

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: Environments & Neighbourhoods	Service area: Strategy and Commissioning
Lead person: George Munson	Contact number: 3951767

1. Title: Green Deal – Leeds City Region project
Is this a:
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service / Function <input type="checkbox"/> Other

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
<p>This is a major long-term energy efficiency scheme, building on the successful Wrap Up Leeds and planned Green Deal Demonstrator, that will provide grants and loans to improve the energy efficiency of 6,000 properties over 3 years.</p> <p>This will save residents money on their fuel bills, reduce CO₂ emissions, lift households out of fuel poverty and create employment opportunities.</p> <p>The LCR Green Deal project provides a wide range of energy efficiency measures (over 40 in total) so will be suitable for many more households than previous schemes. The Green Deal loans will be supplemented by ECO subsidies, some of which will be available for people on qualifying benefits and the more deprived communities in Leeds. The loan repayments may generate a small surplus which will be used to provide additional support to those in fuel poverty.</p>

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).

- **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)

We identified in the EDCI screening for the Home Insulation Scheme that:

“people in fuel poverty (including low income groups and some BME groups) are typically concentrated in inner city terraces which are not suitable for loft or cavity insulation (‘hard to treat’ properties). We have agreed with our chosen contractor to

gather information on those people who's properties aren't technically suitable so that we can re-contact them with new offers linked to the government's Green Deal."

This proposal builds on the Green Deal Demonstrator which provides a relatively small, time-limited fund, to test ways to provide energy efficiency improvements to hard-to-treat properties. This proposal will use the learning from the Demonstrator to develop a much larger, longer-term, offering which can provide cost effective insulation and heating measures to everyone in the city.

- **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 learning from the Demonstrator will feed into these plans for a larger and longer-term Green Deal programme. Specifically, the Demonstrator will test appetite for loans, availability and levels of ECO funding for hard-to-treat housing and methods to drive demand through providing clear, honest advice from a trusted third party (Groundwork).

This will help to ensure that an offer for hard-to-treat properties is available over the longer term, to ensure equality of opportunity.

- **Actions**

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

The scheme is positive in that we will target help at properties that have been excluded from previous incentive schemes such as CERT. The insulation measures (either loan or grant funded) will help residents to save energy and money and make their homes warmer and healthier.

There is no obvious 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
Tom Knowland	Head of Sustainable Development	12.09.2012

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.

Please send a copy to the Equality Team for publishing

Date screening completed	11.09.2012
Date sent to Equality Team	tbc
Date published (To be completed by the Equality Team)	