

**Background Document E**

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 &amp; Neighbourhoods</b>	<b>Service area: Public Rights of Way, Parks &amp; Countryside</b>
<b>Lead person: Claire Tregembo</b>	<b>Contact number: 0113 3782875</b>

**1. Title:** Diversion of a Claimed Bridleway Between Leeds Bridleway No. 137 and Pontefract Lane

Is this a:

**Strategy / Policy**
 **Service / Function**
 **Other**

**If other, please specify**

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

The diversion of a claimed bridleway from Leeds Bridleway No. 137 and Pontefract Lane. The claimed bridleway currently runs on a stone and earth track but needs diverting to allow development approved under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The new line of the bridleway will run alongside the new industrial/ business estate on a shared cycleway/ footway and grass verge. It will become part of the adopted highway network.

<b>3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration</b>		
<b>Questions</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
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>		✓

#### 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.

- **How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?**

Consultation has been undertaken with councillors, user groups, statutory undertakers and other interested parties.

The diversion will affect the users of the claimed bridleway and those that wish to use the new route.

Persons with mobility issues are more likely to be affected by the diversion of a public right of way, but those on lower socio-economic groups who rely on walking, cycling and public transport can also be affected, particularly when routes are mainly used for utility rather than recreational use.

- **Key findings**

There is limited use of the exiting claimed bridleway and use is mainly by cyclists as it links onto a shared footway/ cycleway and bridleway on the side of the busy Pontefract Lane. There are limited businesses or places on interest in this area and recreational users prefer the definitive and permissive bridleways to the east through Temple Newsam Park.

The new route will provide access to the new businesses' and will be a metalled surface with a grass verge alongside.

The surface will be more level compared to the existing stone track so will be easier to use for all users. The new route will be approximately 50 metres longer but will take people further to the east and closer to other existing bridleway routes at Skelton Lake. Those heading west will be able to use other road and cycling/ walking routes which are shorter than the existing bridleway. Therefore, the improvement to the surface and the shorter route for those heading east outweigh the slight increase in the length of the bridleway.

Some of the user groups would prefer to have the route diverted into open space rather than onto the side of the estate spine road. Although routes through open space are preferable, this is not possible within the layout of the site as the space to the east is limited and the land is subject to flooding and waterlogged. The provision of an off-road route here would be difficult to maintain to a sufficient standard and could also be subject to anti-social behaviour leading to a negative overall experience for all path users.

- **Actions**

The difficulties of providing a new path through open space rather than alongside the spine road have been explained to the user groups and most accept that a path through

open space is not possible.

**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
Bob Buckenham	Public Rights of Way Manager	13/05/16
<b>Date screening completed</b>		31/05/16

## 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](mailto: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 <b>Governance Services</b>	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a>	Date sent: 06/06/2016