

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: City Development	Service area: Projects
Lead person: Lisa Martin	Contact number: 24 75391
1. Title: Design & Cost Report for Roundhay Road, Highway Improvements.	
Is this a:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify	
Highway works required to implement a planning permission	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The screening focuses on the report to the Highways and Transportation Board, seeking authority to prepare the detailed design and construction of a highway improvement scheme on Roundhay Road.
The scheme proposals include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a peak period outbound bus lane • a new signalised crossing to improve pedestrian safety and access • the introduction of traffic signals at the Shepherd’s Lane junction • the introduction of one-way streets at key locations to facilitate traffic signals • improvements to and the provision of additional pedestrian crossing facilities • formalised traffic lanes and turning manoeuvres to improve road safety • a review of the parking restrictions along this section of Roundhay Road to meet local need.
Roundhay Road is ranked 6 th on the Council’s Accident Lengths for Concern List.

The casualty situation is mainly due to traffic forming into two lanes during periods of congestion. In addition to this, the Leeds Bus Partnership Group has been concerned about delays to buses on Roundhay Road, particularly in the outbound direction in the PM peak, as well as general reliability throughout the day.

A report will be submitted to the Chief Officer, Highways & Transportation requesting permission to deliver the above works and instruct the City Solicitor to advertise, seal and implement the Traffic Regulation Orders.

Any equality implications relating to the proposed works are being picked up through the procurement process /design stages and being addressed at that point.

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)

All Highways and Transportation service areas have been consulted and any comments received have been fed back into the design process where possible.

Ward Members, the Local MP, Emergency Services and Metro were consulted by email dated 14 September 2012 and again any comments received have been fed back into the design process where possible.

A public engagement exercise was undertaken late in 2011. A leaflet explaining the proposals together with a questionnaire was distributed during October 2011 to 3,000 properties in close proximity to the proposals; bus passengers, pedestrians and vehicle users along Roundhay Road; and copies were placed in local libraries.

Temporary signs were also positioned on-street to inform all highway users about the consultation exercise. An on-line version of the questionnaire was also made available via a link on this webpage and paper leaflet/questionnaire were made available to those who enquired via telephone.

Staff from Highways and Transportation also attended The Compton Centre on Harehills Lane on 2 November 2011 between 11am - 2pm and 5pm – 7pm and at The Bangladeshi Centre, on Roundhay Road, 8 December 2011 between 6pm and 8pm, to discuss proposals with members of the public.

Further consultation took place on 18 September 2012 with local residents and businesses whose frontages abut Roundhay Road, in addition to the proposed one-way streets and are therefore directly affected by the works. Consultation letters and plans, identifying the extent of the works and Traffic Regulation Orders proposed, were hand-delivered and discussed where wanted. At the time of writing this report, seven of the local residents/businesses have made general queries regarding the proposals, which will be incorporated where possible during the detailed design stage.

However, on 19 November 2012, after the initial Highways Board approval of the scheme on 13 November 2012, an objection to the scheme was received from the local MP. A meeting was held with Highways Projects and Traffic Officers, local ward members, the local MP and the Executive Board Member for Development & Economy and the objection withdrawn pending the finer details of issues raised.

One major issue raised was the implementation of a new signalised crossing on

Roundhay Road and a number of site meetings took place with all meeting attendees and local businesses affected to discuss and select the most appropriate location. After much investigation, a final decision was reached upon the majority agreement to locate the signalised crossing outside properties 164, 166 and 119 Roundhay Road. Local businesses situated at 164 and 166 Roundhay Road, have stated their objection to the proposals as they feel it will have a detrimental effect on their businesses.

Overall the scheme provides a design that has balanced local needs with due regard to the needs of vulnerable road users and disability groups.

- **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 highway works for the scheme, and their impact on equality characteristics, are as follows:

- A new build-out on the eastern radius of the junction of Gledhow Road and Roundhay Road, which will encourage the correct behaviour of all road users and therefore improve road safety and assist safe access;
- A new build-out and limited waiting on-street parking bay outside properties 97 – 113 (BMF Motor Factors) Roundhay Road, which will improve visibility and encourage access for pedestrians, as well as accommodating visitors to local businesses;
- Relocation of a point closure on Bankside Street, situated directly behind BMF Motor Factors, to create a larger turning head to accommodate large vehicle deliveries;
- A new signalised crossing will be implemented, outside property number 164/166 and 119 Roundhay Road, which will improve visibility and encourage access for pedestrians, as well as accommodating visitors to local businesses;
- A new outbound peak-hour shared bus/cycle lane will encourage access and contact between communities and therefore promote strong and positive relationships, in addition to encouraging confidence in all cycle users and promoting sustainable travel;
- An upgrade to an existing pelican to a toucan crossing, outside property number 169 Roundhay Road, will improve and encourage pedestrian access, in addition to encouraging confidence in all cyclists and promoting sustainable travel;
- The provision of parking lay-bys outside Trinity United Church, Montague Burton Resource Centre and local businesses, which will improve access and therefore encourage visitors, and increased contact, which will potentially build positive relationships between communities;

- New traffic signals at the Shepherd's Lane junction, with the addition of appropriate dropped crossings and tactile facilities, which will improve road safety and assist safe access for all users;
- Three new one-way traffic flow provisions in the vicinity of the Shepherd's Lane junction, two in a easterly direction and one westerly, and all located between Roundhay Road and Harehills Road;
- A new pedestrian island will be implemented, outside properties 213 and 216 Roundhay Road, which will encourage access for pedestrians, as well as accommodating visitors to local businesses;
- Reviewed and relaxed parking restrictions along the length of Roundhay Road, between it's junction with Gledhow Road and Harehills Lane, following extensive consultation with local businesses. All of which will improve access and therefore encourage visitors and increased contact, which will potentially build positive relationships between communities.

In Summary, the proposed highway improvement scheme will positively impact all users of the highway network. In particular, vulnerable road users such as those with mobility issues / disabilities, the elderly, young and carers (prams and wheelchairs) will be aided by the introduction of new and upgraded crossing facilities, with associated dropped kerbs and tactile paving.

The new outbound shared bus/cycle/taxi lane will encourage confidence in cycle users and promote sustainable travel as well as the provision of parking facilities and relaxation of parking restrictions encouraging visitors to the area and supporting local need.

Finally, the introduction of traffic signals at the Shepherd's Lane junction, including three new one-way streets at key locations to facilitate the traffic signals and formalising the traffic lanes and turning manoeuvres will improve road safety for all.

- **Actions**

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

The detailed design of the highway works will be carried out by Leeds City Council and will give due regard to the needs of vulnerable road users and disability groups to ensure that road safety and personal accessibility is not compromised and to ensure that the design is compliant with the equality/ disability legislation as per the Equality Act and associated design guidance.

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:	N/A
Date to complete your impact assessment	N/A
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	N/A

6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

Name	Job title	Date
Sabby Khaira	Principal Engineer	

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