



Guidance for registering a care home for children

October 2024

Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Purpose of the guidance	2
3. Rights and outcomes	3
4. Key elements to enable positive outcomes for children living in a care home	3
5. Key considerations for service providers seeking to register a care home for children	4
6. Physical environment	5
7. Provision of care and support	11
8. Key supporting guidance	12
9. Safeguarding	12
10. Links to other statutory body requirements	13
Glossary of Terms	15
Appendices	16
Appendix A: Report on consultation with Young Commissioners	16
Appendix B: CIW's good practice consideration checklist when carrying out a location assessment	17
Appendix C: Relevant legislation	19
Appendix D: Relevant supporting guidance	20
Appendix E: All Wales Safeguarding procedures	21

Care Inspectorate Wales worked with a stakeholder group including the Children's Commissioning Consortium Cymru and their Young Commissioners to develop this guidance. We are grateful for their contribution.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Care homes for children provide care and support for some of the most vulnerable children in Wales. The aim of this guidance is to set out best practice for service providers to consider when setting up a care home service for children.
- 1.2 This is supplementary guidance and should be read in conjunction with a [Guide to Registration Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2016](#) published by Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW). Consideration should also be given to the [Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2016](#) ('the 2016 Act'), [The Regulated Services \(Service Providers and Responsible Individuals\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2017](#) (as amended) ('the regulations') and the related statutory guidance for service providers and responsible individuals on meeting service standard regulations for care home services ([Guidance for providers and responsible individuals](#)) ('the statutory guidance').
- 1.3 When considering or applying to register a care home service for children, the service provider and responsible individual should familiarise themselves with the legislation and guidance set out in paragraph 1.2 above.

2. Purpose of the guidance

- 2.1 This guidance is for all service providers providing the following services:
 - Care homes for children.
 - Care homes for children and younger adults.
 - Short break care homes for disabled children.
- 2.2 It provides advice on setting up and registering a care home for children. It sets out key principles relating to the purpose, location, environment, and fabric of the service to ensure children are supported in their well-being and to achieve positive outcomes. The focus is on creating a homely environment, replicating a small family home as far as possible, where children can feel safe, cared for and nurtured.
- 2.3 Social Care Wales has produced a useful evidence [summary](#) on therapeutic approaches to inform models of care delivery.
- 2.4 Many children who experience care services, do so due to abuse, neglect and other forms of harm, and will have Adverse Childhood Experiences¹ (ACEs)

¹ Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are "highly stressful, and potentially traumatic, events or situations that occur during childhood and/or adolescence. They can be a single event, or prolonged threats to, and breaches of, the young person's safety, security, trust or bodily integrity." (Young Minds, 2018).

and suffer from trauma. Living in a nurturing, homely environment is critical in supporting children to recover from trauma.

- 2.5 We all want to ensure children receive the best possible care, with residential care being a positive and beneficial choice for some children. Care homes for children should provide a welcoming, safe, and nurturing environment, where children grow and flourish. Children should be supported to develop strong and supportive attachments enabling them to thrive and achieve positive well-being outcomes, whilst growing into adulthood.
- 2.6 To support the development of this guidance, CIW commissioned the Children's Commissioning Consortium Cymru (4Cs) to seek the views of their Young Commissioners about what makes an excellent quality care home based on their lived experience. The 4Cs Young Commissioners is a group of around 60 members aged between 6 and 19 years old, who live with a foster family or in a children's home in Wales. When considering setting up a care home for children, it is important to read the [Young Commissioners Feedback Report](#) on 'What makes a good Childrens Home? (October 2023).

3. Rights and outcomes

- 3.1 The [Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014](#) ('the 2014 Act') sets out how social care services must ensure people's well-being outcomes are at the centre of the delivery of care and support. [Part 1, section 2](#), of the 2014 Act sets out the meaning of well-being for a person, with additional areas for children.
- 3.2 [Part 6 Code of Practice \(Looked After and Accommodated Children\)](#) issued under the 2014 Act sets out the duty placed on local authorities in the provision of services to a child who is 'looked after'. The code places a duty on local authorities to ensure due regard is made to the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of The Child \(UNCRC\)](#) under which every child is entitled to rights without discrimination. The overall purpose of [Part 6](#) of the 2014 Act is to safeguard and promote the well-being of care experienced children, to enable each child to achieve recovery and healing from past harm.

4. Key elements to enable positive outcomes for children living in a care home

- 4.1 CIW inspectors have observed during inspections that children achieve positive outcomes when certain key elements listed below are in place. Service providers should consider how they will ensure the following when setting up a care home service for children:

- Children receive care and support which enables them to feel cared for, happy, healthy, safe from harm and able to develop, thrive and fulfil their potential.
- Children are valued and nurtured and seen as an individual with talents, strengths and capabilities who can grow and develop.
- Children are supported to foster positive relationships with the people with whom they share daily life activities in the care home and in the community.
- Children are supported in their emotional, mental, physical and spiritual needs, which includes repairing earlier damage to their self-esteem and self-worth to ensure they can grow and thrive.
- Children are supported to develop positive behaviour strategies.
- Children are encouraged and supported to have educational achievement and ambitions for their future.
- Children are supported by care staff who are committed, consistent, and well trained to meet each child's needs and can support children effectively to flourish and develop.

5. Key considerations for service providers seeking to register a care home for children

Young Commissioners' views on what makes a good care home.

The Young Commissioners said a good home should be clean, warm, and cosy. They spoke about the importance of good food, about having '*plenty of food and a choice of what to eat*'. They said how food made them feel comforted, happy, and safe.

They spoke about the importance of forming positive relationships with staff and how this helps them feel safe and secure. They said its '*people that make a home*' and they need to be treated kindly, fairly and be listened to.

"Understanding people, who will listen to our story."

"Nice people make it good."

"I don't want to live with people who shout, or I will shout back."

- 5.1 Service providers should understand the legislative requirements for providing a care home service. They should be clear about the vision for the service and how care and support will be provided to protect, promote, and maintain the independence, safety, and well-being of children the service intends to care for.
- 5.2 This should be set out in the statement of purpose. The statement of purpose is fundamental to the service. Please refer to the statutory guidance for service providers and responsible individuals on meeting service standard regulations for care home services ([Guidance for providers and responsible individuals](#)) and CIW's [Guide to compiling a statement of purpose - Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2016](#).

5.3 Children must also be provided with information about the service in the form of a written guide, or appropriate alternative, in a format that reflects their needs, age, and level of understanding. This information can help the child's transition into the home to be as informed and comfortable as possible. There is further detail in the statutory guidance.

6. Physical environment

6.1 The regulations and statutory guidance under the 2016 Act set out the requirements for all care homes. This guidance provides advice on specific considerations for location, layout and design when setting up a care home service for children. The premises must be located, designed, and equipped to meet the specific needs of the children for whom the service is intended.

Young Commissioners' views on location

Feeling safe and away from crime was discussed in depth. Some Young Commissioners had experienced drugs, violence, and anti-social behaviour in the areas they lived, and they wanted to stress in their view *'drugs shouldn't be around children'*. There was a clear sense they want to live in places where there is an environment that can be quiet and calm to support their well-being.

Good transport links that help with their independence and leisure time is a key consideration for our Young Commissioners, being close to bus and train links that help them to access leisure activities is important.

6.2 **Location:** The [Part 6 Code of Practice \(Looked After and Accommodated Children\)](#) emphasises the importance of location when planning for care experienced children, to help them maintain positive relationships with family and friends, and provide continuity with education, health care and other services.

6.3 The location of a care home for children is a critical consideration in ensuring children feel safe, secure and are supported to lead an active and full life within the community. Service providers must ensure the location of the premises is suitable to achieve the aims and objectives of the service as set out in the statement of purpose.

6.4 As part of the location assessment service providers should consult the local authority where the home will be located and consider publicly available local data, such as local crime statistics, consult with relevant local services, undertake a risk assessment, and develop risk management strategies. CIW will ask for evidence of these assessments having been carried out during the

registration process. CIW's good practice consideration checklist (Appendix B) provides additional guidance.

- 6.5 Ease of access to the local community and relevant facilities, such as education, health, employment, and leisure, as well as access to public transport must be taken into account. Where public transport is limited, the service provider must consider how they will facilitate community access.
- 6.6 Children's attachment to, and inclusion in, their community is essential for their development of identity, security, and sense of belonging. Some children's care homes may have a rural or isolated location in line with the aims and objectives for the type of service they wish to provide, and for some children this might be a preferred option. However, for most children a well-connected care home which is integrated into the local community will have a positive impact on their well-being.
- 6.7 When setting up a care home for children, service providers should consider the following key elements (this list is not exhaustive):
 - The availability of other services children may need to access, such as education/work placement, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), specialist support services, NHS facilities, such as a GP or dentist.
 - Being close to a local community to ensure children are not isolated from their family, friends (as appropriate).
 - There is easy access to community amenities.
 - Suitable and stimulating visual outlooks to support the health and well-being of children. For example, a garden and, where possible, access to local green space, such as park or playing field. This is especially important when providing a care home for younger children.
 - A building which will blend into the community rather than stand out. It should not look clinical or institutional.
 - Appropriate and accessible car parking and cycle facilities for children living in the home, visitors, and staff. Service providers should ensure sufficiency of parking to minimise any potential disruption in the neighbourhood which would impact on the children living in the home.
 - The suitability of the local neighbourhood as a location to care for children who are care experienced. Service providers should assess any potential risk factors which would impact on children's safety and well-being.

Young Commissioners' views on premises

All Young Commissioners said a children's home should reflect a '*normal*' family home. They strongly believe that smaller homes are best as they are more homely and normal. There was a strong focus on wanting homes that did not stand out as children's homes, which may have an association with a stigma of being looked after.

"A nice normal size house, 4 people is plenty."

- 6.8 **Design and layout:** Service providers should consider how the building and its external areas will support the aims and objectives of the service and include any necessary adaptation to meet the needs of children who have disabilities or specific health needs. If providing care for a broad age range of children, service providers must consider how they will provide safe and consistent care and promote good outcomes for all children living in the home.
- 6.9 Children thrive best in smaller care homes which are safe, homely, comfortable, well maintained and resemble a family home. Small care homes (up to four children) enable children to form positive, worthwhile relationships with staff and other children.
- 6.10 We recognise for some children living without other children may be in their best interests.
- 6.11 Most care homes for children in Wales are modelled on a domestic style home. The advantages for children are:
- They live in a home which provides a domestic design, is more nurturing, homely, and familiar, and reflects family life.
 - It promotes a sense of feeling safe and secure.
 - It enables a greater sense of ownership and belonging.
 - It fosters better relationships with their peers and care givers.
 - It enables children to be supported by a small, consistent, and trained staff team and provides opportunities for high quality care.
- 6.12 When providing care and support for children who have disabilities, the design and layout of the premises must have suitable adaptations and equipment to meet children's needs and promote their well-being and independence. Due regard **must** be paid to the [Equality Act 2010](#).
- 6.13 **Security:** The general fitting of door alarms on doors within the care home or the use of CCTV (closed circuit television), both internally and externally is not

in keeping with children's rights. There may be some circumstances when it is necessary to fit internal door alarms to keep children safe, and where this is needed there **must** be a written policy which sets out their use and this must be reflected in the statement of purpose (see also Deprivation of Liberty Orders below).

- 6.14 Fire safety precautions such as fire doors should be in keeping with the fabric of the home and support a homely environment whilst adhering to fire safety regulations.

Young Commissioners' views on what a good home should look like inside.

When sharing views on what a good home should be like inside, Young Commissioners tell us that large formal **offices** don't reflect a family home and that they would prefer their carers spend time with them rather than in their office areas.

When discussing **living rooms**, they say that in addition to the main area, there should be a smaller comfortable 'snug' area where they can spend time if they become anxious, overwhelmed, or just need some time alone.

Bedrooms are very personal and private spaces, and they describe them as needing to be cosy, snuggly and comfortable.

"Choosing what's in the house is important, getting involved, helping with the painting, choosing pictures and posters."

- 6.15 **Communal spaces:** Children require enough space to support their social and leisure needs as well as provide opportunities for privacy. Service providers will need to consider how the shared space will accommodate both children and staff and ensure it provides sufficient space for all to relax, participate in shared activities including mealtimes. Communal areas should be accessible to children, with appropriate levels of supervision, and should not be locked as a matter of course. Children should have access to safe Wi-Fi, electrical sockets, and digital devices as appropriate.
- 6.16 **Kitchen:** This should provide sufficient space for all children living in the home and staff, to provide opportunities for meal preparation etc, to support the development of independent skills. It is important consideration is given to how the kitchen will be organised to manage food storage and food preparation areas to support children's individual needs including health needs, lifestyle choices, religious beliefs, or cultural norms.
- 6.17 **Dining area:** This should be designed to support children to experience the social aspect of mealtimes with the people they live with, including staff. The space should be sufficient in size to ensure all children and staff can eat in

comfort and if required accommodate any visitors such as children's family and friends who they may wish to invite to their home.

6.18 Young Commissioners' views varied when discussing a good kitchen and dining area. They felt the design should depend on the size of the house and the children and young people who live there. They recognise a kitchen as a good place to gather, to help to cook, and a big table to sit around is important to the family feel. Some of the Young Commissioners prefer a separate dining room as this can be used for other activities around a table, like homework, and playing games.

6.19 **Bedrooms:** Bedrooms are generally a child's only personal space. Bedrooms should suit their individual needs and lifestyle, promote their independence (with specialist equipment and adaptations as required) providing a homely, safe and secure space which they are supported to personalise. Children should have their own room unless the home is supporting siblings and they have requested a shared bedroom. Bedrooms **must** enable staff access in case of an emergency and promote the safety and well-being of children living in the home.

6.20 It is best practice to consider the following for children's bedrooms:

- Sufficient space for a desk to use for homework.
- A digital connection to enable use of connections for personal entertainment, education, connecting with family and friends and supporting clinical needs if required.
- A view from the window with control of the window coverings which are suitable to the needs of the child which may include anti ligature fittings and in all cases window restrictors.

Young Commissioners' views on toilets and bathrooms

Bathrooms and the need for privacy when using these rooms is important to our Young Commissioners. Keeping shared bathrooms clean and comfortable is important.

“Prefer ensuite bathroom, but should be at least 2 bathrooms, depending on the size.”

6.21 **Toilets and bathrooms:** Children **must** be enabled to maintain their privacy and dignity when accessing toilets and bathrooms, and consider the safety, needs and abilities of individuals (including, for example, periods and continence). Baths or showers should be available, in accordance with individual needs and as set out in the statement of purpose.

6.22 Bathrooms and ensuites should have storage for children’s own toiletries and other personal items. When planning where communal toilets and bathrooms should be sited service providers should consider:

- The proximity of the communal toilet/bathroom to bedrooms.
- The proximity of the communal toilet/bathroom to sitting/dining areas.

6.23 **Laundry, utility, and cleaning:** Whilst most domestic homes will not have a separate utility area, when setting up a care home for children, service providers will need to consider the location of laundry facilities. Where possible this should be situated away from sleeping areas to avoid disruption. Children should be able to access, and be supported to use, laundry facilities safely and with appropriate levels of privacy, where appropriate.

Young Commissioners’ view on staff facilities

A key focus of their conversations were staff spaces, particularly formal **office** layouts. They generally feel that large formal offices don’t reflect a family home. They talked about how some of them were not allowed to enter these staff spaces in their homes. Our Young Commissioners tell us that carers tend to gather in offices rather than spend time with them in the communal spaces, watching tv, chatting etc.

6.24 **Staff facilities:** Service providers should ensure they fulfil their duty of care to staff who sleep in the home overnight and provide them with appropriate bedroom(s) and facilities. Consideration will need to be given to where they will sleep in proximity to the children and whether there may be a need to provide waking night staff.

Young Commissioners’ views on what the exterior of a good home should look like, including the gardens and outside space.

Young Commissioners told us a children’s home shouldn’t look any different to any other child’s family home. They talk about how there shouldn’t be any signs (corporate signage) that identify their home as a children’s home.

A good **garden** area is important to our Young Commissioners as many of them like, even prefer, to be outside (when it’s not raining!). They talk about a large enough area to play games, or practice sports like football. They also talk about the importance of being able to spend time there when they ‘need space’, time to think or reflect, and time away from others.

“No signs saying “CARE HOME” or railings around it.”

“Tidy, nice grass, place to play.”

“Fairy lights.”

“When I need space, I prefer to go outside into the garden.”

6.25 For services providing care to five or more children the regulations state:

- All bedrooms used for the provision of the service must have an en-suite bathroom which includes an accessible wash hand basin, toilet and shower.
- All bedrooms used for the provision of the service must have a minimum of 12 square metres of useable floor space. Where the person living in the room uses a wheelchair on a permanent and constant basis the bedroom must have a minimum of 13.5 square metres of useable floor space.
- Communal space also needs to be calculated per person. This should be at least 4.1 square metres for each individual and 5.1 square metres for wheelchair users.

6.26 **External Space:** Service providers need to consider the suitability of the external space and ensure it meets the aims and objectives of the service and ensure children's overall well-being is promoted. The outdoor space should support children to have opportunities for play, recreational activities, and where possible provide opportunities to be supported and encouraged to participate in growing plants and vegetables.

7. Provision of care and support

7.1 When setting up a care home service for children, service providers must consider how care and support will be provided in a way which protects, promotes, and maintains the safety and well-being of all children living in the home, and in line with the statement of purpose.

7.2 Service providers should consider:

- Therapeutic approaches to underpin care and support.
- Any specific model of care including any specialist provision such as therapy and education.
- How they will ensure care staff are equipped with the skills and expertise to apply therapeutic approaches, apply the model of care in practice and meet the needs of the children living in the home.
- Strength based practice and how children will be supported to achieve their personal outcomes.

7.3 Service providers **must** consider the range of needs of children they intend to provide care for and if children will need to use specialist services such as community mental health services, speech, and language therapy, occupational therapy, and accessibility to these services in relation to the locality of the home.

7.4 Service providers who provide their own specialist clinical or therapeutic services **must** ensure people delivering these services are registered with the relevant professional bodies and have the skills and expertise to deliver the service in line with the statement of purpose.

7.5 In preparing for registration, it is important service providers also consider how they will carry out admissions, assessments and prepare personal plans for children, in line with the regulations and statutory guidance.

7.6 Service providers will need to consider how they will ensure:

- Children receive safe and consistent care from staff who are well trained and have the skills and expertise to ensure they achieve their personal well-being outcomes.
- Children are actively involved in decisions about their lives and their views are sought in the delivery of their care.
- Children have access to advocacy support.
- Children have a link worker who has a central role in respect of each child and participates in any review of their care and support.
- Children have access to any specialist service to ensure their well-being outcomes are achieved.
- If providing care through a specific model, all staff have the skills and expertise to deliver the care and this is outlined in the statement of purpose.
- Care and support is provided to children in line with their care and support plan from the local authority.
- Personal plans describe how each child's care and support needs will be met holistically, including arrangements for supporting health and well-being and supporting children to achieve their personal outcomes.
- A positive approach to education is promoted in the home, to ensure children meet their educational achievements.
- Care is delivered in a way which promotes the development of routine and structures for children.

8. Key supporting guidance

8.1 In setting up a care home service for children, service providers should be aware of specific guidance for supporting children and young people. Relevant supporting guidance is outlined in the Appendix D, but this is not exhaustive.

9. Safeguarding

9.1 The [regulations](#) require care and support to be delivered in a way which safeguards and protects the children living in the home.

- 9.2 When developing safeguarding policies and procedures service providers must ensure these are in line with the [Wales Safeguarding Procedures](#) and systems operate within the home to ensure children are appropriately safeguarded. It is the service provider's responsibility to ensure all staff understand and operate within these procedures. Social Care Wales has published [Safeguarding training](#).
- 9.3 Service providers should ensure they are able to meet their responsibilities under the [All Wales Practice Guide](#) for safeguarding children who go missing from home or a care setting.
- 9.4 Service providers should have policies and procedures in place to ensure children are appropriately safeguarded and staff have the skills and expertise to ensure they can be alerted to any situation where a child could be exploited. This is a highly complex area and service providers will need to ensure children who are vulnerable to exploitation are provided with the support that not only safeguards and protects them but enables them to develop strategies to keep them safe.
- 9.5 In March 2022, the Welsh Government implemented the [All Wales Protocol: Reducing the criminalisation of care experienced children and young adults](#). Service providers will need to demonstrate through their policies and practice how they will work within the framework of this protocol. This toolkit is a useful resource [Reducing the Criminalisation of care experienced children and young adults in Wales: A Practical Toolkit for Professionals](#).
- 9.6 Service providers must support the use of positive restrictive practice techniques that meet the principles of the Welsh Government, [Reducing restrictive practices framework](#). Service providers will need to ensure the principles of this guidance are delivered in the day-to-day care of children, using positive and preventative approaches. Restrictive practices should only ever be used as a last resort and should only be used where there is a real possibility of harm to the individual or to others.
- 9.7 Service providers will need to ensure any child living in a care home subject to a deprivation of liberty order are protected under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). Service providers should refer to CIW [Guidance on inherent jurisdiction Deprivation of Liberty High Court Orders for children](#).

10. Links to other statutory body requirements

- 10.1 It is the service provider's responsibility to seek advice from other relevant statutory agencies to ensure the care home for children meets the statutory requirements.

- 10.2 This includes local authority planning departments, fire authorities, environmental health, and the health and safety executive. Service providers will need to take note of the legislation on automatic fire suppressions in children's home.
- 10.3 It is important service providers understand the requirement for fire suppression systems as laid down in the [Building Regulations Wales Circular: Clarification of Automatic Fire Suppression Systems in Care Homes for Children.](#)

Glossary of Terms

Children

The term 'children' or 'child' is used to refer to people up to the age of 18 years old.

Models of care

A blueprint or framework to guide the practice of staff, with a particular focus on how to create and sustain change/impact. Ideally, these models deploy proven techniques that are based on either a theory of behaviour or why problems arise and/or evidence of 'what works'. These models help to ensure that people with similar types of need are supported in similar and joined-up ways, i.e. practice is replicable and transferable.

Responsible individual (RI)

A person designated by a service provider under the 2016 Act to act on their behalf in relation to a registered service(s).

Service

This refers to an individual service. For care home services this would be a care home, carried out at a specific location.

Service provider

A person or organisation registered with CIW to provide a regulated service.

Statement of purpose

The statement of purpose is the key document which sets out your vision for the service and how you intend to meet the needs of the people using it. For more information on what the statement of purpose must contain, please see CIW's guidance on compiling a statement of purpose.

Appendices

Appendix A: Report on consultation with Young Commissioners

[Care experienced children and young people help shape guidance on opening quality children's homes in Wales](#)

[CIW Young Commissioners Feedback Report](#)

Appendix B: CIW's good practice consideration checklist when carrying out a location assessment

This checklist has been developed to support good practice in undertaking location assessments and encourage collaboration between providers and local services so children who live in children's homes can access the same benefits and protections as other children.

It aims to help providers to:

- Locate care homes for children in areas where they may complement other local resources and respond to identified need within the relevant local authority area, sub-region and region.
- Ensure that premises used for children's homes are appropriately and suitably located so that children cared for by the home are:
 - Effectively safeguarded, and
 - Able to access services to meet the needs identified in their care and placement plans.

It is good practice for a location assessment to be kept under review and amended to take account of any new risks as these are identified.

What should a location assessment cover?

- Evidence of consultation with relevant local and regional commissioners to demonstrate consideration has been given to the location of the home in relation to the likely demand for the service within the relevant local authority areas and the wider sub-region/region.
- Consultation with local authority planning departments.
- Positive features in a local community that would benefit children such as leisure, sport, cultural activities, transport links and
- Access to relevant education and healthcare services in line with envisaged service model / statement of purpose.
- Access to services and resources that would support a child's cultural or ethnic identity.
- Whether the home's location increases the potential for an already vulnerable child to be a victim of crime such as being targeted for sexual exploitation or other forms of exploitation.
- Whether there is a likelihood of children living in the home becoming drawn into gang crime or anti-social behaviour in the local area.
- The suitability of the local neighbourhood as a location to care for children who may have already been victims of abuse or neglect, and
- If there are other factors in the local environment that would represent a hazard to children.

Key steps in undertaking a location assessment

1. Collation of publicly available local data, for example:
 - On-line searches of local crime statistics; population needs assessment / market needs analysis.
 - Data on local schools and healthcare services.
 - Children's opportunities for participation in leisure, sporting and cultural activities.

2. Consultation with local services including:
 - Relevant local and regional commissioners.
 - Planning departments.
 - Services that have a statutory responsibility for the safety and well-being of children in the area i.e. social services, education, relevant healthcare teams, police, probation services.

3. Assessing any risks
 - After collating relevant information, the provider of a proposed home, should undertake an analysis to reach a view on the potential risks, benefits, and any disadvantages, of the proposed location of the care home and any associated risks.
 - Once a draft assessment has been developed it would be good practice to seek feedback from the agencies previously consulted.
 - The provider / responsible individual is ultimately responsible for reaching a judgement about the nature of any concerns and how these might be managed.

4. Developing strategies to manage risk
 - Where analysis identifies risks or concerns about the proposed location, the provider should identify and develop actions to address and mitigate these.
 - Once registered, when new placements are being planned, the responsible individual should make the placing authority aware of any issues identified by the location assessment process and how the home is addressing these. This should include any risk and mitigation linked to a specific child's profile of need.

Appendix C: Relevant legislation

[Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014 Part 6 Looked After and Accommodated Children](#)

[Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)

[The Regulated Services \(Annual Returns and Registration\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019](#)

[Statutory Guidance in Relation to Parts 3 to 20 of the Regulated Services \(Service Providers and Responsible Individuals\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2017](#)

[Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014 Part 3 Code of Practice \(assessing the needs of individuals\)](#)

[Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014 Part 10 Code of Practice \(Advocacy\)](#)

[Building Regulations Wales Circular: Classification of Automatic Fire Suppression Systems in Care Homes for Children](#)

Appendix D: Relevant supporting guidance

[Guide to Registration Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)

[Guide to compiling a statement of purpose - Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)

[Template for compiling a statement of purpose](#)

[Guidance on completing the quality of care review: Regulation and Inspection of Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2016](#)

[Template for completing the quality of care review report](#)

[Guidance for Responsible Individuals on statutory visits to regulated services](#)

[Reducing restrictive practices framework](#)

[Positive approaches: Reducing restrictive practices in social care](#)

Appendix E: All Wales Safeguarding procedures

[Wales Safeguarding Procedures](#)

[All Wales Practice Guide: Safeguarding children from child sexual exploitation](#)

[All Wales Practice Guide: Safeguarding children who may be trafficked.](#)

[All Wales Practice Guide: Safeguarding children missing from home or care](#)