

# 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/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Directorate: City Development</b>      | <b>Service area: City Development</b> |
| <b>Lead person: Tia Nicholson Johnson</b> | <b>Contact number: 0113 37 84154</b>  |

**1. Title: Council Housing Growth** – purchase of residential properties by the Property Acquisitions Project for use as council housing. Batch 90

Is this a:

**Strategy / Policy**

**Service / Function**

**Other**

**If other, please specify: Acquisition of Properties for Council Housing**

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

The council Housing Growth Programme is currently working towards a challenging target to deliver 1,230 new Council homes across the city by March 2025.

This is being achieved through a combination of building new council homes and acquiring existing properties which are refurbished under the Property Acquisitions Programme. The properties being acquired are predominantly former council homes which were bought under the Right To Buy regime, including those of which the statutory Right of First Refusal regulations apply.

The council commenced work on this new 'buyback' project in late 2018 and is now ready to progress further re-purchases. Once refurbished, these properties will be reintroduced to council housing stock to be let to council tenants.

Acquisition of these new council homes directly contribute to delivering the Leeds Best City Ambition pillars of Health & Wellbeing and Zero Carbon by:

- Providing housing of the right quality, type, tenure and affordability in the right places.
- Minimising homelessness through a greater focus on prevention.
- Addressing the challenges of housing quality and affordability, tackling fuel poverty and creating vibrant places where residents have close access to services and amenities.

### 3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater/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:                         | N/A |
| Date to complete your impact assessment                                | N/A |
| Lead person for your impact assessment<br>(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      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Ian Frobisher                   | Project Manager | 29/7/2024 |
| <b>Date screening completed</b> |                 | 29/7/2024 |

#### 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 **Publishable Administrative 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 Key Delegated Decisions and Publishable Administrative 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 Key Decisions or Publishable Administrative Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>     | Date sent: 15/08/2024 |
| All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a> | Date sent:            |