

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: City Development	Service area: Asset Management & Regeneration
Lead person: Christa Jolley / Toby Meekings	Contact number: 0113 378 7713 / 0113 378 7722

1. Title: Delivering the East of Otley Relief Road and Housing Allocation		
Is this a:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify Report seeking Executive Board Approval		

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
This screening exercise is centred on a report seeking Executive Board approval to the key principles below:
Executive Board is requested to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Note the changes to the project’s viability position since 2019, contained within attached Exempt Appendix 1, and approve that the Council requests a mutual withdrawal from the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) Grant Agreement. b) Note the positive progress being made with Homes England in relation to the potential for an increase in grant investment through the Brownfield, Infrastructure

and Land (BIL) fund and agree in principle that the Council enters into a Grant Funding Agreement with Homes England, with the details of this being delegated to the Director of City Development.

- c) Note the recovery mechanism for Council funds expended through the Capital Programme to date will be via the drawdown of BIL Grant, where eligible under the BIL programme and where directly related to Planning costs, and via the Council's land receipt where related to legal, land, and project co-ordination related expenditure.
- d) Approve that the Council land within the East of Otley (EEO) site be injected into the Capital Receipts Programme and note the receipt to net off associated LCC costs of development of the site aligned to the Homes England funding parameter.
- e) Note the progress made relating to the disposal of the Council's land within the East of Otley allocation, with responsibility for the detailed terms of the land transaction delegated to the Director of City Development.

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)

As the recommendations are in part an update on the Housing Infrastructure Fund recoverable grant and proposed Brownfield, Infrastructure and Land Fund grant, and work is still ongoing on the design of the relief road, master planning and land transactions, it is assessed that at this stage there are no EDCI implications but this will be kept under review through the next stages of work to bring forward this development and the related infrastructure.

The mixed-use allocation to the East of Otley has previously been subject to public consultation as part of the UDP and SAP. Implementation issues relating to the allocation have also been discussed with Otley Town Council as part of the adopted Otley Neighbourhood Plan.

Continued consultation will take place with the relevant Executive Members, local ward members and other local stakeholders as further details are developed in discussion with the lead developer and through the planning process.

- **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)

The proposals do have positive impacts as realising the development of the site will address the allocation requirements for a new relief road that will ease traffic congestion in the town, improve Air Quality, provide affordable housing, include land set aside for employment, a new two-form entry primary school and public green space. At this stage the masterplan proposals are still under review and therefore not enough detail to consider the EDCI implications of the proposed development that would arise from any transaction involving the Council's land.

• **Actions**
(think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/ reduce negative impact)
 See section above.

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:	Q4 2024/25
Date to complete your impact assessment	Q1 2025/26
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	Toby Meekings Senior Regeneration Officer

6. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Toby Meekings	Senior Regeneration Officer	14/11/2024
Date screening completed		14/11/2024

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: