

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 and Environment	Service area: Parks and Countryside
Lead person: Emma Trickett	Contact number: 0113 3786002

1. Title: Parks and Green Spaces Strategy		
Is this a:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify		

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
<p>This screening relates to the <i>Leeds Parks and Green Spaces Strategy</i>.</p> <p>The aim of the strategy is to set out a vision for the Parks and Countryside Service, and the actions that will be undertaken by the service to deliver that vision over the next 10 years. It identifies 8 priorities for Leeds City Council, Parks and Countryside Service as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Quality ii. Climate and biodiversity iii. Access for all iv. Culture v. Child friendly vi. Working with communities vii. Financial sustainability viii. Health and wellbeing

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 findings of a wide-reaching public consultation were key to the drafting of the strategy and this has fully informed the 8 priorities that have emerged. Many of the actions in the strategy will have a direct impact on the protected characteristics within the Equalities Act seeking to improve access to and use of public green space and improved provision of facilities for green space users.

- **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 research and consultation referenced and undertaken in drafting the strategy shows high usage and satisfaction with parks users from the majority of demographics. There is however less reported use of public parks in Leeds by people aged over 75 and people identifying as having a disability.

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

Actions arising from the consultation have been included in the detail in the strategy. In relation to EDCI in particular, the strategy highlights 'Access for All' as a priority for the Parks and Countryside service. In this priority disability, older people, the safety of women and girls, and concessions on price of entry to our visitor attractions are all mentioned. Another priority focusses on ensuring green spaces are child friendly and action around EDCI are mentioned elsewhere in the document, for example, prioritising investment in green space in areas of deprivation with the aim of reducing health inequalities.

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 & Countryside	10/11/2021
Date screening completed		10/11/2021

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: 11/11/2021
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: