

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: Asset Management & Regeneration
Lead person: Christa Smith	Contact number:

1. Title: Victoria Gate Redevelopment – Land Proposals

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify – property related proposals

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

The Victoria Gate development will deliver, in its first phase, a John Lewis anchor store, 30 high end retail and restaurant units and a 800+ space multi-storey car park. The development will provide significant improvements to the public realm and highway on Vicar Lane and George Street to ensure the integration of the John Lewis store and the adjoining retail development to the west of Eastgate with the Markets and the Victoria Quarter. This includes improved pedestrian linkages, visual amenity and quality of surfaces.

In July 2012, Executive Board approved funding to provide enhanced and additional public realm at these locations over and above that being delivered by the developer as part of any s278 agreements already in place.

This screening document specifically relates to the authority to spend a total budget of **£885,000** from the Economic Initiatives fund as allocated in the Capital Programme Update 2012-15 report to Executive Board on 18th July 2012.

Design work has taken place on the public realm works to ensure that what will be delivered is in line with the city centre design guide principles. An access group established by LCC Citizens and Communities has been consulted on the proposed designs by Hammersons Access consultants. Comments and views have been taken into account when developing the design, including the need for kerbs at certain heights and contrasting materials on footways and roads.

The detailed design work is currently looking at the type and colour of materials, the suitability of materials for crossing areas where there is significant traffic and use from buses, maintenance and management of the highway, construction methods, lighting options, seating and street furniture solutions. The LCC access officer will be consulted on the final design which needs to be approved by LCC Planning and Highways.

This decision at Executive Board is in relation to authority to spend and so it is deemed that a EIA is not required.

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?		No
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		No
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		No
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		No
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 		No

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)

- **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)

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

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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

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

Date screening completed	
Date sent to Equality Team	
Date published (To be completed by the Equality Team)	