

Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration (EDCI) 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 Housing and Environment	Service area: Entertainment Licensing
Lead person: Susan Duckworth	Contact number: 0113 378 5331

1. Title: Gambling Harms
Is this a:
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify
Report to present finding from scrutiny Board to Executive Board

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
<p>This is a report that presents the findings from Scrutiny Board to Executive Board. The initial scrutiny was based on a publication issued by Centre for Governance and Scrutiny and the Gambling Commission and titled “10 questions to ask if you are scrutinising gambling harm”. Scrutiny Board examined the work already being undertaken in Leeds by a wide range of partners in this area and came to five conclusions in their report “Statement: Reducing Gambling Harm”.</p> <p>1 Gambling harm should be regarded as a matter of public health, which risks exacerbating existing inequalities in Leeds. The Board recommends that a prevention and intervention strategy is adopted similar to those adopted in response to public health concerns linked to tobacco and alcohol use. This requires a joined up multi-agency approach locally and nationally — including</p>

- services such as financial inclusion, public health, housing and licensing, working in partnership with government, health, education and third sector organisations, operators, regulators and treatment providers.
- 2 As part of a prevention and intervention strategy the Board recommends the Executive Board explores how to support the expansion of work to raise awareness of the harms associated with gambling within communities, to reduce the stigma associated with gambling harms and promote ease of access to support and treatment.
 - 3 Early intervention and communication programmes in schools and other education settings should be a key part of the city’s preventative approach to gambling harm. The Board welcomes ongoing efforts to support schools by providing the information, tools and teaching materials necessary to engage pupils in conversations about gambling harm. The Scrutiny Board recommends that such programmes should begin in primary school.
 - 4 Regulatory structures have not kept up with changes in the UK gambling sector, particularly with regard to online gambling. The Board recommends lobbying the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport to reform regulatory structures — for example, to bring ‘loot boxes’ in video games within the scope of regulatory legislation and to prevent companies from targeting vulnerable people they know cannot afford the bets they are placing.
 - 5 The Board further recommends that the Executive lobbies Government to identify mechanisms through which exposure to gambling products can be reduced— including through the introduction of a ban on gambling firms advertising on sports kits and at sports venues. The Scrutiny Board would be happy to provide support as part of that process.

Officers from Public Health, financial Inclusion and Entertainment Licensing have considered these conclusions and has provided information and recommendations on how to implement the conclusions from Scrutiny Board.

Gambling harm does not discriminate and people from all backgrounds and characteristics are impacted by gambling harm. When addressing gambling harm in the community through marketing and treatment services. consideration is given to those who are from communities where the stigma of gambling is more impactful, or for those who may be at greater risk for gambling harm, but this is not a matter for this report.

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		x

equality characteristics?		
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 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)

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

--

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
John Mulcahy	Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory	23/05/2023
Date screening completed		23/05/2023

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: 23/05/2023
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: