

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 ousing	Service area: Housing Growth Team
Lead person: Adrian Dean	Contact number: 2475741

1. Title: Council Housing Growth Programme – Private Sector Acquisitions

Is this a:

☒

Strategy / Policy

☐

Service / Function

☐

Other

If other, please specify:

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

In September 2012, the Executive Board approved the development of an investment programme to deliver new council housing. The programme is being delivered through a number of new build projects, the acquisition of long term empty properties and includes the option for the Council to purchase properties from the private sector where the location of the properties fit the strategic requirements of the growth programme. This could be through off the shelf or off plan properties from developers, the purchase of long term empty properties or the purchase of former Right to Buy properties offered to the Council by their owner.

This screening exercise relates to the attached Executive Board report detailing the progress to date in the delivery of the Council Housing Growth Programme and describes the development of the acquisitions programme as a strand of delivery for new council housing. The report is recommending that Executive Board agree to the

approach as part of the wider housing growth programme as a tool for accelerating growth and providing a mix of tenures within neighbourhoods.

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?		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		X
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	

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)

See key findings below.

- **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)

In line with the proposals being screened for equality here, it is considered that the programme will assist in advancing equality by increasing much needed affordable housing in areas of Leeds where there is demand for this type of housing.

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

The main outcome of this screening exercise has determined that increasing affordable housing could have positive equality implications for those who are economically disadvantaged. The potential impact of the Programme for a range of equality groups and the number of separate elements it contains, suggest that there is a need for project specific screening and assessment to ensure that equality issues can be addressed for each element.

Therefore a full EIA is not required at this time.

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
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Date to complete your impact assessment	N/a
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Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	N/a
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6. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
John Statham	Head of Housing Partnerships and Housing Growth	2 nd July 2015

Date screening completed: 01/07/2015	
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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: