

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: Adults & Health	Service area: Integrated Commissioning
Lead person: Jane Murphy	Contact number: 0113 378 3908

1. Title: Rough Sleeping Initiative grant funding for 24 bed supported accommodation service and award of a direct contract under CPR 9.5 for security services from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025 up to a value of £396,000.

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

- St George's Crypt provide an accommodation service of 24 ensuite units of emergency accommodation for people who are rough sleeping. St Georges Crypt provide day to day support and specialist wrap around support is provided by a multi-agency approach, including Forward Leeds for drug and alcohol support, the mental health homeless team and health care from Bevan. Food is provided daily. The service is required to meet need and to retain the range of options available to people who are found rough sleeping. It provides a safe placement and an opportunity to engage with people before a move to other supported

accommodation or a private let which enables Leeds City Council to safely reduce the numbers of people found on the streets. Security is provided by GCA.

- The grant and contract award respectively will continue to assist the city to deliver its ambitions to reduce the numbers of people who are rough sleeping and to deliver positive outcomes.

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?**

A detailed housing related support review was undertaken in 2016 to improve access to services and to ensure services effectively and efficiently continued to meet the identified complex needs of the client group. The details of this review are laid out in the Equality, Diversity, Cohesion Impact Assessment undertaken in February 2016. Following this review, contracts were awarded to the Providers receiving the additional grant funding proposed. A recent review of Street Support services has identified need for continuation of services to support people who are rough sleeping in the city.

People accessing the services often have complex needs. By providing extra accommodation, extra funds to removing the specific barriers for them to access this accommodation, they are supported to end the cycle of rough sleeping. During their time in accommodation there is an opportunity to work with them to be housed longer term within communities thereby promoting integration and community cohesion. The measures proposed will be made accessible to all people rough sleeping.

Through contract management we ensure services are accessible using tools such as an agreed Quality Management Framework to assess policies and operational practice. Outcomes are monitored which allows an assessment of outcomes for different equality characteristics.

Staff receive training around equality and diversity and the Service's Policies in their induction.

- **Key findings**

Equality and Diversity was considered when Housing Support Services were designed in 2016/2017. The allocation of grants to support this service will build on the work already delivered to improve outcomes for people who are homeless. Services will work in a multiagency way with key stakeholders across the city including Leeds Housing Options to ensure vulnerable people are supported and homelessness and rough sleeping is reduced. All these interventions work towards the priorities within the Best City Plan to tackle inequality, improve health and wellbeing of vulnerable people, and help support marginalised groups.

- **Actions**

- As a Council we will be required to monitor the outcomes achieved and report back to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on a regular basis.
- Continue to work with providers to continue to review policies and procedures to ensure fair access to the service in line with best practice.

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:

Not applicable

Date to complete your impact assessment	Not applicable
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	Not applicable

6. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening		
Name	Job title	Date
Julie Staton	Head of Commissioning	3 rd July 2024
Date screening completed: 03/7/24		

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: August 2024
All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk	Date sent: