

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 & Environment	Service area: Migration Yorkshire
Lead person: Dinah Beckett	Contact number: 89012

1. Title: To accept grant funding to deliver a project to increase the number of carers for unaccompanied asylum seeking children

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify

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

To accept funding to deliver a project to increase the number, and skills, of carers for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) in Yorkshire and Humber. Grant funding would be received as part of the Controlling Migration Fund, and redistributed partner organisations.

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• 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)

MY worked with councils across the region to consider how to improve provision for UASC, how to encourage diverse communities to engage with fostering and the impact on Children Looked after – both UASC and the wider population.

Migration Yorkshire will be managing the project and have considered these issues from the beginning of the process, during the application and planning stages and will continue into delivery phase. Consultation has taken place local authorities regarding design of the project.

Migration Yorkshire as part of its project management role will be monitoring standards of delivery and progress towards increased placement capacity and improved quality for UASC across the region, including through social worker knowledge and practice.

- **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)

The successful delivery of this project will mean there is a better range of placements for UASC with better trained and informed staff and carers. Increased placement capacity will reduced pressure more widely, positively impacting on the general Children Looked After population.

Diverse communities will be encouraged to engage with providing care across the region, building on Leeds's successful programme of community engagement for carers, and enabling MY as part of the project to share good practice across the region.

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

The project will encourage all LAs to do more to support UASC reducing pressure areas with high rates of UASC arrivals. It will ensure carers and social workers are better informed and therefore can support integration of UASC more effectively.

Increased foster carer capacity will improve the situation for all Children Looked After and reduce pressures within the system.

Migration Yorkshire will manage the project communications strategy, proactively promote positive stories and media engagement.

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