

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: Resources & Housing	Service area: PPPU
Lead person: James Hulme	Contact number: 0113 3786996

1. Title: Improving Air Quality within the City

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

Leeds has been named as one of many cities in the UK that will not be compliant with nitrogen dioxide regulations by 2020, in line with EU air quality targets. As a result, Leeds City Council is required to implement a solution to achieve compliance with EU & National air quality targets within the shortest feasible timescale to deliver improvements to air quality in Leeds and to ensure that the city is compliant with national and international air quality targets.

It is proposed that a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) within Outer Ring Road will be introduced in Leeds. A CAZ defines an area where targeted action is taken to improve air quality and resources are prioritised and coordinated in order to shape the urban environment in a way that delivers improved health benefits and supports economic growth.

It is proposed that a chargeable CAZ B will be introduced in Leeds from the centre up to

but excluding the Outer Ring Road, and motorways to the south of Leeds. This will require buses, coaches, HGVs, and taxi & private hire to comply with a high vehicle emissions classification or pay a fine upon entry to the zone.

This screening therefore covers the implementation of the CAZ, and all equality implications that could arise from this both positive and negative.

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?	Yes	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?	Yes	
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		No
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		No
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 	Yes	

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 introduction of any CAZ classification will have equality implications. While the critical success factor of CAZ implementation is achieving compliance with air quality targets, there is also a strong emphasis on doing so whilst minimising economic impact on residents and business, and ensuring that no one group is overly affected more than any other.

The impact on equality for all CAZ scenarios has been considered throughout all modelling and decision-making, and led to the recommendation of a CAZ B ORR as this achieves compliance whilst minimising socioeconomic impacts.

- **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)

Modelling showed that the alternative of a CAZ D Outer Ring Road would impact upon over 59% of Leeds' population, including the majority of households who are classed as being in areas of social deprivation creating clear and unavoidable equality impacts.

CAZ B and C Inner Ring Road both showed significantly higher emissions reductions on the inner ring road but this was achieved by non-compliant vehicles changing their routes and driving into residential areas rather than through an upgrade of vehicles.

Consequently air quality in certain residential areas was worsened although it still remained below the legal limit. The displacement would not only have an adverse air quality impact in the residential areas but would also increase congestion, noise and raises road safety concerns as HGVs and LGVs divert through the minor road network.

- **Actions**

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

The CAZ B ORR solution has been proposed as it minimises the equality impact of implementing a Clean Air Zone whilst achieving compliance with the necessary air quality targets. An extensive consultation process will commence from January to February with all feedback, comments and suggestions used to modify the proposal where necessary to develop a final proposal in 2018. At this point a full impact assessment will be completed which accounts for all equality impacts as informed by the consultation exercise.

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:	02/01/2017 – 30/04/2018
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Date to complete your impact assessment	01/05/2018
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Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	James Hulme – Programme Officer
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6. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

Name	Job title	Date
Polly Cook	Exec Programme Manager	3/12/17
Date screening completed		7/11/2017

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: 03/12/2017
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: