

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: Communities, Housing & Environment	Service area: Parks and Countryside
Lead person: Claire Tregembo	Contact number: 0113 3782875

1. Title: xx

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

The extinguishment of a public right of way under the Highways Act 1980

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?	✓	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?	✓	
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		✓
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		✓
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 		✓

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 extinguishment is to be considered in accordance with Section 118 of the Highways Act 1980. The duty of the Council to Assert and Protect the rights of the public to use and enjoy any highway under section 130 of the Highways Act 1980 should be taken into consideration. Policies and the Statement of Action set out within the Rights of Way Improvement Plan, which considered the needs of all users and potential users of public rights of way, will also be taken into consideration.

Local residents, public rights of way users and the landowners and occupiers are likely to be affected by the proposal.

Consultation has taken place public rights of way user groups, statutory undertakers and consultees, ward members, Leeds Local Access Forum, landowners, occupiers and any other interested parties identified.

- **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)

Extinguishments are likely to affect all members of the local community who use the public right of way as well as recreational users from further away. However, they are likely to have more of an impact on those groups who are less mobile. Increased distances, increased gradient, steps or path furniture such as stiles can make it more difficult or impossible for some groups to use a public right of way or alternative routes. Increased distances can also impact of those without access to a vehicle who could face an increase in length and time to reach their destination.

A Public Path Extinguishment Orders under Section 118 of the Highways Act 1980 can only be made if the public path is not needed for public use. Consideration can also be given to possible likely use and any alternative provisions that may be made.

Prior to confirmation regard must also be given to the effect which it would have on land served by the path.

The Rights of Way Improvement Plan contains various provisions to assert and protect public rights and maintain and improve the public right of way network for all users.

Detailed consideration of these issues specific to the proposed Public Path Extinguishment are found in the relevant Report of the Public Rights of Way Manager for the Public Path Extinguishment Order.

In this case a more suitable alternative route has been provided that is easier to use for people with mobility issues or aids. The exiting route will also become unsafe for all path users when changes are made to the roadside footways. The alternative route will take path users to safe crossing points.

- **Actions**

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

Extinguishment Orders will not be made if the public right of way is still needed for public use, if alternative routes significantly increases the distance or gradient for the public or if alternative routes are less safe or convenient. They will also not be made if they reduce the enjoyment of the public when using alternative routes

Specific actions and a recommendation on the proposed Extinguishment Order are found in the relevant Report of the Public Rights of Way Manager for the Public Path Extinguishment Order.

In this case a more suitable alternative route has been provided that is easier to use for people with mobility issues or aids. The exiting route will also become unsafe for all path users when changes are made to the roadside footways. The alternative route will take path users to safe crossing points.

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:	N/A
Date to complete your impact assessment	N/A
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	N/A

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening		
Name	Job title	Date
Bob Buckenham	Public Rights of way Manager	10/06/2022
Date screening completed		10/06/2022

7. Publishing	
<p>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.</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"> • 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. <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 Governance Services	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent: 21/06/2022
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: