

# 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.

<b>Directorate: City Development</b>	<b>Service area: Highways and Transportation</b>
<b>Lead person: David Ellis</b>	<b>Contact number: 0113 3367859</b>

## 1. Title:

Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme: Amendment to the New Briggate Element of the Headrow Gateway Scheme

Is this a:

☐

**Strategy / Policy**

☐

**Service / Function**

☒

**Other**

**If other, please specify**

**Amendment to the design of a highway scheme**

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

This screening is on an amendment to the design of the Leeds Public Transport Programme (LPTIP) Headrow Gateway scheme at New Briggate. The amendment to the design:

- replaces toucan crossings and areas of shared-use footway with continuous stretches of separate cycleways and cycle crossings;
- converts the far-side lane on Merrion Street to a protected cycleway (at the

junction) and a hatched-out area on the approach to the junction, the latter will be converted to cycleway in 2022/23); and

- prohibits loading on the south side of Merrion Street, towards its eastern end; and
- provides a new area of kerbside for loading on the north side of Merrion Street directly opposite the restricted length.

### 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"> <li>• Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment</li> <li>• Advancing equality of opportunity</li> <li>• Fostering good relations</li> </ul>	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)

Extensive consultation on the proposals have been undertaken as part of the stakeholder engagement process for the wider LPTIP Headrow Gateway scheme. This includes meetings with groups representing disabled users, cycle users, bus operators, private hire drivers and the hackney carriage trade. The project team worked with Leeds Involving People to communicate with seldom-heard groups and a range of different disabled user groups. The consultation work also encompassed all businesses and organisations located within the scheme area. Statutory consultees such as Ward Members and emergency services have also been kept informed. Opportunities for all members of the public to comment have been facilitated via the Connecting Leeds website.

Engagement on this amendment for the scheme has taken place with the Executive Member, Ward Members, Access officers, the Council's cycling champion, local stakeholders and representatives of cycling groups.

• **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 key findings related to this proposal are:

- The engagement work revealed that disabled users are concerned about the prevalence of cycling on the footway in the city centre and prefer cycle users to be separated from pedestrians. Many disabled users, including blind and partially sighted users, struggle to use areas of footway where cycling is permitted but where there is not a kerb upstand because they cannot detect where cycles will be

present.

- Disabled users also told us that they value the provision of areas of kerbside where private hire (?) vehicles and hackney carriages can pick-up and drop-off people close to key city centre attractions.
- The engagement work revealed that many people with equality characteristics (including women) do not feel safe cycling on the carriageway in Leeds because they do not feel comfortable sharing space with motor vehicles. They favour traffic-free or protected cycling routes.
- The consultation that informed the project revealed that disabled users are more likely to use public transport than able-bodied people in Leeds. Women, young people, carers, people from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds and BAME communities are also more likely to use public transport.

- **Actions**

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

- The provision of continuous sections of cycleway, delineated by a kerb upstand, through this amendment to the scheme, and the removal of areas of shared-use footway and toucan crossings, will promote positive impact among disabled users and older people who do not feel safe sharing space with cycle users on the footway.
- The provision of safe, kerb-protected cycleways through the junction of New Briggate and Merrion Street will promote positive impact among groups who are less likely to cycle in the carriageway (including women) giving them more travel choices. This measure will also benefit people from deprived socio-economic backgrounds who do not have access to a car but can cycle to access jobs and services in the city centre.
- The retention of lengths of kerbside where pick-up and drop-off is permitted will promote positive impact and reduce negative impact among groups who need to access private vehicles and hackney carriages close to key destinations in the city centre (such as disabled people, some carers and older people).
- By ensuring that the conversion of the far-side lane on Merrion Street to a cycleway does not delay bus services, the scheme has avoided causing negative impact to those equality groups who are more likely to use bus services (including women, young people, carers and people from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds).

**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)	

<b>6. Governance, ownership and approval</b>		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Job title</b>	<b>Date</b>
David Ellis	Team Leader Transport Planning (Projects)	17 September 2021
<b>Date screening completed 17 September 2021</b>		

<b>7. Publishing</b>	
<p>Though <b>all</b> key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council <b>only</b> publishes those related to <b>Executive Board, Full Council, Key Delegated Decisions</b> or a <b>Significant Operational Decision</b>.</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"> <li>• Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.</li> <li>• The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.</li> <li>• A copy of all other equality screenings that are not to be published should be sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a> for record.</li> </ul> <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 <b>Governance Services</b>	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>	Date sent: 16.9.2021
All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a>	Date sent: