Template for Impact Assessment Level 1: Initial screening assessment

Subject of assessment:	Residential Block Contract				
Coverage:	Crosscutting				
This is a decision relating to:	Strategy	Policy	X Service	☐ Function	
	Process/procedure	Programme	☐ Project	Review	
	Organisational change	Other (please state)			
It is a:	New approach:	Х	Revision of an existing approach:		
It is driven by:	Legislation:		Local or corporate requirements: X		
Description:	• Key aims, objectives and activities To block contract a new 3 bedded residential children's home opening in Middlesbrough in order to assist us in meeting out statutory placement sufficiency and keep children and young people cared for in Middlesbrough thus further supporting family contact, allowing them to remain in education and Health needs if appropriate and avoid out of area high cost placements. • Statutory drivers (set out exact reference) The Council has a statutory sufficiency duty as detailed in section 22G of the Children Act 1989 ('the 1989 Act'), which requires local authorities to take steps that secure, so far as reasonably practicable, sufficient accommodation within the authority's area which meets the needs of children that the local authority are 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 ('the sufficiency duty'). • Differences from any previous approach This is not a different approach this contract would provide additional residential bed capacity in Middlesbrough to accommodate and care for children and young people who are looked after. • Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries (internal and external as appropriate) The Council, residents and specifically the children and young people of Middlesbrough. • Intended outcomes To strengthen our ability to meet our statutory duty in relation to sufficiency of placements to accommodate children and young people looked after in Middlesbrough.				
Live date:	Jan-March 2023				
Lifespan:	January 2023 – December 2033				

Date of next review: January 2024

Screening questions	Response			Evidence	
Sercening questions	No	Yes	Uncertain	LVIMENCE	
Human Rights Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation?*	x			It is not envisioned that the block contract would negatively impact on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK Legislation. Evidence includes analysis of performance against statutory requirements in relation to placement of children and young people looked after. The block contract will be considered for any child or young person referred and where it is evident that need and be met and that it would be in the best interest of the child or young person a placement would be made. The provider and home will be required to be registered and inspected by OfSTED in order to be able to provide residential care and a contract will be in place monitored by the Council and the Provider to ensure the service is meeting needs and providing value for money.	

^{*} Consult the Impact Assessment further guidance appendix for details on the issues covered by each of theses broad questions prior to completion.

Screening questions	Response	Evidence
Equality Could the decision result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals with characteristics protected in UK equality law? Could the decision impact differently on other commonly disadvantaged groups?*	x	The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requires that when exercising its functions the Councils must have due regard to the need to:- • eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; • advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and • foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. In having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity, the Council must consider, as part of a single equality duty: • removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic; • taking steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected to that characteristic; • taking steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it; and • encouraging people who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation is low. There are no concerns that this block contract could result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals. Evidence includes analysis of performance against statutory requirements in relation to placement of children and young people looked after. The block contract will be considered for any child or young person referred and where it is evident that need and be met and that it would be in the best interest of the child or young person a placement would be made. The provider and home will be required to be registered and inspected by OfSTED in order to be able to provide residential care and a contract will be in place monitored by the Council and the Provider to ensure the service is meeting needs and providing value for money.

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
Community cohesion Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town?*	x			There are no concerns that the block contract could have an adverse impact on community cohesion. Evidence includes analysis of performance against statutory requirements in relation to placement of children and young people looked after. The block contract will be considered for any child or young person referred and where it is evident that need and be met and that it would be in the best interest of the child or young person a placement would be made. The provider and home will be required to be registered and inspected by OfSTED in order to be able to provide residential care and a contract will be in place monitored by the Council and the Provider to ensure the service is meeting needs and providing value for money.

Next steps:

- **⇒** If the answer to all of the above screening questions is No then the process is completed.
- ⇒ If the answer of any of the questions is Yes or Uncertain, then a Level 2 Full Impact Assessment must be completed.

Assessment completed by:	Claire Walker	Head of Service:	Louise Grabham
Date:	10 th November 2022	Date:	10 th November 2022