



Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Title of policy/process under consideration

Engaging Care Abroad

Lead department

Corporate Affairs

Is this policy/process? (Please tick)

New Existing Revised

Is this a full EIA? (Please tick)

Yes No

Please state the reasons for the above decision.

The policy applies equally to all ILF users. We have not identified any potential negative impacts of the policy.

What are the policy/process objectives and aims?

The current policy describes how the ILF will continue to support users who are abroad by continuing to fund their support during these periods. The policy reflects the remit of the ILF to support users to live independently within their communities and in doing so to have choice and control over their lives. In particular it states that users are able to employ providers not registered or resident in the UK when the user is abroad.

The policy is subject to users continuing to meet the ILF eligibility requirements.

Please state the reasons why the changes are taking place.

As it is unclear whether individual Local Authorities will also fund this type of support the revision advises that where users currently have employed carers abroad in line with the ILF policy but where the Local Authority will not support this following the closure of the ILF at the end of March 2015 users should be made aware of this so they are prepared for the change after the transfer in 2015. The revised policy also informs ILF staff to be cautious when agreeing to future care abroad dates in-case they coincide with the transfer date.

Key**-2** Significant negative impact**+1** Mild/moderate positive impact**-1** Mild/moderate negative impact**+2** Significant positive impact**0** Neutral impact

Protected Characteristic	Impact	Notes
Age	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Disability	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Gender	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Gender reassignment	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Marriage and civil partnership	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Pregnancy and maternity	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Race	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Religion or belief	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users
Sexual orientation	0	This policy change should have a neutral impact on the protected characteristic. The change should ease the transfer process for some users

What alternative policy/process options have been considered to reduce or alleviate any identified impact?

There has not been any identified negative impact as a result of this assessment.

The policy has been revised with a view to reduce and/or alleviate any possible impact on users once responsibility for their eligible support needs is transferred to local authorities\devolved administrations from April 2015.

What research has been gathered/considered when making decisions regarding the Protected Characteristics?

The ILF does not collect statistical information upon when users employ care abroad or who they employ.

The Equality Act has been considered to identify any positive or negative impact of the revised policy with regards to the Protected Characteristics.

The members of the EIAB also provide experience relating to the Protected Characteristics when reviewing the equality impact assessments.

Are any future actions required for example monitoring or review?

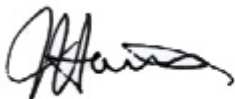
This policy is currently due for a general review

EIAB comments/recommendations

The EIAB reviewed the EIA on 25 April 2013 and agreed to the EIA as presented with no suggestions for amendments.

Date form completed 11 April 2013

Signature of EIAB chair



Date 26 April 2013

Subsequent amendments to policy/process

Date of amendment	November 2013
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Details of amendment

On 6 November 2013, the Court of Appeal quashed the Government's decision that was made on 18 December 2012 to close the Independent Living Fund (ILF). All activity relating to the Transfer Review Programme has therefore ceased. The policy has been amended to remove a paragraph advising assessors to consider if the arrangements would be supported by the local authority following transfer.

Reason why a new EIA is not required

This amendment has no impact on the protected characteristics

Date of amendment	7 March 2014
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Details of amendment

On 6 March 2014 the Government made a decision to close the Independent Living Fund (ILF) on 30 June 2015. The funding and responsibility for users ILF care and support needs will be transferred to local authorities in England and the devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland from 1 July 2015. The ILF commenced a Transfer Review Support Programme (TRSP) on 7 March 2014.

The policy has been updated to include a paragraph advising assessors to consider if the arrangements would be supported by the local authority following transfer.

Reason why a new EIA is not required

The current EIA does not identify any negative impact on the protected characteristics as the policy is intended to be applied to each group equally.

The revisions to the policy do not affect this impact and therefore a new EIA is not required.