

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: Communities, Housing and Environments | Service area: Climate, Energy & Green Spaces |
| Lead person: Glenn Gorner | Contact number: 0113 3788156 |

1. Title: Approval to inject £1.33 Million funding into Capital Scheme 33911\000\000 ASH DIEBACK (funded from General Contingencies and Approval to Spend on Phase 1 Ash Dieback mitigation)

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

1. Chief Officer Financial Services to approve the injection of £1.33 million into Capital Scheme 33911\000\000 ASH DIE BACK (funded from General Contingencies).
2. Director Communities, Housing and Environments to approve the spend of £1.33

Million on the implementation of Phase 1 'Pilot Project' of the Leeds Ash Dieback Programme, which also includes a Phase 2 survey by Mott MacDonald of LCC Highways hierarchy 3-6 and cover approximately 1,050km. The funding will also allow the creation of an Ash Dieback Core Team to manage the Programme and associated contracts, plus the implementation of an Ash Dieback Communications Strategy.

3. The Mott MacDonald Survey will begin on 2nd September 2024 and results will be received by end of January 2025.
4. The Phase 1 'Pilot' mitigation contract will commence during November 2024 with removal of trees posing highest risk to be completed by 31st March 2025; compensatory replanting in winter 2025/26 and establishment management continuing to summer 2030.

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

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fostering good relations | | |
|--|--|--|

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)

This is the ‘Pilot Phase’ of the City’s planned approach to the risks posed to people

or property due to tree failure caused by the tree fungal disease *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*, more commonly referred to as ash dieback.

This Pilot Phase will address the highest identified risks adjacent to Leeds A and B roads. The direct award is being made to a specialist company who meet the required specification and the tight timeframes. This Pilot Phase has been created to facilitate shared learning and up skilling when using remote mapping tools that allow on site editing and Inputting of data linked to the Council' ArcGIS Ash Dieback Analysis Dashboard.

Following this Pilot Phase, it is intended that a larger Ash Dieback mitigation contract will be tendered on the open market.

A Ash Dieback Core team will be set up to deliver the Pilot Phase and all subsequent phases of required mitigation work.

- **Actions**

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

A detailed Ash Dieback Communications Strategy has been developed to inform all sections of our community of the impact that ash dieback will have on the City's ash trees and why we must remove the worst affected trees that are located in high usage areas – this Pilot Phase focuses on trees within falling distance of A and b roads (Strategic Highway) and which pose risks of harm to highway users and property.

Each tree that is removed will be replaced by the planting of 5 new trees. This is to ensure that as the new trees become established and begin to mature, we benefit from a net gain in tree canopy cover and all of the benefits that this brings.

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 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Tony Stringwell | Parks Operations Manager | 15/10/2024 |
| Date screening completed | | 15/10/2024 |

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 **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: |
| For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate Directorate | Date sent: |
| All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk | Date sent: 15/10/2024 |