

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.

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|--|---|
| Directorate: City Development | Service area: Environment and Design Group |
| Lead person: Clare Wallace | Contact number: 87754 |

1. Title: Designation of the Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area and adoption of the Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify

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

The designation of the Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area to recognise the area's historic and architectural importance and the adoption of the Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan setting out the special character of the area and how to preserve or enhance it.

The Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan includes an analysis and appraisal of the special character of the area along with a management plan showing how this special character can be managed, preserved or enhanced in the future.

The proposed Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area and Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan are the result of a community-led approach, whereby the local community undertook the fieldwork and analysis to assess the characteristics of the area with the input and support from the Conservation Team.

The draft conservation area appraisal was taken through a wide ranging consultation process between May and June 2019. This involved the following methods of formal and informal consultation with Councillors, Leeds City Council officers, residents and interested parties;

- On the 24th May 2019, Local Ward Members and specific Executive Member Councillors and Leeds City Council Officers were emailed the draft appraisal and management plan, invited to make comment and made aware of the wider public consultation.
- The public consultation ran from the 25th May 2019 until the 28th June 2019.
- A direct mailing was hand-delivered to all properties, including community assets, falling within the proposed conservation area boundary advising them of the proposal, consultation and public meeting and how to have their say.
- Paper copies of the draft appraisal and management plan and consultation response forms were made available in the Shadwell Library, Arts Centre & Café and Leeds City Centre Hub in Merrion House for the duration of the consultation period.
- The draft conservation area appraisal was available online on the Leeds City Council Website and the Shadwell Parish Council website for the duration of the consultation period together with the response form and details of how to take part in the consultation process.
- The proposed conservation area and public consultation was advertised locally and through the Council's social media channels on LCC twitter and LCC facebook.
- A public meeting was held at the Recreation Centre, Holywell Lane, Shadwell on the 12th June, 7pm. There were 10 people in attendance, including local residents, parish and ward councillors and the Conservation team. The meeting included a presentation by a Parish Councillor outlining the proposed conservation area boundary, reviewing the origins and evolution of the area and assessing its present-day special character. This was followed by a summary of the proposed management plan action points to preserve or enhance the area and a discussion on the implications of designating a conservation area. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session. Conservation Team officers were in attendance for the presentation and the following Q&A session. Discussions included: corrections to text for accuracy; impact on permitted development rights and on trees not subject to TPO's; suggestions regarding the proposed boundary; how a building is identified and excluded as being 'positive'; what the benefits for local community will be; that the designation may be too late due to existing changes; impact on planning applications already in the system.

Once approved by the Council, the Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area will be designated and the Shadwell Holywell Triangle Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan will be adopted as non-statutory planning guidance. This screening sets out how equality has been considered and has been an integral part of this conservation area.

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 work which has been undertaken focuses on the special character of the historic and architectural environment. This therefore relates to a geographical area, and the buildings within that area. The owners and occupiers of the buildings and area are considered equal by the process and are approached as such.

The methods of consultation identified local interest groups and stakeholders by geographical location and notified them of the work that was to take place. The community were engaged through advertisement of the process. The owners and occupiers of every property in the area of proposed boundary were directly mailed, promoted through LCC press office, the appraisal was available online and at the local Shadwell library and Merrion House reception and a public

meeting was held. These events were open to all. It is therefore considered that the process is fair and considered in its approach and does not impact directly on equality, diversity and integration, but can help promote a cohesive society (see key findings).

Due regard was given to all equality characteristics and the impact has been considered. All protected characteristics are affected in a positive way and in particular the group of disability are affected as access is important and has been given due regard. Examples of projects from existing conservation areas in Leeds, for example the upgraded accessibility arrangements to the Grade II* listed Grand Theatre building, show that conservation area designation will not prevent such improvements in the future. This has been considered as an integral part of the review.

- **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 proposal to designate a conservation area to recognise the area's historic and architectural importance was first requested by the local community in 2012, prompted by the designation of the separate Shadwell Conservation Area nearby. As a community-led assessed area, there has been a high level of local community involvement throughout the process.

By engaging the wider community through consultation it is hoped the local area and its residents will be more aware of the benefits of the historic environment and their shared responsibility in its management and enhancement.

The consultation showed support for the proposed conservation area and appraisal and management plan.

The conservation area appraisal and management plan was amended in light of comments received during the public consultation.

- **Actions**

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

The conservation area and its associated appraisal and management plan identify the special character, history and appearance of the area and how to positively manage it to ensure it is preserved or enhanced. The public consultation showed support for the proposed conservation area and the appraisal and management plan. Following designation the special character of the area will be considered when assessing planning applications in the area. The appraisal and management plan will be a material consideration in the planning system.

The conservation area designation may introduce additional heritage considerations affecting applications for improved disability access. However, the National Planning Policy Framework approach means that 'harm' to heritage assets may be justified by public benefits and recent experience has shown that designated heritage assets do not prevent accessibility upgrades – see for example the accessibility works at the Grade II* Grand Theatre within the Grand Quarter conservation area. Officers are on hand to suggest constructive and suitable alterations in order to address any equality or accessible issues as part of any Planning application and it is hoped that proactive discussion would take place should any issues arise in order to mitigate or 'design in' suitable modifications to people's properties if necessary, to make them more accessible.

The management plan outlines key actions to promote the positive impact of the proposed

conservation area and remove / reduce negative impacts, and as such due regard has been given to the all the protected characteristics.

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

Nasreen Yunis

06/11/2019

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: