

APPENDIX C

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: Adult Social Care	Service area: Health and Wellbeing
Lead person: Jenny Friday	Contact number: 07891 272511

1. Title: Better Care Fund: implications for Leeds City Council

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

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

This report requests that Executive Board note current progress made towards the submission of the Better Care Fund.

Proposals for the Better Care Fund are still being developed but will contribute to the overall vision that 'Leeds will be a healthy and caring city for all ages, where people who are the poorest will improve their health the fastest'. Once developed, proposals will need to be screened for impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

To ensure maximum effectiveness, the Health and Wellbeing Board will comply with current Leeds City Council due regard to equality requirements in the way it spends the money, assessing each initiative and project for potential equality impacts.

At this stage there is no evidence to suggest that these recommendations will result in any adverse equality impacts. If such impacts exist they will become apparent as various strategies and programmes are developed and further screening is carried out.

3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

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	X	

proposal?		
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	

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

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

The Better Care Fund (previously referred to as the Integration Transformation Fund) provides an opportunity to transform local services so that people are provided with better integrated care and support. In Leeds, this will contribute to the overall vision of ‘a healthy and caring city for all ages, where people who are the poorest will improve their health the fastest’.

- Key findings**

Funding currently allocated under the Social Care to Benefit Health grant has been used to enable the local authority to sustain the current level of eligibility criteria and provide:

- assessment, care management, reviews and commissioned services to clients who have substantial or critical needs.
- information and signposting to those who are not FACS eligible.

This needs to be sustained, if not increased, within the funding allocations for 2014/15 and beyond in order to deliver 7 day services to all those who meet the criteria irrespective of equality strands and to meet the demands for additional assessments resulting from the new Social Care Bill.

Leeds is planning to make significant investments in community-based, person-centred health and care services. However, pressures and demands on acute services continue to grow, and local authority social care budgets are facing a prolonged period of real-term reduction, increasing the risk that individual care needs will not be met.

- Actions**

Leeds’ Better Care Fund will target investment to convert this potentially negative cycle into a positive one, driven by improved outcomes for individuals, communities and the health and care economy across all citizens of Leeds as a whole.

This means:

- Supporting people to live independently and well.
- Releasing pressure on acute and social services.
- Investing in high-quality, joined-up care in and around the home.

Protecting social care services is a national condition of the Better Care Fund and will

ensure that those in need within all local communities continue to receive support, even in a time of growing demand and budgetary pressures.

Maintaining the current eligibility criteria is one aspect of this but the primary focus is on developing new forms of joined up care that tackle the causes of ill-health and poor quality of life for all citizens of Leeds rather than simply focusing on the supply of services.

Equality will be ensured by:

- complying with the present Leeds City Council due regard to equality requirements.
- putting adequate equality and other monitoring in place across activities to identify any potential or unforeseen equality impacts.

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
Steve Hume	Chief Officer Resource and Strategy	30/1/14

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.

If this screening relates to a **Key Delegated Decision, Executive Board, full Council** or a **Significant Operational Decision** a copy should be emailed to Corporate Governance and will be published along with the relevant report.

A copy of **all other** screening's should be sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk. For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file (but not published).

Date screening completed	23/1/14
If relates to a Key Decision - date sent to Corporate Governance	
Any other decision – date sent to Equality Team (equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk)	30/1/14