

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: Environment and Housing	Service area: Environment Policy Team / Housing Leeds
Lead person: George Munson	Contact number: 51767

1. Title: Clydes Biomass Community Heating Scheme

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify Installation of district heating scheme.

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

The installation of district heating in the 229 dwellings in the Clydes towers and Phil May Court. This is part of an ERDF project which has already had an EDCI screening.

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?		N
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		N
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		N
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		N
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		N

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)

Armley the area chosen for the scheme is a CSCO area, within the 15% most deprived LSOA in the country. 16% of people in Armley are in fuel poverty this is the same as the rate for Leeds overall.

To achieve the maximum benefit from the scheme an area of Leeds needed to be chosen that had suitable electrically heated properties in a reasonable cluster, since the cold particularly affects elderly people the addition of a sheltered housing complex is completely beneficial.

This scheme will reduce the cost of heating for two blocks of flats and a sheltered housing complex in a deprived part of the city. It will not affect fuel prices elsewhere in the city. The installation of a district heating should lift people out of fuel poverty and reduce the amount of chronic cold related illnesses which particularly affect the elderly as such it should have a beneficial effect on equality. Everyone in the two tower blocks and sheltered housing complex will be able to access the system.

• **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)

Reduction in number of people living in fuel poverty (+ve).
Reduction in cold related illnesses (+ve)

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

Consultation with residents has been carried out to make sure that any residents concerns are addressed in scheme design.

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:

Date to complete your impact assessment	
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	

6. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Tom Knowland	Head of Sustainable Development	7 th February 2014

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	7 th February 2014
If relates to a Key Decision - date sent to Corporate Governance	
Any other decision – date sent to Equality Team (equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk)	11 th August 2014