

Appendix 2 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.

Directorate: City Development	Service area: Transport policy
Lead person: Robert Mason	Contact number: 0113 378 4796

1. Title: Connecting Leeds: A58 Beckett Street proposals

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

Highways and Transportation scheme as part of the Connecting Leeds programme.

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

As part of the Connecting Leeds Programme Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) are seeking to double bus patronage by reducing journey times and improving reliability of public bus services, and make changes which provide a better bus experience for users.

St James University Hospital (SJUH) on Beckett Street is an important destination and employment site in the city attracting a large amount of trips. The bus stop opposite SJUH is the busiest stop outside the city centre and congestion on Beckett Street exists throughout most of the day.

The proposed intervention creates a larger bus stop and wider footway outside the hospital to create an improved waiting area, and creates new inbound and outbound bus lanes between SJUH and the A64 to benefit bus trips. This also includes a new bi-directional cycleway linking SJUH to the City Connect Cycleway.

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"> • 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).

Connecting Leeds was developed off the back of extensive consultation as part of the Leeds Transport Conversation. This process involved engaging a wide range of groups including but not limited to Child Friendly Leeds, Older People's Forum, Access Groups, BME Hub, Disability Hub, LGBT* Hub, Hub Reps Network, Womens' Lives Leeds, Access and Use-Ability Group, Physical and Sensory Impairment (PSI) Network and the Equalities Assembly Conference.

Prior to engaging stakeholders (including the general public) on the Connecting Leeds projects Leeds City Council and their development partner WSP appointed a Leeds based engagement specialist service provider called Leeds Involving People (LIP). LIP coordinated input from several individuals from the seldom heard groups they work with into the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. The strategy has a clear focus on engaging seldom heard groups and ensuring all materials are accessible, legible and easily consumable.

Previous engagement on this project has included

We have also engaged with numerous key stakeholders / community groups including the local ward councillors and

As part of the engagement LIP will help coordinate meaningful engagement with a range of seldom heard groups in and around the communities affected and benefiting from the proposals. In this particular part of the city special effort will be made to engage local residents who may not regularly travel into the city centre or use the park and ride services. Teams of outreach specialists will be out in the local community handing out flyers and talking to people about the proposals.

- **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 proposed improvements promote more inclusive access to all user groups who utilise public transport by improving journey time, reliability of service and user experience.

The creation of a new cycleway is expected to promote more sustainable and active

travel with associated health and environmental benefits.
 The small loss of greenspace will be offset by increased planting in the area providing environmental and aesthetic benefits.

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

The highway works for the scheme, and their impact on equality characteristics, are as follows:

The extra space required for carriageway is mainly taken from existing highways verge which will reduce the visual aesthetic of the area to local residents and passing traffic. As this is cropped grass it is expected to be limited.

Some space will be required from existing Parks greenspace, however the intent is to minimise loss of trees as much as possible and provide planting of additional new trees and highways verge planting to offset the loss in visual aesthetic and improve the local environment.

Removal of buses to bus lanes and improvements to the traffic signals should result in a small benefit to vehicles moving through the area. Due to the reconfiguration of the car parks to accommodate the improved bus waiting facility, there will be a loss of nine car park spaces which may impact on car users, this will be limited as there are expected to be 110+ spaces remaining.

Local residents will benefit from improved bus services and the new cycleway. There will be improved crossing facilities allowing for easier access over Beckett Street improving accessibility to the Shakespeare Academy.

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)	Robert Mason

6. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Gary Bartlett	Chief Officer, Highways and Transportation	
Date screening completed		

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: