, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/religiousbeliefsandfaiths/census2021/articles/gender-identity-age-and-sex-england-and-wales)

**Table 9: Breakdown of Children in Care and Care Leavers by age and numbers by age accommodated in supported accommodation.**

Source: Liquidlogic

Sex	Children in Care	Care Leavers	16-17 yr olds and number in Supported Accommodation	18 + and number in Supported Accommodation
Female	138	144	9	37
Male	192	257	28	87
indeterminate	0	2	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>124</b>

### Target Population Profile

The data demonstrates that males are over-represented in supported accommodation for both children in care and care leavers. In comparison to the Borough profile which shows 48.2% population of males this is approximately 0.26%.

As the data demonstrates, males are disproportionately represented in supported accommodation compared to females. It is widely due to issues such as young people being criminally exploited and beyond parental control. There are also a high number of young people in supported accommodation due to absent parenting – which is primarily associated with unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. Data demonstrates a disproportionate number of males who are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children compared to females.

All of which including the absence of adequate parenting and support increases the risk males becoming looked after and being at higher risk of being criminally exploited and being involved in substance abuse.

The overrepresentation of males in supported accommodation can have several significant impacts such as mental health and well-being, risk of exploitation and social integration and may be higher risk of homelessness.

### Potential Impacts

Recommissioning of supported accommodation will be a positive impact for males as there will be targeted interventions available to support, such as mentoring service, therapy, educational and employment programs, and robust safeguarding measures in place to ensure these males receive the care and support to thrive.

## 4i. Sexual Orientation

### Data

#### Borough profile <sup>19</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Census, 2021 – [Sexual orientation, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

- Straight or heterosexual: 83.4%
- Gay or Lesbian: 2.7%
- Bisexual: 2.1%
- All other sexual orientations: 0.8%
- Not answered: 11.0%

## Target Population Profile

The sexual orientation of children and young people is not recorded.

## Potential Impacts

The service provision will be recommissioned, and providers will need to demonstrate that they can meet the assessed needs of the children and young people referred prior to a placement being approved. It is anticipated that the service will not disproportionately affect children and young people of different sexual orientations. Supported accommodation will have been required to meet the specific assessed needs of each individual based on the young person profile prior to young person being placed.

## 4j. Socioeconomic Status

### Data

### Borough profile

### Income

- 6.9% of the population of Haringey were claiming unemployment benefit as of April 2023<sup>20</sup>
- 19.6% of residents were claiming Universal Credit as of March 2023<sup>21</sup>
- 29.3% of jobs in Haringey are paid below the London Living Wage<sup>22</sup>

### Educational Attainment

- Haringey ranks 25<sup>th</sup> out of 32 in London for GCSE attainment (% of pupils achieving strong 9-5 pass in English and Maths)<sup>23</sup>
- 3.7% of Haringey's working age population had no qualifications as of 2021<sup>24</sup>
- 5.0% were qualified to level one only<sup>25</sup>

### Area Deprivation

Haringey is the 4<sup>th</sup> most deprived in London as measured by the IMD score 2019. The most deprived LSOAs (Lower Super Output Areas, or small neighbourhood areas) are

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<sup>20</sup> ONS – [ONS Claimant Count](#)

<sup>21</sup> DWP, StatXplore – [Universal Credit statistics, 29 April 2013 to 9 March 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>22</sup> ONS – [Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings \(ASHE\) - Estimates of the number and proportion of employee jobs with hourly pay below the living wage, by work geography, local authority and parliamentary constituency, UK, April 2017 and April 2018 - Office for National Statistics](#)

<sup>23</sup> DfE – [GCSE attainment and progress 8 scores](#)

<sup>24</sup> LG Inform – [Data and reports | LG Inform \(local.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>25</sup> LG Inform – [Data and reports | LG Inform \(local.gov.uk\)](#)

more heavily concentrated in the east of the borough, where more than half of the LSOAs fall into the 20% most deprived in the country.<sup>26</sup>

## Target Population Profile

**Table 10: Children in care Location in/out of Borough**

Age Group	20 or over	Under 20	Grand Total
16-17	24	95	119

Age Group	In	Out	Grand Total
16-17	22	97	119

The table gives an indication of the number of children in care aged group of 16 –17-year-olds accommodated within 20 miles of the Borough and 20 miles outside of the Borough. Children in care needs are taken into account when sourcing placements and due to the risk of keeping children safe and also the sufficiency of placements there is sometimes a need to place children outside of the Borough. Providers would be required to provide a risk location assessment, and this will support with the decision-making process.

## Potential Impacts

This provision will not impact on children in care and care leavers young based on Socioeconomic Status. Supporting children and young people to stay closer to Borough is positive where appropriate support in maintaining contact with family, friends, and community links. The council does not collect data on previous financially situation as this cohort are children in care and care leavers that are supported financially by the Council via subsistence allowance and until they are reach the age whereby, they are in Employment or apply for benefits. The council has savings policy to ensure savings are in place for children in and care. Saving for the future of children in care and supporting the financial education and planning forms part of the discharge of duties.

## 5. Key Impacts Summary

### 5a. Outline the key findings of your data analysis.

The data shows males and children and young people from Black, Black other, African, and Caribbean, backgrounds are overrepresented in supported accommodation compared to other ethnic groups. Additionally, children and young people are living in supported accommodation are vulnerable and at high risk of criminal exploitation, substance misuse alongside other challenges. There is a high risk of homelessness

<sup>26</sup> IMD 2019 – [English indices of deprivation 2019 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019)

among males who have been in supported accommodation if they are not provided with the proper support, they may struggle to transition to fully independent living. These young males may feel isolate and disconnected from communities and struggle with social integration which hinders their ability to form healthy relationships.

The number of children in care has been decreasing over the years which ultimately reduces the number of children in supported accommodation.

### **5b. Intersectionality**

Consideration of intersectionality demonstrates the disproportionate number of children in care are from the black- African community, with a disproportionate number of males from Black – African community living in supported accommodation.

There are 162 children in care and care lavers in supported accommodation of which 71% are males.

32% of care leavers are from Black – African community with 26% of children in care from the Black - African community. Other ethnic group 19% and 14% and 3% and 2% Asian, children from Asian background is relatively low and indicates they are less likely to be in children in care and care leavers compared to other ethnic communities.

### **5c. Data Gaps**

There are data gaps on children and young people religion and recording and monitoring of gender reassignment. These will be addressed with the new Liquidlogic system and better recording or religious faith and transgender identities.

## **6. Overall impact of the policy for the Public Sector Equality Duty**

The Children Act 1989 and the Children and Young Person Act 2008 which places a sufficiency duty on local authorities to secure accommodation for children in their care, stating “the Local Authority must take steps to secure, as far as is reasonably practicable, sufficient accommodation within the Authority’s area boundaries which meets the needs of children that the local authority is looking after and whose circumstances are such that it would be consistent with their welfare for them to be provided with accommodation that is in the local authority’s area” . Recommissioning of supported accommodation will support the council to be compliant with our statutory duty. Providers will be subject to quality assurance visits to ensure the standard of accommodation, location and support provided meets the councils' expectations.

## **7. Amendments and mitigations**

**7a. What changes, if any, do you plan to make to your proposal because of the Equality Impact Assessment?**

**No major change to the proposal:** the EQIA demonstrates the proposal is robust and there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact. All opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

**7b.** The service will continue to ensure robust monitoring of provider, placing children and young people closer to home where possible improve data monitoring on systems and ensure 16 and 17 years are accommodated with regulated providers.

Lead officer: Pauline Simpson

Timescale: Cabinet: 21<sup>st</sup> January

## **78. Authorisation**

EQIA approved by Assistant Director CYP Commissioning & Programmes

*Caroline Brain*

Date

19/12/2024

## **9. Publication**

Please ensure the completed EQIA is published in accordance with the Council's policy.

Please contact the Policy & Strategy Team for any feedback on the EQIA process.