

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: Resources and housing	Service area: Sustainable energy and air quality
Lead person: Tom Cowen	Contact number: 0113 378 8795

1. Title: Electric van hire scheme for business

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify: A bid for funding to Highways England to operate an electric van trial scheme for businesses.

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

Highways England are keen to reduce NO₂ concentrations on the strategic road network, particularly on urban motorways and trunk roads. Tackling emissions from light goods vehicles or vans is a key part of this; the number of vehicles within this class has increased by 74% since 1996, they are almost exclusively diesel fuelled and are estimated by DfT to account for 30% of NO_x, despite making up only 15% of road traffic. Research carried out by the Energy Saving Trust indicates that whilst very few businesses run electric vans in their fleet, a high proportion are interested in doing so and feel that a 'try before you buy' scheme would be beneficial in helping them reach a decision.

For this reason, Highways England are making funding available for a local authority partner to operate an electric van loan scheme and centre of excellence. Electric vans will be made available for loan to businesses for a relatively short period of time to enable them to get hands on experience of operating these vehicles and consider how they can be integrated into their existing fleet and business operations.

The council will conduct maintenance checks on vehicles when they are returned from loan and will store and look after vehicles during those periods in which they are not out on loan to businesses.

The scheme will be actively marketed to local businesses to encourage take up and make sure the vehicles are utilised as much as possible. We are particularly keen that SMEs and micro-businesses benefit and intend to target these categories of business in particular with promotional activity.

Electric vehicles are inherently quieter than traditional engines and RNIB and other advocacy groups for visually impaired people have expressed concerns that this poses a risk to visually impaired people who rely upon engine noise as an indication of whether it is safe for them to step into the road. EU legislation mandating all new electric vehicles to be fitted with noise generating equipment for the benefit of alerting pedestrians to their presence will be implemented from July 2019.

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 		X

• Fostering good relations		
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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**.

<p>4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration</p>
<p>If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.</p> <p>Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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:	20/08/18
Date to complete your impact assessment	31/08/18
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	Tom Cowen – Senior Project Officer

6. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Polly Cook	Executive Programme Manager	13/07/2018
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: