

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: Communities, Housing and Environment	Service area: Parks and Countryside
Lead person: Kris Nenadic	Contact number: 0113 3786002

1. Title: Covid-19 Memorial Woodland within New 48 Hectare Parkland at former South Leeds Golf Course

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify: creation of new parkland and woodland

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

A proposal to create a new 48 hectare park and Covid-19 memorial woodland on the site of the former South Leeds golf course. The proposal incorporates a Covid-19 memorial woodland to be created in partnership with Leeds Hospitals Charity and dedicated to the memory of those who died during the pandemic and for the appreciation of front line and key workers.

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)

A number of local stakeholders have been engaged, in the form of virtual and on-site meetings. Ward members from the Beeston and Middleton Park wards, have expressed support for the plans in this area of the golf course, subject to public consultation. Representatives from the local Friends of Middleton Park were also present during the virtual meeting, with all parties being in broad agreement of the proposed plans. Wade's Charity and Leeds Hospital Charity also supported the location of the proposed woodland creation across the site.

• **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)

It is proposed that wider public consultation will commence as soon as possible. The consultation exercise would consider both the memorial woodland as well as other plans for the rest of the site as follows:

- Letter drops to residents whose homes are adjacent or overlook this section of the golf course, enclosing the plans and inviting them to comment through an email or letter.
- The potential opportunity to discuss proposals on site in more detail with representatives from both Parks and Countryside service and Leeds Hospitals Charity.
- An open consultation to the general public, who would be given opportunity to fill in an online form or provide comments in writing.
- A webinar whereby the proposals for the whole of the South Leeds Golf Course site would be discussed including the memorial woodland.

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

To undertake a consultation process to inform the development and delivery of these proposals.

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
Sean Flesher	Chief Officer Parks and Countryside	20/05/21
Date screening completed		20/05/21

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: