

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 or has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

Directorate: Adults and Health	Service area: Integrated Commissioning
Lead person: Eleanor Hastwell	Contact number: 0113 37 89864

1. Title: Authority to extend an existing contract and also transfer Leeds City Council funding for the Touchstone Community Support Team Service to the West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board via an existing Section 256 arrangement.

Is this a:

- Strategy / Policy**
 Service / Function
 Other

If other, please specify

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

This screening relates to a decision being presented at Adults and Health Delegated Decision Panel in March where approval is being sought for the following:

- To extend the existing LCC contract for the Touchstone Community Support Team service for a six month period from 1st April 2024 to 30th September 2024.
- To approve the transfer of funding from the Council to the NHS Leeds ICB for the Touchstone Community Support Team service, with the ICB becoming lead commissioner for the provision. The existing Section 256 arrangement will be used for this funding transfer from 1st October 2024.

The invocation of the six month extension period to the Touchstone Community Support Team service will involve no change to service delivery, therefore it is anticipated that

there will be no negative impact on any of the protected equality characteristics as a result of this decision.

The funding transfer from the Council to the ICB may include a small efficiency saving to the Council element. Commissioners from LCC and the ICB are working very closely with the provider and key stakeholders to ensure that any agreed saving is absorbed without impacting on front line service delivery, and that there are no unintended consequences for protected groups.

The ICB will become lead commissioner for the CST service going forward, with the rationale being that this service has a clearer fit with NHS and health pathways and systems, rather than social care. ICB colleagues have indicated that they do not predict making any substantial changes to the service in the near future. Any possible changes would first be subject to an NHS equality impact assessment.

3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies and policies, service and functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater or 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)

- **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)

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
Aidan Smith	Head of Commissioning	20 th February 2024
Date screening completed		20 th February 2024

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: