

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: Directorate
Lead person: Cath Follin	Contact number: 2477869

1. Title: Connectivity Improvements to South Bank

Is this a:

☒

Strategy / Policy

☐

Service / Function

☐

Other

If other, please specify

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

The provision of improved public realm, better cycling facilities and public transport between Leeds train station, through South Bank, to Leeds Dock.

Public realm improvements will include way-finding and better maintenance of landscaping.

Improved public transport will consist of a new fixed low fare City Bus to serve South Bank with two vehicles operating broadly a 10 minute service between 07:00 – 19:00 Monday – Saturday.

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. Also those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being.

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?	√	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		√
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		√
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		√
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 = Yes 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)

Implementing the public realm and public transport proposals will make it easier and potentially safer for families and those with disabilities to access leisure opportunities in South Bank particularly at Leeds Dock and the Royal Armouries, thereby helping us to have a more child and age friendly city centre and boosting the local economy. Although there are no plans at present to run buses on Sundays, partly because of the greatly reduced rail service on Sundays, this will be reviewed should there be sufficient demand.

The Water Taxi will however run on Sundays.

The improved cycling facilities will link with City Connect, the trans-city cycle network.

The bus service will help with to make Leeds a more age friendly city as those who are less mobile can also access the area via better transport links, signage and pedestrian friendly routes. The signage and public realm improvements will be suitable for those with sight and mobility problems.

They will make also it easier for those with disabilities arriving at or near the train station to access employment opportunities in South Bank. The improvements will also make it easier for those on low incomes to find employment too, as they rely on public transport more, thus reducing worklessness and taking people out of poverty.

As the measures will boost the visitor economy this will help young people find work as there are lower barriers to entry in the leisure sector. As Leeds Dock will also support creative and digital businesses the measures with help young people find employment and start their own businesses as skill sets required are more prevalent among young people.

The measures will enable people that live in/near South Bank, to have easier access to the city centre by bus or cycle,

The proposed buses will be accessible for disabled people i.e have low floors and spaces for wheelchairs etc.

Landowners and other stakeholders have been consulted on issues facing South Bank and there is universal agreement that one of the main issues impacting on the success of South Bank is poor connectivity; these measures will help to mitigate this issue.

- **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)

Only positive impacts will occur to all groups as outlined above by improving access to employment and leisure opportunities.

The measures will also boost the visitor economy to the city, by increasing spend to these businesses, and creating jobs.

Health benefits to people through better cycling facilities.

It will benefit the local residential community by creating better linkages to the city centre and help improve their quality of life e.g. through better public realm.

- **Actions**

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

Allied London, the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the successful bus operator will promote these changes through appropriate media including the internet, printed timetables etc.; they will target families, workers, and local residents.

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

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
Martin Farrington	Director City Development	17 th October 2014
Date screening completed		16 th October 2014

7. Publishing

Though **all** key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council **only** publishes those related to **Executive Board, Full Council, Key Delegated Decisions** or a **Significant Operational Decision**.

A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:

- Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.
- The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.
- A copy of all other equality screenings that are not to be published should be sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk for record.

Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached screening was sent:

For Executive Board or Full Council – sent to Governance Services	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: