

# 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.

<b>Directorate: City Development</b>	<b>Service area: Civil Engineering Section</b>
<b>Lead person: Morgan Tatchell-Evans</b>	<b>Contact number: 0113 378 3655</b>

## 1. Title: LPTIP: A647 Bus Corridor Improvements (Pudsey to City centre)

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

### If other, please specify

Highways and Transportation scheme as part of the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP).

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

Leeds City Council (LCC) and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) are developing a Bus Corridor Improvements Scheme, from the intersection of the A647 and the Bradford border to Armley Gyratory.

## 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. 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"> <li>• Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment</li> <li>• Advancing equality of opportunity</li> <li>• Fostering good relations</li> </ul>	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 Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP) was developed off the back of extensive consultation as part of the Leeds Transport Conversation. This process involved engaging a wide range of groups including but not limited to Child Friendly Leeds, Older People’s Forum, Access Groups, BME Hub, Disability Hub, LGBT\* Hub, Hub Reps Network, Womens’ Lives Leeds, Access and Use-Ability Group, Physical and Sensory Impairment (PSI) Network and the Equalities Assembly Conference.

Prior to engaging stakeholders (including the general public) on the LPTIP projects Leeds City Council and their development partner WSP appointed a Leeds based engagement specialist service provider called Leeds Involving People (LIP). LIP coordinated input from several individuals from the seldom heard groups they work with into the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. The strategy has a clear focus on engaging seldom heard groups and ensuring all materials are accessible, legible and easily consumable.

Previous engagement on the A647 Bus Corridor Improvements project has included six public exhibitions, as part of phase 1 of LPTIP public consultation:

- 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 – Bramley Community Centre, Bramley
- 24<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – Armley Leisure Centre, Armley
- 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – Pudsey Civic Hall, Pudsey
- 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Armley Leisure Centre, Armley
- 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 – Bramley Community Centre, Bramley
- 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – St James Parish Centre, Bramley

We have also engaged with community groups as follows:

Presentation and questions and answers session for a community group focused on older people	Bramley Lawn Community Centre
Presentation and questions and answers session at Mother and Baby Group	St James’ Hall
Meeting with small group of A647 Stanningley Road residents	Armley One Stop
Presentation to the Stanningley Leeds baby and toddler’s groups	St Thomas, Town Street, Stanningley

Based on LIPs knowledge of the route and surrounding area, the key equality areas to focus on as the consultation progresses will be women, disabilities, race and younger

and older people. Stakeholder engagement activities will target parent and toddler groups, knit and natter groups, Asian Womens' group Dosti, primary schools that are directly on the route and carers groups.

As Armley has very few voluntary/ community groups, LIP will also make contact with religious centres including Meeting point - refugee and asylum seeker group.

Stakeholder engagement will also target a number of groups that are facilitated by People in Action (a learning disability group that has regular groups in West Leeds), in addition to other long term condition and disability groups based in West Leeds.

From LIP's work previously in West Leeds and Armley it has been established that to engage effectively with all BAME communities it is important to undertake outreach work within GP surgeries, the libraries, leisure centre, the bus stops, the high street and the One Stop shops.

The programme of engagement and outreach will cover all of these groups and locations.

The following measures have been undertaken across all LPTIP projects during 2018 to promote engagement:

- Materials have been offered in braille and audio format. Where appropriate British sign language and other interpreters have been present at meetings to aid communications.
- Events have been marketed using a range of printed media (YEP), leaflets, flyers, posters (including on buses) and social media/e-newsletters.
- A dedicated email address and telephone line has been established to handle comments and enquiries.
- The materials provided feature large easy to read text and a use of symbols and colour schemes to help highlight the issues and opportunities.
- An interactive online engagement portal (Commonplace) has been created to collect contributions via tablets, PC's and smartphones.

Further stakeholder engagement on this project is scheduled to take place in November 2018. There will be three A647 specific public exhibitions held during the phase 2 LPTIP consultation as follows:

15<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – St Johns Methodist Church, Stanningley Road

17<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – Wesley Chapel, Armley

26<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – Pudsey Civic Hall

As part of the scheme development process engineers and planners have applied the relevant DfT guidance and experience from previous Leeds projects (such as City Connect). The proposals will seek to promote social inclusion, social mobility, and accessibility and help create a transport system which benefits all in society.

• **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 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 in 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)

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

- New bus lanes (inbound and outbound) and other bus priority measures will encourage access and contact between communities and therefore promote strong and positive relationships and promote sustainable travel;
- Upgrades to existing pedestrian and toucan crossings, as well as some new crossings and improved pedestrian environment at the Ledgard Way junction, will improve and encourage pedestrian access, in addition to encouraging confidence in all cyclists and promoting sustainable travel. Improvements will provide pedestrians with more, safer places to cross the road which will have a positive impact on the elderly, those with physical impairments, and carers supporting wheel chairs/pushchairs;
- Some pedestrian and toucan crossings will be repositioned to better reflect desire lines and improve safety, which again will have a particularly positive impact on the elderly, those with physical impairments, and those groups more likely to travel as pedestrians/cyclists, as well as encouraging active and sustainable travel;
- Extension of cycle lanes will encourage confidence in all cycle users and promote active and sustainable travel;
- Widening into green space south of Armley Road will involve reconfiguring existing

steps down from residential properties opposite Pickering Street, and the introduction of a new access ramp, which will benefit wheelchair/pushchair users.

- The removal of one bus stop is proposed on Armley Road, with alternative stops available 180 metres to the west and 220 metres to the east. Similarly, the removal of a bus stop on Stanningley Road is proposed, with alternative stops available 350 metres to the west and 120 metres to the east. These measures will have a marginal accessibility disbenefit, whilst helping to reduce bus times, benefitting all bus users, including those with physical impairments.
- Some on street parking is to be removed/restricted to accommodate new bus lanes. Removal of parking has been restricted to areas where sufficient alternative parking is available in close proximity, such that any disbenefit will be marginal, and will be offset by the benefits of significant bus journey time savings and reliability improvements enabled.

In summary, the proposed new bus lanes and other bus priority measures will promote sustainable travel, and will particularly benefit those groups with higher bus patronage, such as women, disabled people, young people and the elderly. These benefits will come in the form of both reduced bus journey times and improved reliability.

Improvements to existing pedestrian and cycle crossing facilities, as well as cycle lane extensions, will improve safety and accessibility, and will encourage active and sustainable travel.

**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
Andrew Wheeler	Leeds Public Transport Improvement Programme Manager	Jan 2019
<b>Date screening completed</b>		Jan 2019

## 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](mailto: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 <b>Governance Services</b>	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a>	Date sent: