

Local authority commissioning services

This scenario was developed to support learners to consider what a children's human rights approach might look like in practice.

A local authority are looking to target additional support to infants, children, and young people whose rights are at risk through a programme of commissioned services with five years' worth of funding.

The leadership team asks relevant workers to:

- Work with groups of children and young people on their Youth Council to agree desired outcomes for the funding.
- Run an open tendering process where applicants are required to detail how their work supported further realisation of children's rights for infants, children and young people whose rights are at risk.
- Involve a panel of children and young people from the Youth Council in the scoring process for the bids received.
- Collect disaggregated data to ensure children whose rights are at risk would be identified during the Child Rights Impact Assessment and their rights prioritised.
- Complete a Child Rights Impact Assessment on the initial decision, to ensure the funding is having the maximum impact on further realising children's rights.
- Ensure a feedback mechanism is in place with the funding, so infants and carers, children and young people supported by the successful services are able to give direct feedback to the local authority.
- Review the impact of the services at the end of the second and third years of funding using Child Rights Impact Evaluations with input from infants and carers, children and young people accessing the commissioned services to ensure the agreed outcomes are fully realised.
- Conduct a final Child Rights Impact Evaluation at the end of the funding cycle to consider if any further steps should be taken if not all outcomes are fully realised.

Reflection questions

How could you support commissioned services to consider children's rights?

Are there feedback mechanisms in place to hear how infants, children and young people feel about commissioned services?

