



## Children's Services

### Adolescent Resource Centre

#### 1. Executive Summary

The Adolescent Resource Centre includes two children's homes, one short term, one longer term, and an outreach service which is currently being developed. The Multi Treatment Disciplinary Foster Care service funded by the DfES is also under the umbrella of this service.

This is a screening exercise, a complete assessment looking at Children in Care was carried out and published in 2005.

A full EIA will be carried out as and when the decisions are finalised about redeveloping the service. The action plan at the end of this document refers to this.

#### 2. Data Collection & Consultation

##### Data Collection

The data available is collected within central statistical information from SWIFT for the young people and human resources for the staff team. This shows the reduction in the number of young people looked after

##### Consultation

- The Children Act 2004
- Standards for residential care homes
- Outcomes framework for Every Child Matters
- Tower Hamlets' internal procedures relating to Equal opportunities
- In-house procedures for residential children's homes.
- Improving Services to Meet the Needs of Minority Ethnic Families (Research in Practice, 2006)
- Occupancy levels for children's homes, data that is collected for management statistics.

#### 3. Key Findings

Neutral has been identified as the potential impact across the equality strands – the evidence within the Service indicates that individual young people do not experience more or less difficulties because of their age, disability, gender, ethnicity, religion/faith, as we are accommodating the same number of young people in the reduced number of available placements.

Because of the small cohort of young people it may be possible to undertake research based on the equality strands so that negative stereotyping doesn't take place, but case-studies that will help inform the policy and practice may need to be undertaken as part of the wider service.

## 4. Conclusions & Recommendations

The service is designed for young adolescents and is providing care to all the children and young people who have been referred.

The next step will be to carry out a full Equality Impact Assessment once decisions are finalised about redeveloping the service.

### Action Plan

Recommendation	Key activity	Progress milestones
Complete full EIA	<p>Obtaining approval for service development plan at CSMT, DMT and then Elected Members' Cabinet for Children's Services.</p> <p>Carry out the relevant consultations and relevant research as service provision is being planned and provided. This will also include Outreach and will include services for children who are not looked after.</p> <p>To ensure that there is no negative impact on 5 of the equality strands. (sexual orientation is not included)</p>	<p>March 2008</p> <p>September 2008</p>
Ongoing staff development	Inter faith discussions in care planning meetings and staff meetings and how these translate onto individual care plans for children	Internal review September 2007
Ongoing monitoring of management information in relation to occupancy levels both in this service and in external provision	Monitoring of monthly management information reports	Review of data June 07 and September 07