

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: City Development	Service area: Civil Engineering Section
Lead person: Sean Hewitt	Contact number: 0113 378 7395

1. Title: LPTIP: A61(S) Bus Corridor Improvements (Stourton to City centre)

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

Highways and Transportation scheme as part of the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP).

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

Leeds City Council (LCC) and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) are developing a Bus Corridor Improvements Scheme, from the M621 J7 to South Accommodation Road.

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?	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).

The Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP) was developed off the back of extensive consultation as part of the Leeds Transport Conversation. This process involved engaging a wide range of groups including but not limited to Child Friendly Leeds, Older People's Forum, Access Groups, BME Hub, Disability Hub, LGBT* Hub, Hub Reps Network, Womens' Lives Leeds, Access and Use-Ability Group, Physical and Sensory Impairment (PSI) Network and the Equalities Assembly Conference.

Prior to engaging stakeholders (including the general public) on the LPTIP projects Leeds City Council and their development partner WSP appointed a Leeds based engagement specialist service provider called Leeds Involving People (LIP). LIP coordinated input from several individuals from the seldom heard groups they work with into the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. The strategy has a clear focus on engaging seldom heard groups and ensuring all materials are accessible, legible and easily consumable.

Previous engagement on this project has included:

Four public exhibitions:

20th September 2017 - Briggate, Leeds City Centre

26th September 2017 – West Grange Church, Belle Isle

2nd October 2017 –Hunslet Church of the Nazarene

12th October 2017 – Windmill Community Centre, Rothwell

We have also engaged with numerous key stakeholders / community groups as follows:

Access & Use-ability Group (3rd October 2017 (Civic Hall) / Elland Road & Temple Green & City Centre hub site visit on 30th October 2017 / 17th January 2018 (Civic Hall))

Carlton, Rothwell, Oulton & Woodlesford Community Groups (25th October 2017 / 6th February 2018)

Friends & Relatives of Hunslet Cemetery (16th November 2017 / 9th February 2018)

Leeds Cycling forum and Cycle sub-group (11th October 2017 / 6th February 2018)

Leeds Valley Park businesses (7th February 2018)

Hunslet Tenants & Residents Association (7th February 2018)

First Direct Group (26th April 2018)

Highways England (regular monthly meetings for the past year)

Further stakeholder engagement on this project took place between June 20th and July 27th 2018. There were four A61(S) specific public exhibitions held during the LPTIP consultation as follows:

23rd June 2018 – Hunslet Methodist Church
25th June 2018 – Lofthouse Methodist Church
26th June 2018 – St Johns and St Barnabus Church Hall
27th June 2018 – Leeds College of Building, Hunslet Campus
12th July 2018 – West Grange Church, Belle Isle

As part of the engagement LPTIP will help coordinate meaningful engagement with a range of seldom heard groups in and around the communities affected and benefiting from the proposals. In this particular part of the city special effort will be made to engage local residents who may not regularly travel into the city centre or use the park and ride services. Teams of outreach specialists will be out in the local community handing out flyers and talking to people about the proposals. An event will be held in the local community (not at the park and ride) on a weekday evening. Several thousand simply and clearly written leaflets will be posted in the local area promoting engagement and providing contact details for the Connecting Leeds team.

The following measures will be taken across all projects during the June and July period to promote engagement.

- Materials will be offered in braille and audio format. Where appropriate British sign language and other interpreters will be present at meetings to aid communications.
- 18 public events will be held across the city including in the local area where experienced staff will be on hand to answer questions.
- The events will be marketed using a range of printed media (YEP), leaflets, flyers, posters (including on buses) and social media/e-newsletters.
- A dedicated email address and telephone line will be established.
- The materials used will feature large easy to read text and a use of symbols and colour schemes to help highlight the issues and opportunities.
- An interactive online engagement portal (Commonplace) will be used to collect contributions via tablets, PC's and smartphones.

As part of the scheme development process engineers and planners have applied the relevant DfT guidance and experience from previous Leeds projects (such as City Connect). The proposals will seek to promote social inclusion, social mobility, and accessibility and help create a transport system which benefits all in society.

- **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)

From both Transport Conversation engagement and previous policy documents including the Local Transport Plan 3 and Leeds Core Strategy, transport has the potential to have a differential impact on all equality groups, with particular regard to the following;

- Gender; Research shows that women and men have persistent different transportation needs, travel behaviours and levels of access to services and infrastructure. Women tend to travel shorter distances, closer to the home, and make more trips; they travel for a wider variety of purposes; they walk more; they have less access to a car and are the main users of public transport, they make more chained trips; their travel patterns tend to be shaped as polygons as compared to the more frequent commuting trips made by men. Women are more sensitive to safety concerns and tend to self-limit their movements and activities because of perceptions of risk, in the UK, they are less likely to cycle. Women are also overrepresented in social groups with specific transport needs and greater transport disadvantage: older people, people with special needs, single parents, and working parents who take responsibility for most caretaking tasks. Women's overall comparative disadvantage in terms of access to transportation negatively affects their professional development, economic status, leisure time, and personal wellbeing. [Source: genderSTE]
- Disability; Differential access to the transport system and the effect of transport policies, particularly (but not restricted to) for those with physical and sensory impairments, mental health issues or learning disabilities. Disabled people travel more frequently by bus than others, so public transport plays a vital role in ensuring that they can participate in community life and avoid social exclusion. They also may be affected to a greater extent by issues of reliability of public transport, modal integration (or lack thereof) and interchange and by issues such as overcrowding/ space availability. The availability of accessible infrastructure and walkable, level routes and access to information, including on board and at stops, will also have a differential impact on this equality group.

Disability can lead to a greater reliance on private transport (own car or taxi, or lifts from friends/ relatives etc). Journey times, distance and destinations as well as modal choice may be affected by disability.

- Race; Differential access to the transport system and the effect of transport policies, particularly for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people are around impacts on access to employment, education and training, which are vitally important issues for BAME communities as a means of overcoming disadvantages in the job market. Studies have also shown a differential impact in terms of the impact of traffic and road safety. They are also underrepresented among cyclists. It is thought that enabling travel by active modes may particularly benefit some members of the BAME communities in addressing health inequalities, including Type II diabetes and cardio-vascular health.
- Age; Both younger and older people are more at risk of being involved on a road traffic collision and suffer greater consequential effects – initiatives that contribute to road safety, especially of active modes, will have a beneficial impact on these sections of the population.

Young people rely very much on public transport, although many have personal security concerns when using public transport and this is coupled with the fact that in terms of actual risk they are the age group which are most likely to be the victims of violence and/or assault. Children exposed to traffic related air pollution

are more at risk of asthma and child inactivity is a cause for future health concerns, which can be addressed through enabling the use of active travel modes.

Many older people are not able to drive because health conditions related to their age or find the cost of running a car prohibitive. Like with disabled people, there will be a differential impact in terms of distance travelled (including to access public transport in the first place), reliability, overcrowding and the need to interchange or change modes. The presence and availability of evening and weekend services and infrastructure at stops/ stations will also have a differential impact in terms of the ability to access activities and leisure opportunities. The inter-district connectivity enabling access to local services has also been found to be particularly important to older people and people with disabilities.

- **Actions**

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

The highway works for the scheme, and their impact on equality characteristics, are as follows:

- New 24 hour bi-directional bus lanes (inbound / outbound) will encourage access and contact between communities and therefore promote strong and positive relationships and promote sustainable travel;
- Upgrades to existing pelican to a toucan crossing, will improve and encourage pedestrian access, in addition to encouraging confidence in all cyclists and promoting sustainable travel, in addition to provide pedestrians with a safe place to cross the road which will have a positive impact on the elderly, carers supporting wheel chairs/pushchairs;
- New segregated cycle lanes (inbound / outbound) will encourage confidence in all cycle users and promote sustainable travel;

In Summary, the proposed highway improvement scheme will positively impact all users of the highway network. In particular, vulnerable road users such as those with mobility issues / disabilities, the elderly, young and carers (prams and wheelchairs) will be aided by the introduction of new and upgraded crossing facilities, with associated dropped kerbs and tactile paving.

The new in and out bound 24 hour bus lane, and segregated cycle lane will promote sustainable travel and encourage confidence in cycle users. In addition, the link to the proposed Stourton Park and Ride facility will encourage visitors to the area.

Upgrades to existing traffic signals and formalising the traffic lanes and turning manoeuvres will improve road safety for all.

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:	N/A
Date to complete your impact assessment	N/A
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	N/A

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening		
Name	Job title	Date
Andrew Wheeler	Leeds Public Transport Improvement Programme Manager	1/3/2019
Date screening completed		November 2018

7. Publishing	
<p>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.</p> <p>A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached screening was sent:</p>	
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: 1/3/2019
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: