

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: 0113 3781091

1. Title: **Request to suspend lettings and remove from charge 2 temporary garage plots at Newton Close, Rothwell, Leeds LS26 0TJ**

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 & Housing is requested to authorise the suspension of lettings and removal from charge of two temporary garage plots (G8 and G11) at Newton Close, Rothwell, Leeds, LS26. The garages on these plots have recently been demolished following the serving of Tort Notices as the owners of the structures could not be traced and the premises abandoned some years ago. They have been the focus for anti-social behaviour and Ward Members and the local community were anxious to have them demolished due to health and safety concerns demolition. The site is not suitable for redevelopment and this has been confirmed by City Development Housing Growth Team. There is only one plot left

which is currently rented and has an owner's garage on it which is in good condition. However there is no further demand for use of this area for garages but the area could be better utilised for parking for the local residents particularly as there are a number of elderly residents in the nearby properties and this would facilitate parking closer to their properties which will aid anyone with mobility issues.

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)

Consultation has been undertaken with the local residents and ward members and they were all supportive of the demolition and removal of the garages. Following demolition there is no demand for the plots and therefore these need to be taken out of charge and the area left accessible to everyone to use for general parking purposes.

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)

The derelict garage structures attracted anti social behaviour which was mainly being carried out by local children/youths. This negative behaviour impacts on community relations between the wider residents (many of whom are elderly and vulnerable) and their perception of young people. Reduction in reports of anti social behaviour will impact positively on community relations and people's general perception of the area. It will also benefit the local residents to have this area designated for parking only.

C) Actions

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

The impact of the removal of the garages will be self evident following the works. Feedback will

be obtained from the local tenants and residents meeting for the area and usage of the car park by local residents can be monitored by the local housing office on estate walkabouts.

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:	
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Date to complete your impact assessment	
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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

Name	Job title	Date
Jenny Fern	Investment Projects Manager	20 th September 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	
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Date sent to Equality Team (cc Service Improvement Section - Linda Marsh)	
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Date published (To be completed by the Equality Team)	
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