

Thurrock Council

Community Equality Impact Assessment

Service area and lead officer

Name of service	Adult Social Care
CEIA Lead Officer	Ibrahim Bakarr and Mamade (Matt) Auckburally
CEIA Lead Officer job title	Service Managers
CEIA Lead Officer email address	IBakarr@thurrock.gov.uk ; mamade.auckburally@nhs.net

Subject of this assessment

What specific policy, strategy, function or service is the subject of this assessment?
Reviews for Section 117 (S117) residents under both Social Care and Essex Partnership University NHS Trust (EPUT) Mental Health
Borough-wide or location-specific?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Borough-wide <input type="checkbox"/> Location-specific – please state locations below.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Why is this policy, strategy, function or service development or review needed?
<p>Some people who have been kept in hospital under the Mental Health Act can get free help and support after they leave hospital. The law that gives this right is section 117 of the Mental Health Act, and it is often referred to as 'section 117 aftercare'. According to the Council list, there are currently 228 residents under the Section 117 register. Within that register it has been identified that there are various housing schemes and support care that is being offered to 112 residents. It is proposed that a thorough review of these 112 residents is carried out in order to identify as to whether those identified needs within this cohort of residents are still valid or can their care be provided in a different framework. The responsibility of S117 reviews is shared between the Council and EPUT.</p> <p>The objective of the project is to complete a targeted and purposeful review and possible discharge for residents both locally and those that are living out of area who are currently in receipt of S117 aftercare through Thurrock Council. This aftercare has included support within residential/nursing placements, various housing schemes including supported living schemes and those in receipt of direct payments.</p>

1. Engagement, consultation and supporting information

- 1.1. What steps you have taken, or do you plan to take, to engage or consult (where applicable) the whole community or specific groups affected by this development or review? **This is a vital step.**

Steps you have taken, or plan to take, to engage or consult

Those residents who are entitled to Section 117 aftercare require a yearly review to ensure their needs are met according to this framework. This cohort of residents would normally be approached by the organisation that is leading their care which is either the Local Authority or EPUT. Essentially, a resident becomes eligible for S117 aftercare if they have been detained under sections 3, 37, 45A, 47 or 48 of the Mental Health Act (MHA) and then they are discharged from hospital.

It is proposed to efficiently manage this project, dedicated resources are allocated from both Thurrock Council and EPUT to ensure a positive outcome overall. Having 2 dedicated practitioners (Community Psychiatric Nurse/Social Workers) will provide an enhanced focus on these reviews, ensuring quality, robustness and identifying cost savings.

Those cohort of residents on the S117 Register will be approached and invited to attend their reviews and where appropriate this will be conducted in an environment which is best for them. This could be at in a clinical setting or home environment. As part of the review and where required, others involved in their care will be invited as well - this includes carers, family members or advocate. We will take into account any special needs including communication and engagement.

- 1.2. What data or intelligence sources have you used to inform your assessment of the impact?
How have these helped you understand who will be affected by the development or review?

Sources of data or intelligence, and how they have been used

At the moment, the Mental Health Act Office from EPUT provides a register of all S117 residents within the Thurrock locality and this is shared with the Council services to complete their reviews and to monitor this.

This data has already been made available to teams across both EPUT and Thurrock Council to facilitate annual S117 reviews.

Data has also been collated from Thurrock Council's adult social care database (LAS) as well as from the Council's performance management team.

2. Community and workforce impact

- 2.1. What impacts will this development or review have on communities, workforce and the health and wellbeing of local residents?

Communities and groups	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Summary of positive and negative impacts	How will positives be maximised, and negatives minimised or eliminated?
Local communities in general	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Potential increase in complaints from residents and their families if their care and eligibility is reduced or they are required to fund aspects of it.	Signposting to complaints procedure and adherence. Support and signposting to alternative provision where appropriate.
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Marriage and civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Location-specific impact, if any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Creation of two opportunities to lead this project as set out.	Potentially after the project, efficiencies might provide opportunities for this intervention to be considered as long term.
Health and wellbeing of residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Communities and groups	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Summary of positive and negative impacts	How will positives be maximised, and negatives minimised or eliminated?
Socio-economic outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depending on the outcomes of the review, residents might have services reduced or increased. In some cases, it might be that the resident will need to pay for their care which can impact on their economic state.	Rationale and explanations for their eligibility along with support and signposting to alternative provision where appropriate.
Veterans and serving members of the armed forces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

3. Monitoring and review

3.1. How will you review community and equality impact once the policy, strategy, function or service has been implemented? These actions should be developed using the information gathered in sections 1 and 2 and included in your service area's business plans.

Action	By when	By who
Complaints	Throughout the period of the project	Service Managers
Feedback from residents, carers and staff	Throughout the period of the project	Service Managers
Data analysis in regards to efficiency achieved from the investment	Throughout the period of the project	Service Managers
Review any additional feedback from budget engagement exercise and update this CEIA accordingly	January 2024 Click or tap here to enter text.	Ibrahim Bakarr and Mamade (Matt) Auckburally

4. Next steps

4.1. The information gathered must be used to inform reports presented to Cabinet or overview and scrutiny committees. This will give members a necessary understanding of the impact their decisions will have on different groups and the whole community.

Summarise the implications and customer impact below. This summary should be added to the committee reports template in the Diversity and Equality Implications section for review and sign-off at the consultation stage of the report preparation cycle.

Summary of implications and customer impact

The purpose of the one-year project is to complete a targeted and purposeful review by two practitioners recruited to do so. The potential outcomes will be possible discharge for residents both locally and those that are living out of area who are currently in receipt of the S117 aftercare through Thurrock Council. This aftercare has included support within residential/nursing placements, various housing schemes including supported living schemes and those in receipt of direct payments. Section 117 reviews are expected to be completed on an annual basis. In this document it has been identified as part of a business case that the review and nature of them are compromised at times due to various factors which affect the standard required. This can be as a consequence of capacity within the workforce to complete this work effectively, use of temporary staffing, and competing priorities.

Notably, people in receipt of S117 aftercare services cannot be charged when their entitlements are still valid, and needs are still present. This will remain the case until Thurrock Council and EPUT agree that the person is no longer in need of those services and hence discharge needs to be considered.

Depending on the outcomes of the review, there will potentially be an increase in complaints for those whose care and funding are affected. This will be managed through both informal and formal complaint routes overseen by the two Service Managers.

5. Sign off

5.1. This Community Equality Impact Assessment must be authorised by the relevant project sponsor, strategic lead, or assistant director. This should not be the CEIA Lead Officer. Officers authorising this assessment are responsible for:

- the accuracy of the information
- making sure actions are undertaken

Name	Role	Date
Les Billingham	Assistant Director – Adult Social Care and Community Development Click or tap here to enter text.	20/10/23