

Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration (EDCI) 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: Communities, Housing and Environment	Service area: Climate
Lead person: Tony Stringwell	Contact number: 0113 3788167

1. Title: Extend the sole supplier contract for the Supply of, and Occasional Installation, of Fixed Play Equipment

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify
Contract extension

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

- This report seeks consent to extend the contract covering the provision of Supply and Installation of Fixed Play Equipment until 31st March 2025.
- The contract was awarded on the 1st April 2021 for a period of one year with the provision of extending the contract for up to 3 times as either one full 3-year extension or 3 consecutive yearly extensions.
- Following a decision taken last year to extend the contract for the second time, it is now due to expire on the 31st March 2024. As such approval is sought to utilise the option to extend the contract for the third and final time for a 12-month extension period until the 31st March 2025 in accordance with Contracts Procedure Rules (CPR) 21.2.

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)

The services provided by the contract are well established and equality issues were addressed as part of the original contract establishment. As a consequence the service is able to purchase equipment from a full range of suppliers and is not bound by a sole

supplier agreement, ensuring that all play needs can be considered.

- **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 contract extension does not make any material changes to the level of service or how it is delivered. It is an extension in time period only.

It should be noted that the service has during the course of the last calendar year liaised with residents regarding the possibility that having a sole supplier for fixed play equipment limits options with regards to the purchase of accessible equipment and therefore restricts supply options.

A fundamental and key element of the parks and greenspace strategy is to ensure that the service provides public greenspaces that are welcoming and easy to visit so that everyone can use them. Leeds City Council manage parks and greenspaces as a public service and as such it is important that the authority provides facilities for all the people of Leeds, no matter what their physical abilities, backgrounds and interests are. This fits with the council's core value of treating people fairly.

In response the service has developed a process for auditing the accessibility of our sites and is committed to undertaking an access audit of all the city and community parks every 5 years. The findings from these access audits will feed into the development of a plan on a page for each community park which will include consultation on how playgrounds can be improved including improved accessibility and inclusivity.

This process commits the service to the following

- Identifying external funding for access improvements;
- Training staff to understand what makes a truly accessible greenspace;
- And designing new developments to be fully accessible by applying the guidance set out in BS8300 2018 where possible.

In order to ensure that playgrounds strategically align with the broader service strategy the service is committed to undertaking a new play strategy in the medium term. This process will include a route and branch review of provision, equipment, accessibility and the approach taken to engage with stakeholders in the design process. As per the existing contractual arrangements for the supply of equipment, due consideration will be given to the strategic contract for play in the city when considering any future contractual supply arrangements.

- **Actions**

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

One reason for seeking an extension to the contract term is to provide a timeframe to undertake a review of the contract outputs and delivery method to inform future options appraisals on levels of service and delivery method. Any proposals for change would be subject to further EDCI evaluation at the relevant time and ahead of formal

decision making.

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
P Cook	Chief Officer Climate, Energy and Greenspace	21 st March 2024
Date screening completed		21 st March 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: