

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: Adults and Health	Service area: Working Age Commissioning
Lead person: Iris Berkeley	Contact number: 0113 3783840

1. Title: Request to modify the contract end date for the delivery of Leeds Sensory Impairment Support Service (LSISS) with BID Services under the provision available in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, Reg 72(1)(c) modification of contracts during their term

Is this a:

☒

Strategy / Policy

☐

Service / Function

☐

Other

If other, please specify

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

Adults and Health commissions Leeds Sensory Impairment Support Service (LSISS) which is provided by BID Services to deliver a range of information, advice, and support services to people with hearing and sight impairment. The contract is due to expire 31st March 2022 and does not contain any options to extend. Therefore, the requested further 12 months is required to ensure continuity of service whilst a service review is completed, the specification revised, and a full competitive procurement exercise is undertaken. Depending on the outcome of the procurement exercise, the requested option to extend up to 6 months (contingency plan) may be required for a smoother mobilisation. As part of the service review, Adults and Health have liaised with 108

deaf, blind and deafblind services and stakeholders during April -June 2021. Once the service review is complete and the service specification is finalised, Adults and Health will undertake a number of events to engage and consult with people with sensory loss to get their feedback and inform the specification and future service provision.

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 service review will identify gaps and make recommendations to improve service provision which in turn will inform the service specification.
- Service review consultation: Adults and Health have already engaged and consulted with over a 86 profoundly deaf, Deaf and use British Sign Language (BSL), people who are hearing impaired, sight impaired, severely sight impaired or who have dual sensory loss service users and 22 stakeholders during the first quarter of 2021 to inform and shape future service provision.
- Further consultation will take place during Nov 22- Feb 23 to further engage with wider groups of people, individuals and diverse communities with lived experience of sensory loss to ensure they have an opportunity to engage and be consulted in the development of services.
- Revision of the specification will ensure compliance with statutory and legal Requirements as set out in the Care Act 2014 The Care Act 2014, together with a range of regulations and statutory guidance, is the base upon which the Specialist Social Work Team social care provision is based upon..
- Consultation and engagement will strengthen sensory peer support networks – engaging peer and personal networks to transfer knowledge and support change.
- Improve the outcomes for individuals.
- Reconfigure and consolidate the way services have previously been developed and delivered

• **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)

- **Actions**

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

The new service model and specification will be coproduced with service users and stakeholders.

- Consultation and engagement will strengthen peer support networks – engaging peer and personal networks to transfer knowledge, support change
- Improved outcomes for perspective users of sensory impairment support service.
- To maximise value for money, and achieve the best possible social, economic, and environmental outcomes for the money spent.

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
I Berkeley	Commissioning Manager	5/8/21
Date screening completed		5/8/21

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:5/8/21
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: