

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: Communities and Environment	Service area: Safer Leeds
Lead person: Michelle De Souza	Contact number: 3789712

1. Title: Domestic Violence Update Report

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

/ Other

If other, please specify Report to the Council Executive giving a progress update on domestic violence work in the city and highlighting key priorities for the forthcoming year.

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

A comprehensive update report and accompanying Annual Report will be submitted to the Council Executive on 18th September. This report provides an overview of activity in the city to reduce the prevalence and impact of domestic violence and abuse. It follows a report to Executive Board in December 2017.

This EDCI screening report provides a summary of information on the prevalence of reported domestic violence and abuse in the city, the challenges this presents to Leeds City Council and partners and the impact of this abuse on the wellbeing of citizens.

The report asks the Executive Board to note progress and to consider and agree actions to address the challenges outlined.

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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?	/	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		/
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?	/	
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		/
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		/

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 report highlights that domestic violence affects male and female victims. It also identifies that women are overwhelmingly victims and males tend to be the perpetrators. It outlines the numbers of households in which children are present when calls for service to the police have occurred.

Details of work with victims and perpetrators with multiple and complex needs are included in the report and relates to victims experiencing mental health issues, those with substance misuse problems, BME victims, victims from migrant communities and victims with No Recourse to Public Funds.

LGBT+ communities are featured as a group whose needs will be integrated further into future work

Consultation has been undertaken with both female victims and male perpetrators to glean their views on current service offers and will inform work programmes and commissioning arrangements going forward.

- **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)

Issues relating to equality and cohesion are integral to this area of work. Domestic violence and abuse affects all groups with characteristics identified under the Equality Act 2010. Moreover, these groups often face barriers to seeking help.

A number of the Domestic Homicide Reviews have provided rich information and learning around issues relating to equality, discrimination, disadvantage and domestic violence and abuse. These issues have been integrated into domestic violence and abuse work programmes.

- **Actions**

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

Strong links are in place with the Equality Hubs and there has been a particular focus in 2018 on LGBT+ communities. Work will continue with the Equality Hubs and stronger links will be developed through the Migrant Access Project and the Refugee Forum.

Additionally, work with existing commissioned specialist providers and LCC services involves scrutiny of demographic information to gauge how effectively services are in engaging people with characteristics identified under the Equality Act 2010.

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
Simon Hodgson	Safer Leeds: Head of Partnership Intel & Service Development	2 Sept
Date screening completed		
2 nd Sept 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 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: 5 September 2019
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: