

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

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 and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide 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 and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title

Title: Report of objections to proposed Traffic Regulation Orders associated with the A633 High Street-Bellows Road access improvement Clean Air Zone scheme

Directorate:
Regeneration & Environment

Service area:
Transportation infrastructure Service

Lead person:
Richard Baker

Contact number:
01709 822939

Is this a:

☐

Strategy / Policy

☒

Service / Function

☐

Other

If other, please specify

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

Report of objections from the public to proposed Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and elements of the A633 High Street-Bellows Road access improvement Clean Air Zone scheme. This scheme introduces traffic signal control at the junction of A633/Bellows Road, new bus lanes on A633 and new pedestrian crossings.

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3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community? <i>(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)</i>	x	
Could the proposal affect service users? <i>(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)</i>	x	
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? <i>(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)</i>	x	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? <i>(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)</i>	x	
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? <i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)</i>		x
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? <i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)</i>		x
If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason		

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6**.

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4**.

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made.

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

Providing bus lanes will promote bus priority and reliable journey times at this location. This will aid bus users to access employment, education or other with greater confidence about the journey.

Part of the scheme these TROs will support includes the provision of at-grade pedestrian crossings. These will improve access for all pedestrians, particularly those less mobile who may find it difficult to cross the road or currently avoid using the pedestrian subway (surveys suggest that 80% of pedestrians crossing A633 do not use the subway). Pedestrian subways can be unattractive to users particularly vulnerable users such as the elderly or disabled.

Traffic Regulation Orders are made pursuant to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. A statutory procedure is followed which included advertising the proposal in the local newspaper, on street notices and writing a consultation letter to affected residents. This gave residents including affected groups the opportunity to make comment or object to the proposal. This report presents the objections received to the Strategic Director Regeneration and Environment who will determine if the proposal will be implemented, amended or abandoned.

- **Key findings**

The proposals should have no negative impact on equality and diversity.

The High Street Centre, Rawmarsh, which caters for various groups and functions raised objections and concerns that are included in this report. A recommendation of the report is to amend the scheme to accommodate these concerns i.e. withdrawal of the prohibited U-turn which forms the main objection by the high Street Centre as it would affect access how people access their site by vehicle.

- **Actions**

The scheme will provide greater accessibility for a variety of users. The impacts on

residents have been addressed though information regarding bus lanes and adaptation of the design to accommodate access	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	21/9/21
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	21/9/21
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Richard Baker Engineer

5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Andrew Butler	Senior Engineer	

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	21/9/21
Report title and date	Report of objections to proposed Traffic Regulation Orders associated with the A633 High Street-Bellows Road access improvement Clean Air Zone scheme

If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	October 2021
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	September 2021