

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: City Development	Service area: Transport Policy
Lead person: Paul Foster	Contact number: 0113 3787518

1. Title: LCR Connectivity Strategy and Connecting Leeds Update

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify

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

The development Leeds City Region Connectivity Strategy is being led by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA), in partnership with district authorities. An update of the work undertaken to progress this strategy was presented by WYCA to their Transport Committee 9th November, a summary of this report and update on the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy is provided to Leeds City Council Executive board.

This screening covers development of the Leeds City Region Connectivity Strategy to date in the context of the Councils partnership role, and the proposed forthcoming consultation.

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)

Themes running through this report have an impact on equality and diversity. The Council aims to improve the lives of all its citizens and foster good relations between different groups in the community. The LCR connectivity strategy will support the objectives of the LCR HS2 Growth Strategy which encourages inclusive growth, aiming to ensure that the benefits of a prosperous economy impact on all Leeds citizens, this includes supporting young people, increasing women and BME groups into HS2 related jobs (that are currently underrepresented), also supporting career changes and those returning to work.

Building on the HS2 Strategy the Leeds City Region Connectivity Strategy and progression of an emerging spatial vision seeks to promote social inclusion, social mobility, and accessibility and help create a transport system which benefits all in society by addressing the future gap in transport capacity. The Leeds City Region Connectivity Strategy has been informed through the development of the Inclusive Growth Corridor plans. In developing the Inclusive Growth Corridor Plans, which with regards to equality consider Social *indicators* for example demographics i.e. long standing, inter-generational unemployment and availability of local services, as well as Examine the *skills and supply chain interventions* which can be clearly integrated within the Connectivity Strategy.

- **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)

From both Transport Conversation engagement and previous policy documents including the Local Transport Plan 3 and Leeds Core Strategy, transport and the provision of an quality integrated network has the potential to have a differential impact on all equality groups, with particular regard to the following;

- Gender; Research shows that women and men have persistent different transportation needs, travel behaviours and levels of access to services and infrastructure. Women tend to travel shorter distances, closer to the home, and make more trips; they travel for a wider variety of purposes; they walk more; they have less access to a car and are the main users of public transport, they make more chained trips; their travel patterns tend to be shaped as polygons as compared to the more frequent commuting trips made by men. Women are more sensitive to safety concerns and tend to self-limit their movements and activities because of perceptions of risk, in the UK, they are less likely to cycle. Women are also overrepresented in social groups with specific

transport needs and greater transport disadvantage: older people, people with special needs, single parents, and working parents who take responsibility for most caretaking tasks. Women's overall comparative disadvantage in terms of access to transportation negatively affects their professional development, economic status, leisure time, and personal wellbeing. [Source: genderSTE]

- Disability; Differential access to the transport system and the effect of transport policies, particularly (but not restricted to) for those with physical and sensory impairments, mental health issues or learning disabilities. Disabled people travel more frequently by bus than others, so public transport plays a vital role in ensuring that they can participate in community life and avoid social exclusion. They also may be affected to a greater extent by issues of reliability of public transport, modal integration (or lack thereof) and interchange and by issues such as overcrowding/ space availability. The availability of accessible infrastructure and walkable, level routes and access to information, including on board and at stops, will also have a differential impact on this equality group. Disability can lead to a greater reliance on private transport (own car or taxi, or lifts from friends/ relatives etc). Journey times, distance and destinations as well as modal choice may be affected by disability.
- Race; Differential access to the transport system and the effect of transport policies, particularly for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people are around impacts on access to employment, education and training, which are vitally important issues for BAME communities as a means of overcoming disadvantages in the job market. Studies have also shown a differential impact in terms of the impact of traffic and road safety. They are also underrepresented among cyclists. It is thought that enabling travel by active modes may particularly benefit some members of the BAME communities in addressing health inequalities, including Type II diabetes and cardio-vascular health.
- Age; Both younger and older people are more at risk of being involved on a road traffic collision and suffer greater consequential effects – initiatives that contribute to road safety, especially of active modes, will have a beneficial impact on these sections of the population.

Young people rely very much on public transport, although many have personal security concerns when using public transport and this is coupled with the fact that in terms of actual risk they are the age group which are most likely to be the victims of violence and/or assault. Children exposed to traffic related air pollution are more at risk of asthma and child inactivity is a cause for future health concerns, which can be addressed through enabling the use of active travel modes.

Many older people are not able to drive because health conditions related to their age or find the cost of running a car prohibitive. Like with disabled people, there will be a differential impact in terms of distance travelled (including to access public transport in the first place), reliability, overcrowding and the need to interchange or change modes. The presence and availability of evening and weekend services and infrastructure at stops/ stations will also have a differential impact in terms of the ability to access activities and leisure opportunities. The inter-district connectivity enabling access to local services has also been found to be particularly important to older people and people with disabilities.

- **Actions**

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

Officers will support the Combined Authority as they consult on the emerging Leeds City Region Connectivity Strategy report in early 2019. A strong focus needs to be on deliverable solutions that are supported by the communities and stakeholders within the city.

The citywide Transport Conversation which took place in 2016 marked a new era of transport engagement and consultation with the city. Through the Connecting Leeds portal we will continue this dialogue on the role of mass transit in partnership with the Combined Authority to ensure that people remain at the heart of our journey to transform travel across the city. We are clear that delivering real inclusive growth and regeneration through new major transport infrastructure for mass transit technologies which connect and supports communities - should be collaborative. We are fully committed to ensuring we listen to the voices of communities, businesses and wider stakeholders to deliver a solution that is right for the city.

The Leeds City Region Connectivity Strategy has been informed through the development of the Inclusive Growth Corridor plans. In developing the Inclusive Growth Corridor Plans, as individual schemes are developed within this programme they will have their equality impacts assessed as they are taken through the approval process, where the appropriate EDCI assessment procedure will be invoked.

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
Date screening completed		

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: