

Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening



As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision**. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions. Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

Directorate: City Development	Service area: Highways & Transportation
Lead person: Peter Morris	Contact number: 0113 2475319

1. Title: **Leeds (River Aire) Flood Alleviation Scheme – mitigation works at Woodlesford**

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

The screening document focuses on the revised options report relating to the above scheme.

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

Planning permission was granted on the 1st May 2013 to construct two movable weirs and associated infrastructure in place of static Victorian structures as part of the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme proposals. A condition was placed on the approval to undertake mitigation measures to prevent any increase in flood risk downstream of the movable weirs. A study has since identified Woodlesford as an area of increased flood risk due to the proposed flood defence works. The mitigation works must be implemented before the movable weirs can be operated.

This screening focuses on a report to the Executive Board seeking approval to:

- Tender for the detailed design and construction of the mitigation works downstream of the city centre at Woodlesford
- Procure additional external technical resource to support the team in the design, technical development and build of the project.

3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and any other relevant characteristics (for example socio-economic status, social class, income, unemployment, residential location or family background and education or skills levels).

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?	X	
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		X
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		X
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment• Advancing equality of opportunity• Fostering good relations		X

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4**.
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5**.

4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).

- **How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?**

(think about the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)

Previous consultation was carried out by the Environment Agency and Leeds City Council as part of the comprehensive scheme proposals during May/June 2009.

Rothwell Ward Members were consulted at two separate meetings on the 18th and 26th April 2013. No adverse comments were received regarding the proposals at Woodlesford.

Extensive consultations have been carried out for the works and are still on-going. A questionnaire has been distributed to all businesses and members of the public directly affected by the proposals via a letter and leaflet drop in Woodlesford. The questionnaire is also available through the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme webpage and this is consultation process is due to expire on the 28th July 2013.

The letter also advertised the Leeds City Council attendance at the Leeds Waterfront Festival on the 29th and 30th June 2013. Approximately 150 people visited the stall during this period. Visitors to the stall were offered copies of the consultation leaflet and informed about the FAS website. The stall also offered an opportunity for members of the public to openly discuss their concerns and expressed their interest in the proposed development. Arups were commissioned with the task of producing a Statement of Community Involvement. This document gives a detailed breakdown of consultation process and summarises the comments and feedback received.

- **Key findings**

(think about any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)

Positive Impacts

- A large number of residential properties in Woodlesford will be given a standard of protection against a 1 in 200 year flood event. This positive impact benefits all people living in the area, particularly people with impaired vision, people with mobility difficulties and small children who may have had difficulty existing their properties should a major flood event be realised.

Negative Impacts

- No negative impacts have been identified.

- **Actions**

(think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/ reduce negative impact)

None

5. If you are **not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you **will need to carry out an impact assessment.****

Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	N/A
Date to complete your impact assessment	N/A
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	N/A

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

Name	Job title	Date
Oliver Priestley	Acting Projects Manager	19 th July 2013

7. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If you are not carrying out an independent impact assessment the screening document will need to be published.

Please send a copy to the Equality Team for publishing

Date screening completed	22 July 2013
Date published (To be completed by the Equality Team)	