

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: Resources and Housing	Service area: Property and Contracts
Lead person: Jenny Fern	Contact number: 378 1091

- Title: **Declaration of land surplus to departmental requirements at Beckhill Grove and Beckhill Avenue, Beckhill Estate, Meanwood, Leeds, LS7**

Is this a:

☐

Strategy / Policy

☐

• **Service / Function**

☒

Other

If other, please specify Administrative

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

The Report requests The Director of Resources and Housing is requested to approve the land at Beckhill Grove and Beckhill Avenue surplus to Housing requirements. The land identified on the attached appendix as Site 1 Beckhill Avenue to be transferred to Communities and Environment for maintenance as green amenity space. The land identified as Sites 3 and 4 Beckhill Grove to be transferred to City Development for disposal arrangements to be progressed.

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?		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).

A) 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 – see Ai below) with those likely to be affected)

The proposal to dispose of land to a registered provider will potentially impact on local residents. The land will be developed for new affordable housing which will bring new families to the area. The new housing will be designed to lifetime homes standards allowing properties to be capable of catering for changing needs in people's health circumstances. This is particularly important in this area as the topography of the Beckhill Estate dictates accessibility issues to many properties for those less ambulant. There is opportunity to create positive cohesion and integration between the incoming new families and existing residents and this will be supported in part by new children attending local schools etc.

There has been extensive consultation with local residents in the development of the Beckhill Neighbourhood Framework which was approved by the Council's Executive Board in September 2014. This identified the opportunity for investment in the estate to help create an even better place for existing residents to live and new residents moving in. There are good local transport connections to the city for job opportunities and access to other city attractions which help to underpin the decision to develop the area of land identified on the Beckhill Estate.

The proposal to transfer the former housing site on Beckhill Avenue that has now been landscaped will help to consolidate good quality green open amenity space. The land has been deemed unsuitable for redevelopment given the topography of the site and the principles of modern design outlined in the Framework document. Access to quality green space can help with residents feeling positive about their area and their general well being and it provides opportunity for creative engagement between residents and their children. .

Ai) Is the consultation /engagement listed on Talking Point?

Yes ☐

No ☒ If no, please give reason

B) 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)

Investment continues to be made in the existing housing stock and environment of the Beckhill Estate. Most recently the first phase of works is being undertaken to replace the footpaths, steps and handrails on Beckhill Walk/Place and Approach which has been positively received by the local community and will help to encourage safe pedestrian access throughout the area.

There is opportunity through the disposal of the land to gain improved appearance of the area that has thus far been an open expanse of poorly used land.

New residents moving into the area will access local services which could be viewed as both positive and negative. An increase in population in the area is likely to be positive in that it helps to demonstrate demand for services to the area and can sustain those services that otherwise might be withdrawn if there are falling numbers of residents utilising a service.

In regard to the transfer of land to Communities and Environment this should help to sustain and increase potential to bring communities together. The local school and

Stainbeck Church organise regular activities in the area and utilise the green space for play purposes bringing together local residents and families from a wider catchment area and in future will be able to include new residents moving into the new homes.

C) Actions

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

Allocation of the new homes once constructed will be in accordance with the Leeds Housing Register and assessment of need.

There will be regular updates on progress of the redevelopment provided through local meetings such as Seven Estates meeting.

There is a residents group called Team Beckhills that is supported both by Leeds Citizens and Stainbeck Church and they are in regular dialogue with the Council in regard to regeneration of the area and specific projects like the steps, paths and handrails. The local Mill Field Primary School are also involved in the regeneration proposals for the estate and have undertaken a number of local projects with the children from the area to help support raising the profile of the area and what they'd like to see happen in the area in the future.

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
Jenny Fern	Investment Projects Manager	8 th June 2017

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.

Date screening completed	
Date sent to Equality Team (cc Service Improvement Section - Linda Marsh)	
Date published (To be completed by the Equality Team)	