

## 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: Children and Families</b>	<b>Service area: Multiple; but primarily Learning Inclusion</b>
<b>Lead person: Natalie Samuel</b>	<b>Contact number: 07807 861701</b>

**1. Title: Everyone's included: our Leeds SEND and Inclusion strategy 2022 to 2027: making Leeds an inclusive child-friendly city for children and young people aged 0 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)**

Is this a:

**Strategy / Policy**

**Service / Function**

**Other**

**If other, please specify**

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

Our new Leeds strategy '*Everyone's Included*' aims to improve experiences and outcomes for children and young people (CYP) aged 0-25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Our new strategy is being co-produced by partners across learning, health, and social care, with CYP with SEND and their families, and voluntary sector partners.

Governance will be provided by our SEND Partnership Board, with represents of all these group. Implementation will be co-led by local authority and health partners. The strategy reinforces the duties of local authorities, health bodies, and education providers to provide for those with SEND under part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

The strategy responds to the recent Green Paper [The SEND Review: right support, right place, right time](#) which proposes reforms to services for CYP with SEND. In alignment, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are reviewing their Framework for joint inspections of SEND services in local areas. The proposed new Framework seeks to increase scrutiny of the effectiveness of local arrangements to improve experiences and outcomes for CYP with SEND.

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

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)

We have been considering key EDCI issues throughout co-production of the new strategy thus far, given its sole purpose is to improve outcomes and reduce inequalities for CYP with a protected characteristic (SEND). We have also considered financial disadvantage and its correlation with SEND for both children and adults. We have also considered some age-related issues given young people those with SEND may need to and/or have the right to access services not typically congruent with their age in years.

However, we have yet to complete a full impact assessment against all protected characteristics. Please see section 5 for plans to address this.

- **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)

**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:	Arrangements for the assessment to be discussed and plans proposed at meeting 16/11/22
Date to complete your impact assessment	Estimated end of January 2023
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	TBC: a co-lead is require given that this is a multi-agency strategy to be co-led across learning, health and care

**6. Governance, ownership and approval**

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

Name	Job title	Date
Arrangements to be confirmed at meeting 16/11/22.		
<b>Date screening completed</b> 26/10/22		

**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](mailto: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 <b>Governance Services</b>	Date sent:
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a>	Date sent:

