







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: Engineering Projects		
Lead person: Peter Morris	Contact number: 24 75390		
1. Title: Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme			
Is this a:			
Strategy / Policy x Service / Function Other			
If other, please specify			
2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening			
To protect the City Centre against a 1 in 75 year flood event it is necessary to install flood defences. The flood defences will consist of a number of components which will collectively achieve this desired level of protection. This includes the provision of physical linear flood defences (walls, embankments, terracing), the installation of two movable weirs (Crown Point and Knostrop), plus the removal of a 600 metre length of Knostrop Cut to merge the canal and River Aire.			
The removal of Knostrop Cut requires the relocation of the Trans Penine Trail (TPT) onto the left bank. The route will cross to the left bank via an existing footbridge which currently spans the River Aire.			
The Knostrop Locks located at the north western side of Knostrop Cut will be decommissioned, removing the need to cross the canal over a narrow wooden bridge. The canal will be partially infilled in this area to join the right bank with the island and a new pedestrian footway provided.			
A new DDA compliant footbridge will be provided near Knostrop Weir.			

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	Χ	
equality characteristics?		
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the	X	
policy or proposal?		
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or		X
procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by		
whom?		
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment		X
practices?		
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on		X
 Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and 		
harassment		
 Advancing equality of opportunity 		
Fostering good relations		

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)

Throughout the planning process, stakeholders have been kept informed and influenced the scheme development.

Ward Members were consulted at two separate meetings on the 18th and 26th April 2013.

Throughout June and July 2013 extensive consultations have been carried out for the works. A questionnaire was been distributed to all businesses and members of the public directly affected by the proposals via a letter and leaflet drop. The questionnaire was also made available through the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme webpage.

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.

Careful design will balance stakeholder concerns, during the detailed design. The low flood defence walls will incorporate hand rails for safety. Access will be maintained to existing moorings and fishing points and signed accordingly to CRT guidance. Landscaped areas and lifting of levels will be sensitive to the needs of the disabled, wheelchairs, prams etc. New rescue access points will be incorporated into the flood defence areas.

The Trans Pennine Trail diversion will allow selected access to the river bank, fishing points for people with mobility issues whilst still allowing for some protected areas. The existing upstream bridge will be refurbished to comply with DDA requirements. At the downstream end the TPT would ramp up towards a new DDA compliant footbridge that will bring the route back to the Knostrop Cut by the new Knostrop Weir.

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)

Positives:

The proposals will provide a standard of protection against a 1 in 75 year flood event. This positive impact benefits all vulnerable people living and working in the area, particularly people with impaired vision, people with mobility difficulties and small children who may have had difficulty exiting their properties should a major flood event be realised.

In addition to the benefits gains by residing and/or working in an area protected by the flood defences, additional equality benefits will be realised through the following:

- (i) An existing Holbeck pedestrian bridge will be restored and hand rails installed for safety and guidance.
- (ii) All landscaping works and lifting of levels will be sensitive to the needs of disabled, wheelchairs, prams etc.
- (iii) A bridge spanning the River Aire adjacent to Knostrop Locks will be refurbished. This bridge is currently in a poor condition with loose panels and trip hazards making access

- by wheelchair difficult.
- (iv) The Knostrop Locks will be decommissioned removing the need to cross the canal over a narrow wooden bridge. The existing wooden bridge does not permit two way accesses for wheel chairs and prams. A new pedestrian footway will be provided which will be wide enough to provide two way movement for wheel chairs and prams.
- (v) Additional rescue points will be positioned along the River Aire. This will benefit all vulnerable groups who may encounter difficulty exiting the river should they fall in.
- (vi) A new park area will be provided on the right back of the River Aire near the Asda House car park. Levels will be lifted to maintain the visual waterfront connectivity in this area. The lifting of the levels will be sensitive to the needs of disabled, wheelchairs, prams etc. The park will also provide an open view of the River Aire to people in wheelchairs and children.

Negatives: Pedestrians, cyclists and motorists will be disrupted during the construction of the works but overall no long term negative impact has been identified.

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

The positive impacts will be achieved and negative impacts minimised through communication with stakeholders during the construction of the proposals and the actual implementation of the works.

Where detailed design is not yet complete, further consultation with stakeholders will be undertaken to ensure their needs and options are considered and incorporated in the final design where possible.

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
Richard Dennis	Principle Engineer –	13/11/13

Leeds Flood Alleviation	
Scheme	

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 <u>equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</u>. For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file (but not published).

Date screening completed	07/11/13
If relates to a Key Decision - date sent to Corporate Governance	TBC
Any other decision – date sent to Equality Team (equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk)	