

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.

<b>Directorate: Environment and Neighbourhoods</b>	<b>Service area: Parks and Countryside</b>
<b>Lead person: Claire Hern</b>	<b>Contact number: 3957471</b>

**1. Title: Revision of Parks and Countryside Charges 2015**

Is this a:

**Strategy / Policy**

**Service / Function**

**Other**

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

The majority of charges for the sports and associated facilities managed by the Parks and Countryside Services were last reviewed and implemented in 2014. This screening process shall address the quality impact of proposed Parks and Countryside charge increases for 2015.

This report proposes that the revised charges are implemented from the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 following the Deputy Chief Executive’s financial position note to CLT on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

## Details of Revised Charges

The revision of Parks and Countryside charges are to be implemented from 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 for the hire of sports pitches, charges for golf courses, charges for funfairs operators to use Parks and Countryside sites, entrance charges for Temple Newsam Home Farm and casual use of bowling greens.

All the above charges are to be raised by 3% in line with the 2015/16 budget and broadly in line with the rate of inflation.

Please see the attached report and Appendix A for further details.

### 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?		✓
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"> <li>• Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment</li> <li>• Advancing equality of opportunity</li> <li>• Fostering good relations</li> </ul>		✓

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)

The structure of the fees has been increased in line with the 2015/16 budget and broadly in line with the rate of inflation following the Deputy Chief Executive's financial position note to CLT on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014. This as detailed above, and in more depth in Appendix A, represent a cost increase that shall have no impact on specific equality characteristics. As this increase shall be applied to the majority of LCC goods and services it is not deemed that this shall affect equality in access to P&C services, or diversity in those who use them.

- **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)

This increase of charges for the aforementioned facilities ensures they are able to be provided to a high standard and continue to bring communities together over sport and culture. The provision of such facilities increases learning, community engagement and aids the health and well-being of the participants.

- **Actions**

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

Increasing prices allows Leeds City Council, through Parks and Countryside, to maintain the quality of its services and therefore continue the integration of Leeds' communities through sport and cultural activities. This increase in charges shall facilitate continuing efforts to increase the number of users of sports pitches through efficient organisation of facilities and maintenance.

#### 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)	
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**6. Governance, ownership and approval**

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Mike Kinnaird	Development Manager	

**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

<b>Date screening completed</b>	
<b>Date sent to Equality Team</b>	
<b>Date published</b> (To be completed by the Equality Team)	