

Initial Equality Impact Assessment – Wilna Road.

Department	Children's Services
Policy	Closure of Wilna Road
People involved	Michele Harris, Clare O'Connor

1. What changes are being proposed?

The closure of Wilna Road (Earlsfield Ward) Adolescent Resource Centre (ARC).

2. What is the rationale behind these changes?

The proposal is being made in the context of the high costs and variable occupancy levels at Bridge House ARC and Wilna Road ARC. Alternative options are considered necessary to deliver improved alternative placement for young people and better value for money. This proposal reflects a number of changing factors including limited ability to match complex placement needs of Wandsworth's looked after young people.

3. What information do you have on the policy and the potential impact of your policy change in relation to the following?

	List information you have. Do not put what the information shows you
Race	<i>Breakdown by residents, overall profile of CLA</i>
Gender	<i>Breakdown by residents, overall profile of CLA</i>
Disability	<i>Breakdown by residents, overall profile of CLA</i>
Age	Service is for young people
Faith	<i>Not collected</i>
Sexual Orientation	<i>Not collected</i>

4. Thinking about each group below please list the impact that the policy change will have.

	Impacts of policy change			
Race	Ethnicity of CLA at 31/03/11			
	Ethnicity	number	% of total	Ratio to 0-19 pop
	White	88.00	42.3%	0.65
	Mixed	46.00	22.1%	
	Asian or Asian British	2.00	1.0%	
	Black or Black British	68.00	32.7%	
	Other ethnic groups	4.00	1.9%	
	BME	120.00	57.7%	1.65
	total	208.00	100.0%	

Wilna Road Committee Report: Appendix 1

	<p>BME young people are over-represented in the CLA population. A focussed group has been set up to consider this.</p> <p>There are currently 3 young people placed at Wilna Road.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Black British/Caribbean. 2. White British. 3. Asian British /Bangladeshi. <p>Move on plans have been developed for all young people who will be moving on well before the proposed date of closure.</p> <p>The proposed plans are part of a reconfiguration of services which aims to prevent young people from entering care, to support young people in their families and where this is not possible provide tailored support for young people. Closure of Wilna Road will not mean that young people who were previously supported there are not able to access support. This is of particular importance as it is recognised that BME young people are over-represented amongst the CLA population in Wandsworth.</p>
Gender	<p>47% of CLA population is female.</p> <p>There are currently 3 young people placed at Wilna Road.</p> <p>male. female. female.</p> <p>Move on plans have been developed for all young people who will be moving on well before the proposed date of closure.</p> <p>The proposed plans are part of a reconfiguration of services which aims to support young people in their families and where this is not possible provide tailored support for young people. Closure of Wilna Road will not mean that young people who were previously supported there are not able to access support.</p>
Disability	<p>Disability as a primary need code accounts for nearly 10% of CLA.</p> <p>Increasingly, young people entering residential care have mental health problems and this requires staff to have the skills necessary to support them. Many of the young people using the units have suffered multiple placement breakdowns. These young people often present challenging and self-destructive behaviour. The closure of Wilna will not mean that these young people are not able to access support rather budget will be allocated to purchase, where required, specialist placements with specialist support for these young people.</p>

Age	This is a service for young people
Faith	<p>No data collected however the proposed plans are part of a reconfiguration of services which aims to support young people in their families and where this is not possible provide tailored support for young people. Closure of Wilna Road will not mean that young people who were previously supported there are not able to access support</p> <p>Purchasing placements within the voluntary sector mean that if a young person is in need of personalised support they can be matched with an experienced provider.</p>
Sexual orientation	<p>No data collected however the proposed plans are part of a reconfiguration of services which aims to support young people in their families and where this is not possible provide tailored support for young people. Closure of Wilna Road will not mean that young people who were previously supported there are not able to access support.</p> <p>Purchasing placements within the voluntary sector mean that if a young person is in need of personalised support they can be matched with an experienced provider.</p>

5. Is a full EIA required? No.

- Does the policy support a frontline service? Yes
- Is it clear what impact the policy change will have on all the equality groups? Yes
- Overall will the change have a negative impact on any of the equality groups? No.

Comments - Please give the rationale here for not undertaking a full EIA

The proposed plans are part of a reconfiguration of services which aims to support young people in their families and where this is not possible provide tailored support for young people. Closure of Wilna Road will not mean that young people who were previously supported there are not able to access support. This is of particular importance as it is recognised that BME young people are over-represented amongst the CLA population in Wandsworth.

6. Through the initial EIA have you identified any actions that needed to be implemented to improve access or monitoring of the policy? (please list)

n/a

Wilna Road Committee Report: Appendix 1

Signed

Date

Approved by:

(all initial EIAs to be approved by Clare O'Connor)