

Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration (EDCI) 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: City Development	Service area: Asset Management & Regeneration
Lead person: Adam Brannen	Contact number: 0113 37 87711

1. Title: East Leeds Extension – Land Disposal and Development Delivery of Community Infrastructure

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify: Programme

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

This equality impact screening is to support an Executive Board report that requests:

- To approve the Council entering into Option Agreements with Taylor Wimpey and Redrow in relation to the sale of Council land in the Southern Quadrant and an Equalisation Agreement with the other Middle and Southern Quadrant land owners and developers, on the terms outlined in the report.
- To approve the principle of the Council’s land at Parcel A in the Southern Quadrant of the ELE being appropriated or dedicated for use as a primary school and for the provision of community facilities as necessary and in accordance with planning requirements.
- To approve the principle of the Council disposing of land at Parcel to a third party

- or parties for use as a school and for the provision of community facilities.
- d) To note that the Capital Programme report on the agenda for the meeting proposes the injection into the Capital Programme of up to £650,000 to facilitate the re-provision of the existing sports pitches in the Southern Quadrant, to be forward funded by developers, and to authorise the Director of City Development to provide authority to spend up to that amount for this purpose.
- e) To reaffirm the principle of pitch development as set out in the Whinmoor Grange Development Brief and approve the progression of feasibility, design and the submission of a planning application to enable progression of the ELE pitch strategy.

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)

The East Leeds Extension is a strategic growth point and the largest single area of allocated housing land in the Leeds City Region. This area will play a major role in delivering the housing required to meet the Core Strategy and assist in the delivery of the Best Council Plan ambition for a Strong Economy and Compassionate City and the outcomes it seeks to achieve regarding delivery of good quality, affordable homes, well cared for places and a well-planned city which is easy to move around. Delivery of the ELE will provide new homes, meeting housing needs as the city grows, boost the local economy, deliver new social and physical infrastructure and improve travel and access to new employment opportunities.

The programme for the ELE is complex. It involves a range of landowners and developers, major infrastructure proposals, the use of Council land and resources, public and private funding and a series of linked project activities which require the Council to fulfil a strong co-ordination and enabling role.

The Council owns land within each of the ELE quadrants, which gives rise to an opportunity to realise capital receipts. This also allows for the Council to use its position as a landowner to work collaboratively with adjoining landowners and developers on a high quality design-lead approach to place making that delivers a sustainable urban extension, providing new housing, community facilities, access to employment and leisure and an attractive choice of transport modes.

Firstly, the sale of the land is not considered to affect any parties within the wider communities unequally. Similarly there are no groups with protected characteristics who have been identified as being particularly affected. While the whole development of the site (and the reason for the land sale) will affect communities generally, this is not the subject of the current decision as the principle of development has already been agreed.

Secondly, this screening also needs to consider the sale of the Council's land in the SQ for the specific use of accommodating the primary school, retail and community facilities that form a critical part of the masterplanning. Again, it is considered that the provision of such facilities is an essential part of the planning requirements for the site, which have already been established in the development plan. The precise location on the Council's land provides for certainty and control for the Council and partners in ensuring such facilities can be brought forward in a timely and co-ordinated way to support the residential growth, enhance the existing local offer and mitigate the impact of development on the capacity of existing community infrastructure. This will not adversely

affect any groups.

Lastly, the screening must consider that to facilitate the land arrangements and to enable the submission of a planning application in the Southern Quadrant, the Council is proposing the relocation and enhancement of some existing sports pitches within the ELE allocated development land. The proposed approach is to develop a new local pitch cluster adjoining The Arium at Whinmoor Grange, in accordance with a historic strategy for that site previously agreed by Executive Board. This ELE pitch relocation strategy has not previously been agreed, but is closely linked to the need for the best location for the community facilities as outlined above. It is likely to affect local people who use the site for informal amenity and recreation, and a single junior football club who hold matches there at weekends. The impact will therefore be felt most strongly by a grouping of younger persons and children, but overall the strategy will provide enhanced replacement facilities for that club to use at Whinmoor, plus a major new network of greenspaces and green routes through the ELE once developed.

The football club have been consulted at an early stage and are happy in principle to relocate their matches to Whinmoor Grange. The statutory consultation and engagement activities are taking place and will continue to do so in relation to the current and forthcoming planning applications on the MQ and SQ. In addition, officers are working closely with the local ward members who represent their constituents' interests. A Community Forum chaired by a ward member has been meeting virtually. There are proposals underway for a leaflet drop to counteract the current difficulties of holding in person consultation events.

- **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)

As set out above, it is considered that the specific proposals for the sale of the land in the manner described are unlikely to have EDCI impacts. The uses for which the sites will come forwards for development will assist in providing housing and affordable housing, greenspace, and a community hub, which will benefit all members of society.

The relocation of the playing fields to Whinmoor Grange in order to facilitate the above is also unlikely to have EDCI impacts. The proposal has been discussed with the existing football club who uses the site, who stated that they were in principle happy to travel to Whinmoor Grange instead of the current site. Other local people may currently use the site for informal recreation, which may include children. However, at the point that the fields are redeveloped then there will be a new a wide reaching network of high quality amenity greenspace and walking and cycling routes within the ELE, and therefore it is not considered that there would be a negative impact overall.

- **Actions**

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

EDCI considerations will continue to be factored into the consultation programme to ensure accessibility in online and offline routes and the format and content of publicity material.

Further consultation will be undertaken with the football club now that the strategy has been finalised. In relation to the current and forthcoming planning applications on the MQ and SQ, the statutory consultation and engagement activities are taking place and will continue to do so. In addition, officers are working closely with the local ward members who represent their constituents' interests. A Community Forum chaired by a ward member has been meeting virtually. There are proposals underway for a leaflet drop to counteract the current difficulties of holding in person consultation events.

Work has commenced on the creation of new branding and place marketing for the ELE as a whole and this includes close working with stakeholders from a range of interests including local resident groups. The aim is to seek consensus on key aspects such as attributes and challenges, what makes the ELE unique, and what its vision could be. This work will lead on to generating a place vision and clear place branding, that retains strong meaning and resonance for local stakeholders, with further opportunities for stakeholder review and input. It will help to promote the positive impact of the ELE overall (and the Council's role within it including its land sales) and bring neighbouring communities together alongside the new communities which will develop, through a shared understanding.

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
Adam Brannen	Head of Regeneration	13/01/21
Date screening completed		13/01/21

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: