

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: Asset Management
Lead person: Ben Middleton	Contact number: x77817

1. Title: A New Heart for Holt Park – Completing the Picture Informal Planning Statement for Holt Park District Centre

Is this a:

- Strategy / Policy**

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify

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

The Informal Planning Statement has been prepared to provide a vision for the redevelopment of land at Holt Park district centre. The aims of the vision are to deliver:

- A new focus for Holt Park by reconnecting the centre’s new and existing facilities
- An improved shopping environment
- A new public space within a greener setting
- New housing, including older people’s housing
- New routes for pedestrian access connecting with neighbouring areas
- Improved public safety

The document has been produced for the community of Holt Park and neighbouring

communities; organisations with an interest in Holt Park including local businesses; and prospective developers to provide a framework for the development of individual development sites identified by the planning statement.

The proposals set out in the planning statement have been prepared within the context of the Vision for Leeds and existing planning policy, including the Leeds Unitary Development Plan (Review) 2006 and the Local Development Framework (the emerging Core Strategy and Site Allocations DPD). The UDP predates the EIA process, however the Core Strategy has been subject to EIA and the Site Allocations DPD will be subject to EIA when the Issues & Options document is produced.

Consultation Process

Preparation of the Planning Statement has been informed by a previous consultation undertaken in 2007 on the “Holt Park District Centre Regeneration Opportunities Consultation”. A copy of the comments’ received to the consultation are attached.

Due to the City Council’s capital receipt interest in the land and the high profile of the planning statement, it is necessary to seek approval at Executive Board for the planning statement to be subject to public consultation. Subject to this approval, briefings will be provided to ward members and a public consultation exercise is planned to be undertaken during Summer 2013. This public consultation process will be undertaken having regard to the requirements of the City Council’s Statement of Community Involvement, which forms part of the Local Development Framework.

Following the consultation process, consideration will be given to the comments received and any necessary revisions made, the planning statement will be reported to Executive Board for final approval. A second EIA screening will be undertaken prior to this second Executive Board report being prepared which will detail the consultation undertaken and comments received.

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)

Key considerations which have been considered and addressed by the Planning Statement are:

- Enabling improved connectivity of existing and new uses within the district centre which are currently separated as a result of recent developments at Holt Park, by providing new footpaths for pedestrians between the different uses.
- Providing better linkage to Holt Park from the surrounding residential area and greenspace (including Tinshill Recreation Ground) by new and improved footpaths.
- Creating an improved shopping environment encouraging access to existing services at Holt Park for the community and other stakeholders
- Improving the existing public space including addressing disabled access and public safety concerns.
- Bringing a derelict site back into use, thereby addressing public safety concerns.
- Enabling improved and new existing sheltered housing and new older people's housing.
- Enabling access to public transport including the proposed NGT proposal.

- **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 effects on equality have been considered as an integral element of the planning statement preparation and it is considered that there will be significant benefits to the community and users of Holt Park district centre arising from the proposals set out in the planning statement as detailed in the section above.

- **Actions**

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

As detailed under section 2 above, a public consultation process will be undertaken once the draft planning statement has been reported to Executive Board in November. Following the completion of the consultation process, if issues of equality are raised by the consultation these will be considered and addressed in the final version of the planning statement before it is recommended for approval by Executive Board.

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
Christine Addison	Acting Chief Asset Management Officer	25 th March 2013

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)	