

# 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.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Directorate: Children and Families</b> | <b>Service area: Workforce Development</b> |
| <b>Lead person: Julie Devonald</b>        | <b>Contact number: 0113 3786 922</b>       |

## 1. Title: Step Up to Social Work

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

This screening form is for the Step Up to Social Work programme which provides an accelerated entry route into social work for high-achieving graduates and career changers. It targets high calibre individuals who already have experience of working with children and young people and who want to train as Social Workers. Step Up to Social Work is delivered through the development of a bespoke work-based 14-month postgraduate diploma programme, led by groups of local authorities working in regional partnerships (RPs) and contracting with Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Students successfully completing the course will qualify with a postgraduate diploma in social work. This will enable students to apply for registration as a qualified social worker with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Leeds has been part of the DfE funded Step Up to Social Work programme for training Social Workers for a number of years. Evaluation of previous cohorts shows an average 84% conversion rate to Social Worker posts on completion of the programme and very

positive views about the quality of the training.

Step Up to Social Work complements our reform programme and our commitment to raising the quality of social work practice, with a particular focus on the practice of child and family social workers undertaking statutory social work. We expect the delivery of cohort 8 of Step up to Social Work to embed the Knowledge and Skills Statement for approved child and family practitioners in the design and content of the training programmes and associated Regional Partnership arrangements.

Separate decisions are being sought to receive grant income from the Department for Education and to award a contract to the University of Salford as the Higher Education Institution to deliver the courses. No equality, diversity, cohesion and integration impacts have been identified because these decisions seek to continue existing arrangements.

### 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)

- **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:

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       |
|---------------------------------|--|------------|
| Julie Devonald                  | Head of Service<br>Workforce Development |            |
| <b>Date screening completed</b> |  | 08/03/2023 |

**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<br><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<br><a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a> | Date sent: |