

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: Resources	Service area: Sustainable Energy and Air Quality
Lead person: Chris O'Brien	Contact number: 3786362

1. Title: Development of Solar Farm Capacity		
Is this a:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify		
Development of solar farm capacity and rooftop solar within Leeds.		

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The screening relates to the development of solar farm capacity in Leeds and the installation of rooftop solar on council owned buildings where this is considered viable. The proposal enables the council to generate clean, renewable electricity that will be used to offset a proportion of the council's electricity demand, helping to deliver the councils commitment of ensuring 100% of its energy consumption be from zero carbon sources by 2030 in line with its Climate Emergency declaration. The generation of local renewable energy will also provide the council with protection against rising energy costs and support with providing a level of energy security.

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 delivery of solar farm capacity will involve the installation of ground mounted solar panels on at least one council owned site with the Leeds area. Any potential impacts on the local area will be taken into account through the design of the site, with the planning application process giving consultees an opportunity to comment on the proposals.

- **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)

It is not considered that the proposals will any negative impacts.

The construction of a solar farm may provide an opportunity for a number of short-term construction jobs and provide potential for continuation of any existing apprenticeships.

There are also potential opportunities for educational opportunities to be incorporated into site designs. If this is viable then accessibility will be incorporated into the design to ensure access for all groups. Whilst the nature of this will be site specific it may provide an opportunity for providing educational opportunities around renewable energy generation.

It also provides an opportunity for biodiversity enhancements on the site, which would benefit the local area.

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

Within the procurement exercise the contractor will be require to evidence social value TOMs (Themes, Outcomes and Measures) which require the chosen contractor to deliver against a number of criteria.

These are expected to include in person or virtual site visits for local residents and

schools, details of their fleet makeup to ensure the cleanest vehicles practically available are accessing and servicing the site, opportunities for the completion of apprenticeships to support the future workforce around clean and renewable technologies.

The positive impact of the proposals will also be set out within the planning application. This will also set out how any potential negative impacts are to be addressed.

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:	
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Date to complete your impact assessment	
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Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	
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6. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Polly Cook	Chief Officer	01/12/2022
Date screening completed		01/12/2022

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: 5/12/22
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: