

Equality Screening, Disability Duties and Human Rights Assessment Template

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Guidance notes are available to assist with completing this template. For further help please contact the Equality and Human Rights Unit ext 20539.

Part 1. Policy scoping

1.1 Information about the policy / decision

1.1.1 What is the name of the policy / decision?

Establishment of a Regional Care and Justice Campus.

1.1.2 Is this an existing, revised or a new policy / decision?

New.

1.1.3 What is it trying to achieve? (intended aims/outcomes)

Background to policy

Proposals for the establishment of a new regional Care and Justice Campus for children and young people have been developed in response to the recommendations from the Review of Regional Facilities for Children and Young People, published by the Department of Health (DoH) in December 2018. The primary recommendation of this Review was the establishment of an integrated Care and Justice Campus, comprising the existing Secure Care Centre at Lakewood and the Juvenile Justice Centre (JJC) at Woodlands. The proposals also relate to a Department of Justice (DoJ) Scoping Study into Children in the Justice System, conducted in 2015/16, which recommended that Woodlands JJC be repurposed to become part of a multi-unit interventions centre.

Lakewood Secure Care Centre is a regional service for looked after children who have been assessed as requiring secure accommodation under the provisions of Article 44 of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. Woodlands JJC provides custodial services for children who have been remanded or sentenced to custody by the courts, or who have been placed there following arrest as a place of safety.

Summary of policy

It is proposed that the Regional Care and Justice Campus will comprise (i) a Secure Care Centre made up of the existing Woodlands and Lakewood sites; and (ii) multi-agency satellite provision, including a step-down facility and community-based provision. In addition, it is proposed that a multi-agency Panel will be established to make decisions about admissions to the Secure Care Centre; and a new relationship-based, trauma-informed therapeutic practice framework will apply in the Campus and across all settings for looked after children.

Article 37(b) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child requires states to ensure that no child is deprived of their liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily; and that the arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child shall be in conformity with the law and shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time.

Intended aims/ outcomes of policy

Taken together, the proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus are aimed at providing effective community-based services as an alternative to a secure placement.

Where a secure placement is considered essential for the child's own safety or for the safety of others, the proposals are aimed at securing emotional and behavioural stability and facilitating a return to community-based services in the shortest timeframe possible. Overall, it is intended that the proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus will enable more children and young people to be supported in the community, with fewer children requiring to be placed in secure accommodation. Where a child does need to be placed in secure accommodation, the proposals aim to ensure that they will be safe and protected from harm and will experience safety and greater stability following discharge from a secure placement. Recognising the vital role of staff working across the Campus, the proposals also aim to ensure that staff are safe and supported to do their job.

1.1.4 If there are any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy, please explain how.

Only a very small proportion of children are placed in secure accommodation in Lakewood Secure Care Centre or Woodlands JJC each year. In 2018/19, there were a total of 38 admissions to Lakewood. During the same year, there were a total of 337 admissions to Woodlands JJC—less than one young person in every thousand in Northern Ireland. While the policy is aimed at improving outcomes for all of this small, but vulnerable, cohort of children and young people, we know that some s75 categories are disproportionately represented in this cohort and would therefore be expected to benefit from the intended aims of the policy.

For example, in 2018/19, young people in the JJC were predominantly male (90.6%) and more than three out of five young people in custody self-reported as Catholic (68.3%). [Source: NI Youth Justice Agency Annual Workload Statistics available at <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/justice/YJA%20Workload%20Statistics%20bulletin%202018-19.pdf>].

Older children make up the majority of the population in both Woodlands and Lakewood. Between 2014/15, young people aged 16 or older accounted for 69% of the population of Woodlands. Over the same period, 47% of children admitted to Lakewood were aged 16 and 17, compared to 36% for children aged 14 and 15, and 17% for children under 14.

Research indicates that children in secure facilities have many complex needs, including learning disabilities, communication difficulties, and emotional and mental health problems [see, for example [Review of the Youth Justice System in NI](#) (2011); [Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Young People Who Experience Secure Care in Northern Ireland](#) (Haydon 2016); [Review of Regional Facilities for Children and Young People](#) (DoH 2018); [Improving Health Within Criminal Justice Strategy](#) (DoH and DoJ 2019)].

It is therefore considered that the policy has the potential to impact positively on the basis of sex, age, religious belief, and disability. It is expected that the policy proposals will have a positive impact on these categories through:

- Effective and coordinated community-based services aimed at preventing admission to the Secure Care Centre where possible;
- A focus on securing emotional and behavioural stability for those children who do require a secure placement, and facilitating a return to community-based services in the shortest timeframe possible; and
- A continued focus on safety and stability post-discharge from the Secure Care Centre.

1.1.5 Who initiated or wrote the policy?

The recommendation to establish a Regional Care and Justice Campus stemmed from a Review of Regional Facilities for Children and Young People in NI, initiated by the then Health Minister in January 2017. The establishment of the Campus also reflects a proposal contained within the DoJ Scoping Study into Children in the Justice System, initiated by the then Justice Minister in May 2015.

The proposals for the Campus contained within the consultation documents have been developed by a joint DoH/ DoJ Programme Team in consultation with key stakeholders, and have been agreed by a Programme Board jointly chaired by the Chief Social Worker in DoH and the Director of Reducing Offending in DoJ.

1.1.6 Who owns and who implements the policy?

The proposals for the establishment of a regional Care and Justice Campus are jointly owned by DoH and DoJ. Implementation will be led by the joint DoH/DoJ Programme Team, working closely with partners in other departments and agencies. Implementation will be overseen by the Programme Board.

1.2 Implementation factors

Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision? If yes, are they

- Financial
- Legislative
- Other

Please explain:

- It is anticipated that the majority of costs for running of the Campus will come from within existing resources currently utilised in the operation of the secure care and juvenile justice centres. However, it is likely that some additional funding will be required to establish the Campus and intended wraparound / satellite provision. Following the outcome of the public consultation, a detailed costing exercise will be required to quantify the costs associated with implementation of the proposals.
- Legislation will be required to support the establishment of the Campus.

1.3 Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

- Staff
- Service users
- Other public sector organisations
- Voluntary/community/trade unions
- Other, please specify

1.4 Other policies with a bearing on this policy / decision. If any:

Policy	Owner(s) of the policy
NI Executive's Children and Young People's Strategy 2019-2029	Department of Education (DE)
Improving Health Within Criminal Justice (June 2019)	DoJ and DoH

Mental Health Action Plan (May 2020)	DoH
Strategy for Looked After Children (DRAFT)	DoH and DE

1.5 Available evidence

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative*) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories.

Section 75 category	Details of evidence/information
Religious belief	<p>Information on young people in custody, broken down by religious belief, is available in the Youth Justice Agency's Annual Workload Statistics. Over the five years from 2014/15 to 2018/19, and based on information self-reported by young people, 63% of children in custody reported that they were Catholic, compared with 26% reporting as Protestant, 2% as other, and 3% as having no religious belief. Religious belief of the remaining 6% is unknown.</p> <p>A similar breakdown is not available for children admitted to Lakewood Secure Care Centre over the same period. However, it may be possible to extrapolate some evidence from information relating to the population of looked after children in Northern Ireland. Children's Social Care Statistics for 2018/19 published by DoH show that the largest proportion (52%) of looked after children were from a Catholic background, compared to 27% from a Protestant background, 16% from another religious background, and 3% with either no or unknown religious belief. However, the same publication notes that this may reflect wider demographic trends within Northern Ireland, with a younger age distribution among people from a Catholic background and among those brought up with other religious affiliations.</p>
Political opinion	Not applicable
Racial group	A Review of the Youth Justice System in Northern Ireland published in 2011 found no evidence of a particular race or

	<p>ethnicity being over-represented in the youth justice system in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Statistical information on race and ethnicity for looked after children in Northern Ireland shows that the majority (93%) of looked after children are white, with the remaining 7% of looked after children being made up of a variety of ethnicities including mixed race, Irish/ Roma Traveller, Black, Chinese and Pakistani. The ethnic grouping of the general population from the Northern Ireland Census 2011 statistics is detailed as 98% white, with the remaining 2% made up of Irish/Roma Traveller, Black, Chinese, Pakistani, mixed and other ethnic groups.</p> <p>In light of the proportion of looked after children among the populations of both Lakewood and Woodlands, this information might helpfully inform the screening exercise.</p>																		
Age	<p>Youth Justice Agency Workforce Statistics for 2018/19 provide a breakdown of young people in custody by age, over the five years from 2014/15 to 2018/19. The age profile of young people in custody over that five year period is shown below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="411 1108 1332 1668"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>Number</th> <th>% of total population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10-13</td> <td>33</td> <td>4.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>64</td> <td>7.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>163</td> <td>19.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>242</td> <td>29.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17+</td> <td>326</td> <td>39.4%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Source: YJA Workforce Statistics 2018/19</p> <p>Separate analysis of admissions statistics for both Lakewood and Woodlands for the period 1/4/14 to 31/3/19 was carried out in response to one of the recommendations in the Review of Regional Facilities. Based on that analysis, it is possible to compare the age of children admitted to both facilities.</p>	Age	Number	% of total population	10-13	33	4.0%	14	64	7.7%	15	163	19.7%	16	242	29.2%	17+	326	39.4%
Age	Number	% of total population																	
10-13	33	4.0%																	
14	64	7.7%																	
15	163	19.7%																	
16	242	29.2%																	
17+	326	39.4%																	

	Lakewood		Woodlands	
	Number	% of total admissions	Number	% of total admissions
<14	34	17.2%	54	6.4%
14	31	15.6%	78	9.3%
15	40	20.2%	178	21.2%
16	57	28.8%	222	26.4%
17	36	18.2%	309	36.7%

While this analysis indicates that older children make up the majority of children in both facilities, it also shows a different age profile in each facility. Children in the youngest age group made up a much greater proportion of admissions to Lakewood than Woodlands over the period in question, while those aged 17 accounted for a much greater proportion of admissions to Woodlands than Lakewood.

Marital status	This information is not collected, but, given the age of the population under consideration, it can be presumed that the majority are unmarried.
Sexual orientation	No quantitative information is available on the sexual orientation of the young people in either Lakewood or Woodlands. A group of LGBT young people who met with the team carrying out a Review of the Youth Justice System in Northern Ireland in 2011 reported similar experiences to other young people in relation to contact with the justice system, but better experiences than most when their contact related to LGBT issues.
Gender (Men and women generally)	Youth Justice Agency Workload statistics show that the vast majority of young people in custody are male. In 2018/19, 90.6% of young people in custody were male and 9.4% were female. A breakdown of the JJC population by gender for the period 2014/15 to 2018/19 is shown in the table below:

	Male	Female
2014/15	84.9%	15.1%
2015/16	88.3%	11.7%
2016/17	89.2%	10.8%
2017/18	85.6%	14.4%
2018/19	90.6%	9.4%

Source: YJA Workload Statistics 2018/19

While official statistical data is not available on gender in relation to Lakewood admissions, anecdotal information puts the gender split in Lakewood at approx. 60% male to 40% female.

Disability (with or without)	Research indicates that children in secure facilities have many complex needs, including learning disabilities, communication difficulties, and emotional and mental health problems [see, for example Review of the Youth Justice System in NI (2011); Promoting and Protecting the Rights of Young People Who Experience Secure Care in Northern Ireland (Haydon 2016); Review of Regional Facilities for Children and Young People (DoH 2018); Improving Health Within Criminal Justice Strategy (DoH and DoJ 2019)].
Dependants (with or without)	No quantitative information is available on the proportion of children in either Woodlands or Lakewood who have (or do not have) dependants. However, we understand that some young people placed in secure accommodation may themselves be parents.

* **Qualitative data** – refers to the experiences of individuals related in their own terms, and based on their own experiences and attitudes. Qualitative data is often used to complement quantitative data to determine why policies are successful or unsuccessful and the reasons for this.

Quantitative data - refers to numbers (that is, quantities), typically derived from either a population in general or samples of that population. This information is often analysed either using descriptive statistics (which summarise patterns), or inferential statistics (which are used to infer from a sample about the wider population).

1.6 Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information recorded in 1.1 to 1.5, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	<p>A recent inspection report of Woodlands JJC (CJINI 2018) expressed concern not only about the number of children from a Catholic background admitted to the JJC, but also about the steady increase in the proportion of children from a Catholic background admitted.</p> <p>The proposals for an integrated Care and Justice Campus are aimed at improving outcomes for all children who may be on the edge of, or who require, a placement in secure accommodation, whether for their own safety or the safety of others. They are not targeted at any one particular s75 category. However, given the disproportionate representation of young people from a Catholic background in the JJC population, it is expected that the policy proposals will have a positive impact on this category through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Effective and coordinated community-based services aimed at preventing admission to the Secure Care Centre where possible; – A focus on securing emotional and behavioural stability for those children who do require a secure placement, and facilitating a return to community-based services in the shortest timeframe possible; – A continued focus on safety and stability post-discharge from the Secure Care Centre.
Political opinion	No evidence of specific need has been identified.
Racial group	No evidence of specific need has been identified. However, the policy proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus recognise the importance of a needs-based approach focused on meeting the assessed needs of individual children and young

	<p>people within the Campus. This will include taking account of any specific needs arising as a result of a child's race or ethnicity.</p>
Age	<p>As shown in the previous section, analysis of admissions data indicates that older children make up the majority of children in both facilities. However, it also shows a different age profile in each facility. Children in the youngest age group made up a much greater proportion of admissions to Lakewood than Woodlands over the period in question, while those aged 17 accounted for a much greater proportion of admissions to Woodlands than Lakewood.</p> <p>A key issue identified by the Review of Regional Facilities was the high proportion of young people aged 17 being admitted to regional facilities for children (including some young people nearing their 18th birthday), and noted the need to focus on this group in particular to ensure plans were in place to meet their needs beyond their 18th birthday.</p> <p>The proposals for an integrated Care and Justice Campus include provision of supported housing for 16 and 17 year olds, in acknowledgement that housing for this age group is a particular issue. The proposals also include arrangements for discharge planning for those children and young people leaving the Secure Care Centre or who are transitioning to adult services. It is proposed that the development of discharge/ transition plans will be subject to monitoring by the Multi-Agency Panel.</p> <p>It is also important to acknowledge that the needs of younger children will differ from those of older children. The policy being consulted on includes proposals for a Secure Care Centre which is focused primarily on meeting the needs of all children placed there in a consistent way and in a therapeutic environment. It is proposed that decisions about where a child will be placed within the Centre will be based on a comprehensive assessment of their needs and any risks that may be posed to them or by them, taking account of a range of factors including the child's age.</p>
Marital status	No evidence of specific need has been identified.
Sexual orientation	No evidence of specific need has been identified. However, the policy proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus recognise the importance of a needs-based approach focused on meeting the assessed needs of individual children and young people within the Campus. This will include taking account of any

	<p>specific needs arising as a result of a young person’s sexual orientation.</p>
<p>Gender (Men and women generally)</p>	<p>As demonstrated in the previous section, the vast majority (90%) of children in Woodlands JJC are male, there is a more even split between male and female children within Lakewood Secure Care Centre. It is acknowledged that the needs of male and female children—and the reasons for their secure placement—may be different.</p> <p>For that reason, the policy being consulted on includes proposals for a Secure Care Centre which is focused on meeting the needs of all children placed there in a consistent way and in a therapeutic environment. It is proposed that decisions about where a child will be placed within the Centre will be based on a comprehensive assessment of their needs and any risks that may be posed to them or by them, taking account of a range of factors including their sex or gender identity.</p>
<p>Disability (with or without)</p>	<p>It is recognised that children in secure facilities have many complex needs, including learning disabilities, communication difficulties, and emotional and mental health problems. As part of the proposals being consulted on, all children placed in the Secure Care Centre will have their needs assessed by a multi-disciplinary health and wellbeing team in collaboration with community based staff, resulting in an individual care and treatment plan and access to high quality health, education, training and other services aimed at meeting their individual needs. This will include taking account of any specific needs arising as a result of any disability a child may have.</p> <p>As part of the policy proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus, the NI Framework for Integrated Therapeutic Care (NIFITC) will facilitate a regionally consistent approach to providing therapeutic care, aligned with models of practice in other agencies.</p> <p>Within the Secure Care Centre, in conjunction with other relevant standards such as the Royal College of Paediatricians <i>Healthcare Standards for Children and Young People in Secure Care</i>, the NIFITC will support an emphasis on relationship-focussed work to provide the basis for securing safety and stability for the child, building an understanding of the child’s presenting needs and putting in place the types of supports and intervention that will</p>

	<p>facilitate a return to community-based services within the shortest timeframe possible.</p> <p>For those children placed in the Centre for a longer period of time, the NIFTC will support the integration of Campus and community therapeutic supports and interventions to help children, their families and carers build positive relationships, begin to address emotional, behavioural and developmental issues, and deliver improved outcomes.</p>
<p>Dependants (with or without)</p>	<p>It is recognised that at times some young people within the Regional Care and Justice Campus may themselves be parents. The proposals being consulted have a clear emphasis on meeting the assessed needs of each individual child or young person within the Campus through a coordinated, multi-agency response. If that child/ young person was a parent themselves, this would be a key consideration to inform that response.</p>

Part 2. Screening questions

2.1 What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 equality categories? (minor/major/none)			Level of Impact
Section 75 category	Positive/ Negative	Details of policy impact	minor/major/none
Religious belief	Positive	<p>The proposals for an integrated Care and Justice Campus are aimed at improving outcomes for all children who may be on the edge of, or who require, a placement in secure accommodation, whether for their own safety or the safety of others. They are not targeted at any one particular s75 category. However, given the disproportionate representation of young people from a Catholic background in the JJC population, it is expected that the policy proposals will have a positive impact on this category through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Effective and coordinated community-based services aimed at preventing admission to the Secure Care Centre where possible; – A focus on securing emotional and behavioural stability for those children who do require a secure placement, and facilitating a return to community-based services in the shortest timeframe possible; – A continued focus on safety and stability post-discharge from the Secure Care Centre. 	Minor
Political opinion		None expected	None
Racial group		None expected	None

Age	Positive	The proposals for an integrated Care and Justice Campus include provision of supported housing for 16 and 17 year olds, in acknowledgement that housing for this age group is a particular issue. The proposals also include arrangements for discharge planning for those children and young people leaving the Secure Care Centre or who are transitioning to adult services.	Minor
Marital status		None expected	None
Sexual orientation		None expected	None
Gender (Men and women generally)	Positive	On the basis that the majority of children currently in the JJC are male, the proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus have the potential to have a particular positive impact on this group.	Minor
Disability (with or without)	Positive	It is recognised that children in secure facilities have many complex needs, including learning disabilities, communication difficulties, and emotional and mental health problems. The proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus include specific measures aimed at meeting the assessed needs of each individual child through the development of individual care and treatment plans and access to high quality health, education, training and other services as appropriate.	Minor
Dependants(with or without)		None expected	None

2.2 Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equalities categories?		
Section 75 category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief	The policy proposals being consulted on are aimed at improving outcomes and promoting equality of opportunity for a small but vulnerable group of children and young people, irrespective of any particular Section 75 category.	
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Gender (Men and women generally)		
Disability (with or without)		

Dependants (with or without)		
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2.3 To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group? (minor/major/none)		
Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact minor/major/none
Religious belief	No expected impact on good relations	None
Political opinion	No expected impact on good relations	None
Racial group	No expected impact on good relations.	None

2.4 Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?		
Good relations category	If Yes , provide details	If No , provide reasons
Religious belief		The policy proposals being consulted on are aimed at improving outcomes and promoting equality of opportunity for a small but vulnerable group of children and young people, irrespective of any particular Section 75 category.
Political opinion		The policy proposals being consulted on are aimed at improving outcomes and promoting equality of opportunity for a small but vulnerable group of children and young people, irrespective of any particular Section 75 category.

Racial group		The policy proposals being consulted on are aimed at improving outcomes and promoting equality of opportunity for a small but vulnerable group of children and young people, irrespective of any particular Section 75 category.
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2.5 Additional considerations

Multiple identity

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities (e.g. minority ethnic people with a disability, women with a disability, young protestant men, young lesbian, gay or bisexual persons). Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

Section 75 categories – Religious Belief, Age, Disability and Gender.

As demonstrated in previous sections, young people who are male and from a Catholic background are disproportionately represented among the population of Woodlands JJC. Older children also make up the majority of the population of the JJC. It is therefore likely that boys in the 16-17 age bracket from a Catholic background are disproportionately represented within the cohort of children likely to be impacted by the policy proposals. As demonstrated above, positive outcomes have been identified.

2.6 Was the original policy / decision changed in any way to address any adverse impacts identified either through the screening process or from consultation feedback. If so please provide details.

No

Part 3. Screening decision

3.1 How would you summarise the impact of the policy / decision?

No impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consider mitigation (3.4 – 3.5)
Minor impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Major impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3.2 Do you consider that this policy / decision needs to be subjected to a full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)?

Yes - screened in	<input type="checkbox"/>
No - screened out	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3.3 Please explain your reason for making your decision at 3.2.

The policy proposals being consulted on seek to integrate existing arrangements for secure accommodation for children who may need to be placed there for their own safety or the safety of others. These arrangements are currently provided at Lakewood Secure Care Centre for looked after children who require to be placed there for welfare reasons; and at Woodlands JJC for children placed there through a justice pathway.

Under the policy proposals being consulted on, it is recognised that there will continue to be some children who—for their own or others' safety—will not be able to safely remain in the community and will require a secure placement. The aims of the policy proposals are (i) to provide effective community-based services as an alternative to a secure placement; and (ii) where a secure placement is considered essential, to secure emotional and behavioural stability and facilitate a return to community-based services in the shortest timeframe possible.

The policy proposals aim to improve outcomes and promote equality of opportunity for a small group of children with varied and often complex needs, and are not targeted at any particular s75 category. However, this screening has identified that the proposals being consulted on have the potential to have a positive impact on the basis of age, gender, religious belief, and disability. This is due primarily to the demography of the cohort of children at whom the policy is aimed, and also reflects the particular measures included in the policy aimed at meeting identified needs among older children placed in secure accommodation and those young people with complex needs. For these reasons, the overall impact has been assessed as minor and it is not considered that the policy needs to be subjected to a full equality impact assessment.

October 2012

Mitigation

If you have concluded at 3.1 and 3.2 that the likely impact is '**minor**' and an equality impact assessment is not to be conducted, you must consider mitigation (or scope for further mitigation if some is already included as per 2.6) to lessen the severity of any equality impact, or the introduction of an alternative policy to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations.

3.4 Can the policy/decision be amended or changed or an alternative policy introduced to better promote equality of opportunity and/or good relations?

Yes

No

3.5 If you responded "**Yes**", please give the **reasons** to support your decision, together with the proposed changes/amendments or alternative policy.

On the basis that the identified impacts are minor and positive, it is considered that no further mitigation is required.

Part 4. Monitoring

Monitoring is an important part of policy development and implementation. Through monitoring it is possible to assess the impacts of the policy / decision both beneficial and adverse.

4.1 Please detail how you will monitor the effect of the policy / decision?

It is proposed that a range of measures will be used to monitor the effect of the policy proposals, including:

- Data on admissions and re-admissions to the Secure Care Centre - overall, it is hoped that the implementation of a Care and Justice Campus as described will enable more children and young people to be supported in the community, with fewer children requiring to be placed in secure accommodation for their own safety or the safety of others;
- Reoffending rates – over time, it has hoped that the policy proposals being consulted on will have a positive impact on levels of reoffending;
- Destinations of children and young people following discharge from the Secure Care Centre;
- Information on any adverse incidents within the Campus – an important aim of the policy is that all children and young people within the Campus, and the staff working there, are safe and protected from harm.

4.2 What data will you collect in the future in order to monitor the effect of the policy / decision?

See response to 4.1

Please note: - For the purposes of the annual progress report to the Equality Commission you may later be asked about the monitoring you have done in relation to this policy and whether that has identified any Equality issues.

Part 5. Disability Duties

5.1 Does the policy/decision in any way promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and/or encourage their participation in public life?

It is recognised that children in secure facilities have many complex needs, including learning disabilities, communication difficulties, and emotional and mental health problems. The proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus include specific measures aimed at meeting the assessed needs of each individual child through the development of individual care and treatment plans and access to high quality health, education, training and other services as appropriate.

5.2 Is there an opportunity to better promote positive attitudes towards disabled people or encourage their participation in public life by making changes to the policy/decision or introducing additional measures?

No

Part 6. Human Rights

6.1 Please complete the table below to indicate whether the policy / decision affects anyone's Human Rights?

ARTICLE	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT = human right interfered with or restricted	NEUTRAL IMPACT
Article 2 – Right to life			X
Article 3 – Right to freedom from torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment			X
Article 4 – Right to freedom from slavery, servitude & forced or compulsory labour			X
Article 5 – Right to liberty & security of person	X		
Article 6 – Right to a fair & public trial within a reasonable time			X
Article 7 – Right to freedom from retrospective criminal law & no punishment without law.			X
Article 8 – Right to respect for private & family life, home and correspondence.			X
Article 9 – Right to freedom of thought, conscience & religion			X
Article 10 – Right to freedom of expression			X
Article 11 – Right to freedom of assembly & association			X
Article 12 – Right to marry & found a family			X
Article 14 – Prohibition of discrimination in the enjoyment of the convention rights			X

1 st protocol Article 1 – Right to a peaceful enjoyment of possessions & protection of property			X
1 st protocol Article 2 – Right of access to education			X

6.2 If you have identified a likely negative impact who is affected and how?

At this stage we would recommend that you consult with your line manager to determine whether to seek legal advice and to refer to Human Rights Guidance to consider:

- *whether there is a law which allows you to interfere with or restrict rights*
- *whether this interference or restriction is necessary and proportionate*
- *what action would be required to reduce the level of interference or restriction in order to comply with the Human Rights Act (1998).*

6.3 Outline any actions which could be taken to promote or raise awareness of human rights or to ensure compliance with the legislation in relation to the policy/decision.

The policy proposals being consulted on are underpinned by the international and domestic legal and policy framework relating to the rights of children, their care and protection, and the responsibilities of relevant authorities in relation to those rights. It is recognised that any decision to restrict the liberty of a child is a serious step and for that reason, we are also proposing to work closely with the NI Human Rights Commission to develop a human rights framework which will underpin the operation of all elements of the Care and Justice Campus, including the Secure Care Centre.

Part 7 - Approval and authorisation

	Name	Grade	Date
Screened completed by	Jennifer Mooney	7	27/08/20
Approved by ¹	Eilís McDaniel (DoH) Declan McGeown (YJA)	5	28/08/20
Forwarded to E&HR Unit ²	Draft forwarded by Jennifer Mooney	7	28/08/20

Notes:

¹ The Screening Template should be approved by a senior manager responsible for the policy this would normally be at least Grade 7.

² When the Equality and Human Rights Unit receive a copy of the final screening it will be placed on the Department's website and will be accessible to the public from that point on. In addition, consultees who elect to receive it, will be issued with a quarterly listing all screenings completed during each three month period.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO INFORM THE ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT TO THE EQUALITY COMMISSION

(PLEASE NOTE : THIS IS NOT PART OF THE SCREENING TEMPLATE BUT MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH THE SCREENING)

1. Please provide details of any measures taken to enhance the level of engagement with individuals and representative groups. Please include any use of the Equality Commissions guidance on consulting with and involving children and young people.

The proposals being consulted on have been developed jointly by the Departments of Health and Justice, in consultation with relevant stakeholders including statutory authorities, academics, NGOs, staff and their representatives in both Lakewood and Woodlands, and parents and carers of children who had spent time in each of the facilities.

A specific engagement exercise for children and young people with experience of Lakewood and Woodlands was facilitated by members of the Programme's Stakeholder Reference Group—VOYPIC, Start360, Include Youth, NIACRO, Extern—and the views expressed by children and young people during the engagement exercise are reflected in the consultation document.

2. In developing this policy / decision were any changes made as a result of equality issues raised during :
 - (a) pre-consultation / engagement;
 - (b) formal consultation;
 - (c) the screening process; and/or
 - (d) monitoring / research findings.

If so, please provide a brief summary including how the issue was identified, what changes were made, and what will be the expected outcomes / impacts for those effected.

The policy proposals aim to improve outcomes and promote equality of opportunity for a small group of children with varied and often complex needs, and are not targeted at any particular group. However, from an early stage in the development process, as a result of monitoring and research findings and stakeholder engagement, it was recognised that particular measures were required to respond to the specific needs of older children placed in secure accommodation and children with complex emotional and behavioural problems.

3. Does this policy / decision include any measure(s) to improve access to services including the provision of information in accessible formats? If so please provide a short summary.

The proposals for a Regional Care and Justice Campus include specific measures aimed at meeting the assessed needs of each individual child through the development of individual care and treatment plans and access to high quality health, education, training and other services as appropriate. The intention is that all parts of the Campus will have access to existing community-based services operating in a coordinated way to respond to the needs of children.

Thank you for your co-operation.
Equality and Human Rights Unit.