

## *Policy Circular*

**Document No 08/06**

**Owner:** Strategy & Communications Directorate

**Subject:** Adult Placements

**Version:** 2 of 2

**Last Amended:** 10 June 2010

**Date Reviewed:** 10 June 2010

**Next Review:** June 2012

**Please note: From 17 June 2010 the ILF is closed to new applications.**

### **1.0 Background**

“Adult Placement offers people aged 16 and over an alternative and highly flexible form of accommodation and/or support which is provided by ordinary individuals or families in the local community.”  
(Department of Health, July 2002)

At the ILF we regularly come across “Adult Placements”. This may be a situation where an adult is living with their ex foster parents who have now been approved as Adult Placement carers, or it may have been set up specifically as an Adult Placement. In these cases the client will be living in a normal house in the community with some or all of their care being provided by the householder.

In England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland all ‘Adult Placements Carers’ now have to be approved as part of a scheme and all Adult Placement Schemes have to be registered with the regional regulatory board (eg Care Quality Commission in England). They must meet minimum standards derived from national legislation (eg Care

#### **Independent Living Fund**

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The Independent Living Fund is an Executive Non-Departmental Public Body of the Department for Work and Pensions

Standards Act 2000 in England). This registration is not the same as that registering a care home or agency providing domiciliary care.

## **2.0 Policy**

Adult Placement Scheme registration is defined in the regulations as separate from residential care home registration and is to enable Disabled People to live within the community in a family environment.

It is important that all ILF funding supports independent living with choice and control. In general we expect that Adult Placements will provide a satisfactory degree of choice and control. We need to be satisfied that the placement is designed to meet the expressed wishes of the user, and that they freely choose to have their support provided by the Adult Placement carer.

It is recognised that once established, adult placements may not offer the same facility for ready change of carer that an employer / employee basis can offer but this should not debar such arrangements, as we already support similar arrangements for disabled people to live in the households of family and friends, some of whom may be paid by SSD or ILF.

However it remains important that all other aspects of life such as freedom to come and go, activity at home, choice of who provides any additional care, choice of activity and friends etc. remain firmly under the control of the user, and the ILF Assessor (ILFA) will seek to ensure that this is the case.

## **3.0 Procedure**

When someone is in an Adult Placement arrangement, the ILF will need to understand what level of service has been agreed as part of the placement.

All Adult Placement Schemes will have provision for a 'service level agreement' or 'placement agreement' or 'placement contract' (the terms used may vary, this policy document will use the term Placement Agreement) and these will detail what care is expected to be provided by the Adult Placement Carers for the person being placed and the cost of that care.

If the Placement Agreement includes any costs for items other than qualifying support and services these costs should not count as part of the Local Authority input and could not be considered for funding by the ILF. Any part of the Placement Agreement, which is for qualifying support and services, can be considered for funding by the ILF.

It will be the responsibility of the ILFAs to confirm whether the placement is part of a scheme and they will ask to see the Placement Agreement. ILFAs will highlight any concerns that they identify having seen the Placement Agreement. If the Adult Placement Agreement is not seen by the ILFA this should be noted in their report. If there is any doubt about what is in the Adult Placement Agreement, a copy should be obtained by Nottingham staff and then discussed with the Social Work Team.

#### **4.0 Summary**

The ILF is able to consider funding Adult placements provided that they offer a sufficient element of choice and control, and to fund any part of the cost of the Adult Placement that is concerned with qualifying support and services. The ILF will also consider funding support not included in the Placement Agreement that is designed to enhance the Independent Living opportunities of the Applicant by supporting their qualifying support and services needs.

#### **5.0 Source**

Trustees meeting 28 November 2006

#### **6.0 History Date Reviewed**

28 January 2008

March 2009

10 June 2010

# Equality Impact Assessment

## Screening Template

This preliminary impact assessment form is to help you screen your policy, project, function or new service. It should help you consider whether a full Equality Impact Assessment is required by looking at whether there is a potential negative or positive impact on any of the equality groups, if there is an opportunity to promote equality, and whether further data is needed.

**Title of policy, project, function or service:**

Adult Placement policy

**Short description of aims and objectives**

To support users who choose to have an adult placement whilst ensuring their choice and control are safeguarded.

**Thinking about each group below, does (or could) the policy, project, service or function have an impact on members of each equality group? If so, how?**

Equality Group	Yes – negatively	Yes – positively	Unclear	No impact
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Transgender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economic groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**What information or research has been considered in judging these impacts?**

You should consider a full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) if:

- (a) you feel one or more equality groups will be negatively impacted by the policy, project or service, or
- (b) there is an opportunity to promote equality and eradicate discrimination.

You may also consider further research if it is unclear, at this stage, what the impact may be.

**Based on your findings, is a full EIA required?**

Yes

No

**Please provide a short summary of your decision-making below:**

The policy simply clarifies ILF's support to users who wish to engage an Adult Placement whilst ensuring the ILF Assessor monitors the user's continued choice and control over the arrangements.

This enables users to choose the best arrangement for them and therefore has a positive impact on the lives of disabled people.

**Notes:**

- The completed EIA Screening Template should be sent to Jon Duckworth, User Liaison Manager for approval by the Equality Impact Assessment Board (EIAB).
- We will contact you with any comments or queries about the completed form.

**This form was completed by:**

Joanna Mora