

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Title of proposal:

Fitness to practise cases: powers to extend interim orders

1. Describe and explain the impact of the proposal on children and young people.

The proposals contained within these regulations will have a direct effect on children's services, as they will apply to those working in the sector. Managers and social care workers in care home services mainly or wholly for children are subject to a requirement to register with the workforce regulator, Social Care Wales (SCW); and these proposals will have an impact upon those who find themselves subject to fitness to practise hearings. Whilst there will be a direct impact, we are content that there will be a positive impact overall on this group, as the proposals for the fitness to practise processes will improve the structures and processes surrounding those that care for and support children and young people.

There may also be a moderate impact on young people aged between 16 and 18 who are working as social care workers within adult services, or who are on placements or apprenticeship schemes as they will be subject to these processes as part of the wider social care workforce.

In terms of accountability, SCW would need to take into consideration the particular needs of the young person should they be subject to a complaint.

2. Explain how the proposal is likely to impact on children's rights.

Articles 3 and 6 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (the best interests of the child and the right to life, survival and development) could be relevant to this proposal. This is because of the links with accountability processes, through fitness to practise, and because one of the benefits of the proposal is a more consistent approach to learning and development, which will help support young people working in the sector to develop their career. Social Care Wales will be required to consider the best interests of the child through its management of registration and fitness to practice.

In terms of children and young people our assessment suggests that there will be a positive impact overall on this group.